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Universal periodic review

## Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\*

### Côte d'Ivoire


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## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-third session from 6 to 17 May 2019. The review of Côte d'Ivoire was held at the 4th meeting, on 7 May 2019. The delegation of Côte d'Ivoire was headed by Aimée Zebeyoux, Minister of State for Human Rights at the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. At its 10th meeting, held on 10 May 2019, the Working Group adopted the report on Côte d'Ivoire.
2. On 15 January 2019, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Côte d'Ivoire: Bahamas, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Côte d'Ivoire:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/CIV/1);
  - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/CIV/2);
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/CIV/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Germany, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Côte d'Ivoire through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

## I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

### A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Ivorian delegation said that its country report, adopted by the Council of Ministers on 26 September 2018 and updated on 1 February 2019, reflected the human rights situation in Côte d'Ivoire in the period since its last review on 29 April 2014.
6. The report had been drafted in an inclusive and participatory manner by a multisectoral committee comprising representatives of ministerial departments, public institutions, civil society organizations, the media and the National Human Rights Council, as well as technical and financial partners.
7. The report covered the steps taken to implement the 181 recommendations accepted by Côte d'Ivoire at its previous review in 2014.
8. Côte d'Ivoire had adopted several measures to strengthen its legislative and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights.
9. In terms of legislation, on 8 November 2016, the country had adopted a new Constitution that introduced some important innovations, such as the prohibition of female genital mutilation, the recognition of civil society as an expression of democracy, and the strengthening of women's and girls' rights and gender parity.
10. In 2016, Côte d'Ivoire had ratified several international legal instruments, including the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Labour Administration Convention, 1978 (No. 150), Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155), and Labour Statistics Convention, 1985 (No. 160). Other instruments were in the process of being ratified.

11. At the domestic level, Côte d'Ivoire had taken a number of steps to bring its national legislation into line with international instruments. The legislation concerned included the 2014 Act on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights Defenders and its implementing decree, and the 2015 amendment to the Criminal Code, which incorporated the definition of crimes provided for by the Rome Statute.

12. In the area of justice and the right to a fair trial, Côte d'Ivoire had adopted a new Code of Criminal Procedure on 27 December 2018. In addition, a new Criminal Code was in the process of being adopted.

13. The major reforms undertaken ensured the adequate promotion or enhanced protection of people's rights, insofar as they guaranteed the independence of the judiciary, the fight against impunity and the consolidation of the rule of law. The reforms involved the adoption of laws on the jurisdiction, composition and functioning of the Supreme Court, the Court of Cassation, the Council of State and the Court of Auditors.

14. In terms of governance, Côte d'Ivoire had adopted a national development plan for the period 2016–2020, comprising five strategic areas.

15. With regard to national reconciliation, Côte d'Ivoire had adopted the updated 2016–2020 National Strategy for Reconciliation and Social Cohesion and, in 2017, had set up a special fund with an initial contribution of approximately €15.2 million, increased to €21.3 million in 2019, with a view to compensating victims of the crises in the country. An amnesty order had been issued on 6 August 2018 and ratified by the National Assembly on 21 December 2018. The national reconciliation process continued apace, with the return to the country of more than 270,000 Ivorian refugees, out of the 300,000 persons recorded during the post-election crisis.

16. The Ivorian Government had also agreed to reform the Independent Electoral Commission, in accordance with the judgment of 18 November 2016 of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, in preparation for the 2020 presidential election. To that end, a constructive dialogue had been initiated with all stakeholders.

17. At the institutional level, in order to bring its national human rights institution into line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and the Belgrade principles on the relationship between national human rights institutions and parliaments, in 2018, Côte d'Ivoire had adopted legislation replacing the National Human Rights Commission of Côte d'Ivoire with the National Human Rights Council.

18. The Council had become operational on 4 April 2019, with the establishment of its Executive Bureau, and was therefore in a position to fulfil its mandate.

19. The Ivorian Government had taken several measures to combat poverty, including by relaunching the National Solidarity Fund, to reduce regional disparities, and creating 2,623,655 jobs between 2011 and 2016. To consolidate and speed up implementation of its policy to combat poverty, Côte d'Ivoire had declared 2019 the "year of social action" and launched a social programme for the period 2019–2020 entitled PSGouv, with a budget of €1.1 billion.

20. With regard to the right to education, Côte d'Ivoire had made school compulsory for children between 6 and 16 years of age by means of a law passed on 17 September 2015.

21. In terms of health care, Côte d'Ivoire had introduced a policy that targeted the free provision of health care for children up to the age of 5 years, birth kits for women, medical tests for malaria and treated mosquito nets for the general public.

22. In the area of women's rights and gender equality, the Ivorian Government had set up two funds to support women's income-generating activities, namely the Women and Development Fund and the Côte d'Ivoire Women's Support Fund. The Government had also equipped police stations with offices specifically to handle cases of gender-based violence.

23. A bill introducing measures to improve the representation of women in elected assemblies was in the process of being adopted.

24. With regard to the rights of the child, Côte d'Ivoire had adopted a national child protection policy and had implemented a plan to combat statelessness, as well as several programmes for the benefit of children and adolescents.

25. A law introducing a special procedure for the declaration of births, the restoration of identity and the transcription of birth certificates had been adopted in November 2018.

26. With regard to vulnerable persons, the country had developed the National Social Protection Strategy (2017–2020) and a policy to promote the employment of persons living with a disability.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

27. During the interactive dialogue, 101 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

28. Bulgaria commended the progress made in the field of human rights, including the ratification of conventions and the creation of national institutions, while noting the slow progress made in compensating victims of the 2010–2011 post-election violence.

29. Burkina Faso praised the improvement of the human rights situation in Côte d'Ivoire since its second review cycle.

30. Burundi noted the adoption of the new Constitution and the efforts being made to combat impunity and promote the right to health, the rights of the child and the rights of persons with disabilities.

31. Cabo Verde welcomed the establishment of the National Human Rights Council and the prohibition of female genital mutilation and polygamy.

32. Canada raised concerns about the lack of progress in prosecutions of perpetrators of serious human rights violations and the prevailing impunity.

33. Chad congratulated Côte d'Ivoire on the presentation of its national report and the significant progress it had made in the human rights field.

34. Chile expressed concern about harmful practices against women and girls, in particular female genital mutilation and sexual violence.

35. China welcomed the ratification by Côte d'Ivoire of various international instruments. It praised the efforts made to promote and protect the rights of women, children and other vulnerable groups.

36. The Congo praised the policy of mandatory education until the age of 16 and the special procedures to register and deliver birth certificates.

37. Croatia inquired about the independence of the judiciary and the Independent Electoral Commission.

38. Cuba acknowledged the efforts made to eradicate poverty and promote the rights to health and education.

39. Czechia appreciated the improvements carried out at the Juvenile Observation Centre and the new law protecting human rights defenders.

40. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea highlighted the accession to several international human rights instruments and the National Development Plan 2016–2020.

41. Denmark stated that the Convention against Torture Initiative would stand ready to assist the Government on preventing torture.

42. Djibouti welcomed the Constitutional reform of 2016 and the harmonization of national laws with international instruments.

43. Ecuador congratulated Côte d'Ivoire on its ratification of various international human rights treaties and the adoption of its 2016–2020 national strategy for reconciliation and social cohesion.
44. Egypt highlighted the progress made since the previous review, especially the ratification of international instruments, the reform of the judiciary and the fight against impunity.
45. El Salvador praised the importance given to the right to education for children and the efforts to implement the recommendations from the previous review.
46. Ethiopia commended Côte d'Ivoire for its ratification of international instruments, the 2016 Constitution and the creation of new human rights bodies.
47. Fiji welcomed the fact that Côte d'Ivoire had enshrined the right to a healthy environment in the Constitution and noted the impact that climate change was having on agricultural production.
48. France praised the adoption of the Act on the promotion and protection of human rights defenders.
49. Gabon noted the reforms to improve the judiciary and penitentiary systems, and the adoption of the new Code of Criminal Procedure.
50. Georgia welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
51. Germany commended Côte d'Ivoire for the progress it had made regarding women's rights and gender equality. Germany was concerned about the situation of persons in prison, especially children.
52. Ghana welcomed the adoption of the new Constitution in 2016 and of domestic legislation aimed at strengthening democracy and the rule of law.
53. The Holy See noted the efforts made towards a more inclusive society and for reconciliation. It encouraged Côte d'Ivoire to increase the social and political participation of all sectors of society.
54. Honduras congratulated Côte d'Ivoire on its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and welcomed the voluntary pledges made.
55. Iceland welcomed steps to fight discrimination against women and to increase women's participation in decision-making.
56. India welcomed the new Constitution, health initiatives aimed at reducing maternal and infant mortality and the National Child Protection Policy.
57. Indonesia welcomed the harmonization of the normative framework with international instruments and the creation of the National Human Rights Council and the National Press Authority.
58. Iraq welcomed the new Constitution and the National Development Plan 2016–2020.
59. Ireland urged Côte d'Ivoire to ensure that the national human rights institution, which had recently been reformed, had the necessary resources and independence to comply with the Paris Principles.
60. Italy welcomed the abolition of the death penalty, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and the new Code of Criminal Procedure.
61. In response to the questions relating to female genital mutilation, rape and sexual violence, the Minister of State indicated that, since 1998, Côte d'Ivoire had had a law criminalizing female genital mutilation, with very severe penalties for anyone who performed female circumcision. Several practitioners had been convicted under this law.
62. Rape and sexual violence were also criminal offences. In order to combat these serious human rights violations, a Government-run project to improve access to rights and

justice had raised women's and girls' awareness of the possibility of going to a legal clinic to report attacks on them, so that the perpetrators of such crimes could be prosecuted and convicted. With the same purpose in mind, and indeed to go a step further, the draft criminal code adopted by the Council of Ministers on 10 April 2019 explicitly defined rape and established marital rape and domestic violence as separate criminal offences.

63. With respect to the questions concerning national reconciliation and the 2020 presidential election, the Minister of State noted that, in order to ensure an inclusive, transparent and peaceful electoral process, the Government was continuing the political dialogue with the various stakeholders. It was also considering reform of the Independent Electoral Commission. To this end, the discussions initiated by the Government in January 2019 with political parties and groups and civil society organizations had led to the establishment of a committee.

64. With regard to freedom of expression, the Minister of State pointed out that article 19 of the Ivorian Constitution enshrined freedom of expression and guaranteed the right of everyone to express and disseminate their ideas freely. In addition, the Press Regulation Act of 2017 strengthened the principle of the decriminalization of press offences, as set forth in the Act of 2004, by excluding police custody, pretrial detention and prison sentences for offences committed using the press or any other means of publication. However, it was recalled that these freedoms had to be exercised with respect for the law, the rights of others, national security and public order.

65. On the question of the independence of the judiciary, the Minister of State explained that it was guaranteed by the Constitution, which explicitly proclaimed the independence of the judiciary and the principle of the irremovability of judges, who, in the performance of their duties, were subject only to the authority of the law. In order to bolster this independence, the High Council of the Judiciary would now be chaired by a senior judge, rather than the President of the Republic, as was previously the case.

66. With regard to the rights of children, the Minister of State recalled that Côte d'Ivoire was a party to the main international and regional instruments for the protection of those rights. Concerning the registration of information relating to civil status, especially births, several measures had been taken by Côte d'Ivoire in November 2018 to guarantee this right, namely the Civil Status Act and the law that established a special procedure for the declaration of births, the restoration of identity and the transcription of birth certificates.

67. With respect to the fight against trafficking in persons, modern slavery and forced labour, the Minister of State explained that, in 2017, the Ivorian Government had passed the Trafficking in Persons Act, which criminalized forced labour, modern slavery and commercial sexual exploitation, and the Smuggling of Migrants Act. Furthermore, the National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons had been established and was operational.

68. In terms of the national mechanisms responsible for implementation, reporting and monitoring, the Minister of State pointed out that Côte d'Ivoire had had such a mechanism in place since 2001, in the form of the Interministerial Committee Monitoring the Implementation of International Human Rights Instruments. The establishment of the Committee had made it possible to centralize information, facilitate its processing and enable the preparation and drafting of the present report under the universal periodic review process.

69. With regard to pretrial detention measures and the separation of children from adults in places of detention, the Minister of State noted that the first issue was being addressed by the Government, particularly with respect to bringing prison facilities into line with the aforementioned international instruments. With regard to the second issue, in Côte d'Ivoire, the rules of pretrial detention applicable to children were different from those applicable to adults.

70. Jordan congratulated Côte d'Ivoire on the adoption of its new Constitution.

71. Latvia encouraged Côte d'Ivoire to increase its efforts to fulfil its human rights obligations and commitments.

72. Lebanon welcomed efforts in the areas of health and access to the labour market for persons with disabilities.
73. Lesotho applauded the progress made in terms of democracy, the rule of law and human rights.
74. Libya welcomed the steps taken to improve the human rights situation, to include human rights policies in national legislation and to bring national laws into line with international treaties.
75. Madagascar commended the adoption of various laws in line with international instruments, in accordance with the recommendation Côte d'Ivoire had accepted during the previous review cycle.
76. Maldives welcomed efforts to stabilize the country and boost economic growth, and noted progress on education and health care.
77. Mali congratulated Côte d'Ivoire on its national strategy for reconciliation and social cohesion, its national child protection policy, its initiatives to combat statelessness, its efforts to improve access to drinking water and its improvement of the school rate attendance and mother and child health care.
78. Mauritania welcomed the national strategy for reconciliation and social cohesion within the framework of the National Development Plan.
79. Mauritius noted the establishment of the National Human Rights Council and welcomed the programmes on the right to food and water and the measures to combat poverty.
80. Mexico recognized the progress made in the fight against impunity and congratulated Côte d'Ivoire on the collaboration between the authorities and the international human rights system.
81. Montenegro shared the concern expressed by the Human Rights Committee in 2015 with respect to torture and ill-treatment by the police, defence and security forces (CCPR/C/CIV/CO/1, para. 16).
82. Morocco welcomed the integration of human rights, civil liberties and human dignity in the new Constitution of November 2016.
83. Mozambique recognized the efforts made to implement the recommendations from the second review cycle and the political will of the authorities to promote the enjoyment of human rights by all.
84. Myanmar welcomed the efforts made to achieve peace and democracy, including the adoption of the 2016 Constitution.
85. Namibia applauded the measures taken, specifically the national action plan for the implementation of recommendations accepted during the second review cycle.
86. The Netherlands welcomed the efforts made to promote human rights and gender equality. However, it was concerned about the ongoing harassment and intimidation of human rights defenders and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.
87. Nigeria acknowledged the efforts made for the promotion and protection of human rights and the ratification of international instruments.
88. Oman congratulated Côte d'Ivoire on its effective engagement in the third review cycle.
89. Pakistan applauded the strengthening of the national human rights framework and the strategy to facilitate the employment of people with disabilities.
90. Paraguay praised the abolition of the death penalty in the new Constitution and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Rome Statute.
91. Peru congratulated Côte d'Ivoire for its efforts to comply with its international human rights commitments.

92. The Philippines noted the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and several other international instruments and recognized the efforts made to prevent trafficking in persons and the worst forms of child labour.
93. Portugal commended the progress made in the areas of education and human rights training.
94. Qatar commended Côte d'Ivoire for its accession to several human rights instruments and for the measures it had taken to strengthen the rule of law, in particular the new Constitution and the National Development Plan 2016–2020.
95. The Republic of Korea expressed concern regarding the excessive repression of peaceful protests and the reprisals against journalists. It noted that female genital mutilation and early marriage remained widespread, despite the legislation in place.
96. The Republic of Moldova welcomed the adoption of the new Constitution, which strengthened the protection of human rights and confirmed the abolition of the death penalty.
97. The Russian Federation welcomed the accession of Côte d'Ivoire to several ILO conventions and the integration of its international obligations in its domestic legislation.
98. Rwanda commended the progress Côte d'Ivoire had made in improving the social and economic status of its citizens and their access to justice, as well as its efforts to consolidate the democratic process and foster national reconciliation.
99. Saudi Arabia noted the efforts and positive progress made by Côte d'Ivoire, including new strategies to secure employment for persons with disabilities.
100. Senegal noted with satisfaction the cooperation of Côte d'Ivoire with the United Nations treaty bodies and the adoption of the new Constitution, which provided for better protection of human rights and civil liberties.
101. Serbia welcomed the adoption of legislative instruments aimed at strengthening the democratic framework and commended Côte d'Ivoire for the national reconciliation process through the establishment of two commissions.
102. Seychelles recognized the significant steps made in the realization of the right to health and the legislative framework to combat trafficking in persons.
103. Sierra Leone commended the adoption of a number of laws to strengthen the national normative framework, the efforts deployed to reform the judicial and prison systems, and the establishment of the National Development Plan 2016–2020.
104. Slovenia was concerned about the preventive detention of children and noted that the separation of minors and adults in detention was not respected in practice.
105. South Africa welcomed the adoption of the new Constitution, the National Development Plan and the national action plan to implement the recommendations from the previous review cycle.
106. Spain commended Côte d'Ivoire for the measures it had taken, such as the family planning action plan and the efforts to combat human trafficking.
107. In response to the last questions raised, notably the one concerning the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, the Minister of State indicated that the position of Côte d'Ivoire remained unchanged since the second cycle of the universal periodic review. Consequently, no measures had been taken or were envisaged to promote public acceptance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex persons in Côte d'Ivoire. Nevertheless, she clarified that Ivorian legislation did not criminalize the sexual orientation of persons living in Côte d'Ivoire.
108. The State of Palestine applauded the progress made in education and in ensuring the right to health, including by constructing 300 new health centres.
109. The Sudan praised the ratification of several international human rights instruments, the legislative and judicial reform and the establishment of the Supreme Court and the Court of Cassation.



110. Switzerland commended the initiatives on statelessness and the reform of the Criminal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code, and urged the country to ensure a free and transparent electoral procedure was in place.

111. Timor-Leste congratulated the country for acceding to the Rome Statute and urged it to cooperate with the International Criminal Court and to disseminate the new Constitution.

112. Togo welcomed the adoption of a number of legislative and regulatory measures, particularly the law regulating the National Human Rights Council.

113. Tunisia commended the efforts to establish the national human rights institutions, to ratify international human rights instruments and to promote the Constitution, legislative frameworks and democracy.

114. Turkey hailed the importance attributed to the rights of women and children and the efforts to make the Independent Electoral Commission more transparent and inclusive.

115. Uganda applauded the efforts to alleviate poverty and strengthen social cohesion. It encouraged Côte d'Ivoire to remove all impediments to women's participation in public life, including by amending legal provisions.

116. Ukraine commended the steps taken to bring the national human rights legislation in line with the 2016 Constitution. It urged Côte d'Ivoire to focus on the protection of human rights defenders and to end the stigmatization of victims of gender-based violence.

117. The United Kingdom welcomed the measures to address forced labour and human trafficking and encouraged Côte d'Ivoire to eliminate all forms of child labour. It called for free, fair and peaceful elections in 2020.

118. The United States of America welcomed the efforts to enact penal reform. It underscored the importance of increasing protection for civil society and journalists without fear of reprisals to promote free, fair and peaceful elections.

119. Uruguay congratulated Côte d'Ivoire on having abolished the death penalty and ratified the Rome Statute and expressed hope that the country would continue on that path.

120. Uzbekistan applauded the ratification of several international human rights instruments and the adoption of the new Constitution and a number of laws to strengthen fundamental rights.

121. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the efforts to establish the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Cohesion and Poverty Reduction, to help vulnerable groups through the social security networks and to provide quality education.

122. Yemen commended the ratification of several international human rights instruments, including the discussions currently under way on ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

123. Zambia appreciated the development of the national plan to implement the recommendations from the previous review cycle.

124. Zimbabwe applauded the adoption of the National Development Plan and the measures to protect the rights of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities and persons with albinism.

125. Algeria welcomed the efforts to amend the Constitution and to adopt a law to consolidate the legal and institutional framework, taking into account the recommendations accepted during the previous review cycle.

126. Angola acknowledged the steps to harmonize national laws with international human rights treaties and to establish the National Human Rights Council.

127. Argentina commended the abolition of the death penalty and the creation of the National Human Rights Council.

128. Armenia applauded the commitment to ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the steps to promote women's rights through the national gender equality policy.

129. Australia congratulated the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission for submitting its report. However, several challenges remained, including the need to end impunity and put a stop to the practice of female genital mutilation.

130. Azerbaijan praised the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

131. Bangladesh applauded the adoption of the new Constitution, the development of infrastructure in the fields of education and health care and the efforts to combat gender-based violence.

132. Belgium welcomed the legislative initiatives to transform the National Human Rights Commission, but remained concerned about allegations of torture and sexual violence.

133. Benin noted the ratification of several international human rights instruments, particularly the ILO Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187) and the adoption of institutional and legislative reforms, including the National Development Plan.

134. Bhutan commended the steps taken to strengthen institutional capacity, promote the rights of vulnerable groups and ratify the Rome Statute and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

135. The Plurinational State of Bolivia welcomed the adoption of the new Constitution and the abolition of death penalty.

136. Botswana applauded the progress made and noted the remaining challenges, including long pretrial detention and harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation.

137. Brazil welcomed the efforts made to strengthen national reconciliation. It encouraged Côte d'Ivoire to take additional measures to promote the rehabilitation and reintegration of child soldiers and to improve women's access to justice.

138. The Democratic Republic of the Congo commended the ratification of several international human rights instruments.

139. In conclusion, the Minister of State thanked all States for their interest in Côte d'Ivoire and in improving the country's human rights situation by means of their comments, questions and recommendations. In that regard, she wished to reaffirm that the Ivorian Government would make every effort to ensure the effective and full implementation of the recommendations that it accepted. She invited all States Members of the United Nations system, as well as technical, financial, bilateral and multilateral partners, to engage fully in supporting the country in the implementation of the accepted recommendations.

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

140. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Côte d'Ivoire and enjoy the support of Côte d'Ivoire:**

140.1 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Brazil) (Denmark) (Germany) (Montenegro) (Togo) (Senegal) (Chile);**

140.2 **Finalize the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

140.3 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as previously recommended, as well as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Czechia);**

140.4 Move forward with the ratification and implementation of the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay)**;

140.5 Strengthen cooperation with international and regional mechanisms for the protection of human rights, in particular with United Nations special procedure mandate holders, as well as with the International Criminal Court and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (Ecuador);

140.6 Continue the process of ratification of international instruments, particularly in the area of human rights (El Salvador);

140.7 Continue efforts towards ratification of the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Burkina Faso)**;

140.8 Continue efforts towards the ratification of the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Georgia);

140.9 Ratify the **Second Optional protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Togo) (Paraguay);

140.10 Consider ratifying the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment** at the earliest convenience (Ghana);

140.11 Accelerate the ratification process for the **Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Burundi)**;

140.12 Intensify efforts to accede to the **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Iraq)**;

140.13 Present the initial report to the Committee against Torture as soon as possible (Mauritius);

140.14 Implement the process of ratifying the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture** and set up a national preventive mechanism in accordance with its provisions (Mauritius);

140.15 Speed up the ratification of the **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Mozambique)**;

140.16 Finalize the process of ratifying the **Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, as per the new Constitution (Namibia);

140.17 Continue mobilizing resources and seek necessary international support for the promotion and protection of human rights (Nigeria);

140.18 Establish a national permanent inter-institutional mechanism for the presentation of reports and follow-up to recommendations of the human rights mechanisms (Paraguay);

140.19 Ratify the **third Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Portugal)**;

140.20 Ratify the **Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal)**;

- 140.21 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Portugal);**
- 140.22 **Adopt concrete measures to ensure the application of the provisions of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa and continue implementing the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Chad);**
- 140.23 **Expedite the process of accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Sierra Leone);**
- 140.24 **Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Sierra Leone);**
- 140.25 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Spain);**
- 140.26 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Togo);**
- 140.27 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Tunisia);**
- 140.28 **Adopt measures to effectively implement the provisions of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (the Kampala Convention) (Uganda);**
- 140.29 **Ratify key human rights treaties, including the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ukraine);**
- 140.30 **Implement in full the recommendations of the National Committee for Monitoring Actions against Trafficking, Exploitation and Child Labour to end child labour and trafficking (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 140.31 **Accelerate the ongoing process to harmonize national legislation with the provisions of international human rights treaties (Zimbabwe);**
- 140.32 **Take the necessary measures to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina);**
- 140.33 **Continue its actions and initiatives aimed at ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Benin);**
- 140.34 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**
- 140.35 **Take appropriate measures to provide sufficient financial resources and full independence to the National Human Rights Council (Bulgaria);**
- 140.36 **Adopt a national policy on the promotion and protection of the rights of children and young people (Bulgaria);**

- 140.37 **Reform the Independent Electoral Commission and ensure the free, open and transparent nature of future elections, in compliance with the decisions of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (Croatia);**
- 140.38 **Continue efforts to put in place the National Development Plan in its five areas to promote the human rights situation (Egypt);**
- 140.39 **Ensure that existing institutional frameworks are reinforced by integrating climate change into planning and budgeting at the national, regional and local levels (Fiji);**
- 140.40 **Make the fight against corruption, which undermines fundamental rights and the rule of law, a national cause (France);**
- 140.41 **Adopt measures to guarantee appropriate financial resources for and the full independence of the National Human Rights Council (Ghana);**
- 140.42 **Continue its efforts to ensure the full function of the National Human Rights Council, through capacity-building and collaboration with the National Human Rights Commissions from other regions (Indonesia);**
- 140.43 **Accelerate the implementation of the law on the establishment of the National Human Rights Council to carry out its work in accordance with the Paris Principles (Iraq);**
- 140.44 **Include the principles of human rights training into regulations pertaining to the licensing of foreign companies (Iraq);**
- 140.45 **Guarantee full implementation of legislation aimed at protecting human rights defenders (Italy);**
- 140.46 **Provide training to all actors in promoting and protecting human rights (Jordan);**
- 140.47 **Provide the necessary resources to the national programme for strengthening and promoting human rights (Jordan);**
- 140.48 **Broaden the mandate of the National Human Rights Commission to address cases of human rights violations, guarantee its independence and bestow it with sufficient resources and financial autonomy so that it may fulfil its mandate effectively in accordance with the Paris Principles (Lesotho);**
- 140.49 **Give greater importance to the implementation of the National Development Plan (Libya);**
- 140.50 **Set up an implementation plan for human rights recommendations that integrates the Sustainable Development Goals and all accepted recommendations (Cabo Verde);**
- 140.51 **Use the third cycle of the universal periodic review to generate data to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and human rights (Cabo Verde);**
- 140.52 **Ensure the full cooperation of the National Rights Council and provide it with commensurate resources (Namibia);**
- 140.53 **Accelerate the implementation of the legislative framework governing land ownership to ensure fair, equitable and predictable land distribution, including for women (Canada);**
- 140.54 **Adopt laws on the protection of human rights defenders and the protection of witnesses and victims in judicial proceedings relating to the conflict (Paraguay);**
- 140.55 **Ensure the effective functioning of the National Human Rights Council, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Republic of Moldova);**

- 140.56 **Operationalize the National Human Rights Council of Côte d'Ivoire by providing sufficient financial resources in accordance with the Paris Principles (Senegal);**
- 140.57 **Continue to consolidate the progress achieved in the field of human rights education and training (South Africa);**
- 140.58 **Provide training for human rights stakeholders (Sudan);**
- 140.59 **Finalize the process of establishing an independent national human rights institution (Ukraine);**
- 140.60 **Continue to implement the National Development Plan 2016–2020, strive to eliminate poverty and achieve economic and social sustainable development to lay a solid foundation for its people to enjoy all human rights (China);**
- 140.61 **Continue with the practical implementation of the 2016–2020 National Development Plan (Uzbekistan);**
- 140.62 **Ensure the continuation of the successful activity of the National Human Rights Council, established in 2018 in accordance with the Paris Principles (Uzbekistan);**
- 140.63 **Train governmental and non-governmental actors working in the field of human rights on the institutional and normative framework of human rights (Yemen);**
- 140.64 **Consider including measures aimed at ensuring increased efficiency and accountability of public service into its national development strategy (Azerbaijan);**
- 140.65 **Accept technical assistance for the National Support Programme for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights from the international community (Bhutan);**
- 140.66 **Ensure wider dissemination of the new Constitution within national institutions and among the general public for its effective implementation (Botswana);**
- 140.67 **Review all legal provisions that impede the equal participation and advancement of women in public and political affairs, take appropriate measures to guarantee better participation of women in public affairs and encourage women to stand for election to political positions (Bulgaria);**
- 140.68 **Reinforce legal measures to combat gender discrimination (Honduras);**
- 140.69 **Take measures to protect persons with albinism in law and in practice against all kinds of discrimination and human rights violations (Portugal);**
- 140.70 **Expedite the amendments to the Personal and Family Code as well as other legislation to guarantee equality between men and women (Russian Federation);**
- 140.71 **Expedite the amendment of the Personal and Family Code and all relevant legislation with a view to guaranteeing equality between men and women, combating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, particularly sexual and gender-based violence, and decriminalizing adultery (Slovenia);**
- 140.72 **Take steps to protect persons with albinism, in law and in practice, against all forms of discrimination (Bangladesh);**
- 140.73 **Investigate all allegations of extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearance and torture carried out by the police, security and defence forces, bring the perpetrators to justice and compensate the victims (Czechia);**

- 140.74 Investigate all cases of trafficking in persons and child labour, and strengthen the awareness campaigns of the population and families on those matters (Honduras);
- 140.75 Amend provisions in the Criminal Code and the law on the press to provide the right to freedom of expression without fear of reprisals, arrest or detention (Maldives);
- 140.76 Continue its efforts to combat trafficking in persons, particularly children (Mali);
- 140.77 Strengthen awareness campaigns to combat domestic violence (Mauritania);
- 140.78 Implement legislation for the prohibition of torture and create an independent mechanism of prevention (Mexico);
- 140.79 Continue its efforts for democratic transition, peace and stability in the country (Myanmar);
- 140.80 Step up efforts to raise public awareness and train duty bearers on combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children (Philippines);
- 140.81 Develop a standard operating procedures manual on trafficking to ensure a harmonized and multipronged approach is adopted in the identification, investigation and prosecutorial stages, whilst ensuring the protection and rehabilitation of victims (Seychelles);
- 140.82 Adopt the legislative and political measures necessary to combat domestic and gender violence, ensuring legal and psychosocial protection to victims (Chile);
- 140.83 Adopt the necessary measures for the implementation of the crime of torture as a specific crime, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention against Torture (Uruguay);
- 140.84 Intensify efforts to combat human trafficking (Armenia);
- 140.85 Allocate greater resources to combat sexual violence, including by armed forces personnel, and to prosecute perpetrators (Australia);
- 140.86 Endeavour to prevent excessive use of force, arbitrary arrests, torture and ill-treatment in detention facilities (Botswana);
- 140.87 Guarantee the right to a fair trial, regardless of the political, ideological, religious or identity affiliation of the alleged perpetrator, by strengthening the independence of the judicial institutions (Croatia);
- 140.88 Consider the adoption of additional measures aimed at reinforcing the independence of the judiciary (Brazil);
- 140.89 Adopt the necessary measures to guarantee the independence of the judicial system and the impartiality of its decisions, respect for human rights by law enforcement authorities and the fight against corruption (Ecuador);
- 140.90 Continue opening local legal assistance offices in all trial courts (Burkina Faso);
- 140.91 Guarantee the applicability of all measures taken aimed at strengthening the rights of persons in police custody or in pretrial detention (Gabon);
- 140.92 Reduce overcrowding in prisons and ensure that persons do not remain in pretrial detention beyond the prescribed time limits (Germany);
- 140.93 Redouble efforts to enhance the conditions of detention facilities with particular consideration for women and children, and expedite trials (Holy See);

- 140.94 **Ensure that allegations of torture and ill-treatment committed by police, security and defence forces are investigated, and that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice (Madagascar);**
- 140.95 **Implement legislation that guarantees independence in the delivery of justice and consolidates the achievements attained, particularly in terms of equality of conditions before courts and the fight against impunity (Mexico);**
- 140.96 **Implement human rights training programmes for personnel of institutions involved in security and justice in the country (Mexico);**
- 140.97 **Continue efforts to reform the judiciary and penitentiary system (Morocco);**
- 140.98 **Strengthen measures to ensure the independence of the judiciary (Peru);**
- 140.99 **Strengthen the progress made in the field of human rights education by providing regular training to law enforcement officials and relevant authorities in judicial institutions (Portugal);**
- 140.100 **Take measures to improve the situation in prisons and to reduce overcrowding (Spain);**
- 140.101 **Elaborate a national action plan to implement alternative sanctions to imprisonment (Switzerland);**
- 140.102 **Ensure the investigation of allegations of torture and ill-treatment by the police, security and defence forces (Timor-Leste);**
- 140.103 **Bring about a far-reaching reform of the judicial system, and effectively guarantee the independence of the judiciary (Ukraine);**
- 140.104 **Ameliorate prison conditions (Ukraine);**
- 140.105 **Investigate all allegations of human rights violations and abuses, including those that occurred from 2010 to 2011, and hold accountable those responsible (United States of America);**
- 140.106 **Improve living conditions in prisons by tackling overcrowding (Zambia);**
- 140.107 **Investigate thoroughly allegations of torture and ill-treatment by the police, security and defence forces and prosecute the perpetrators (Zambia);**
- 140.108 **Strengthen awareness campaigns among security forces (including personnel in detention centres) in the context of the fight against torture (Belgium);**
- 140.109 **Take measures and provide the necessary means to facilitate access to justice for victims of sexual violence and improve legal and judicial support for these victims (Belgium);**
- 140.110 **Ensure freedom of expression and assembly, prosecute and convict perpetrators of harassment and threats against independent journalists and bloggers, and take effective measures to enforce the act on the protection of human rights defenders (Czechia);**
- 140.111 **Take measures to guarantee that the next elections are credible and transparent (France);**
- 140.112 **Ensure journalists, human rights defenders and other civil society actors are able to freely exercise their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly without fear of reprisals, intimidation or harassment, in particular in the context of the upcoming presidential election in 2020 (Ireland);**
- 140.113 **Take all appropriate measures to ensure that the upcoming electoral process is transparent and inclusive (Italy);**



140.114 **Guarantee freedom of expression and protection to human rights defenders, independent journalists and political opponents by setting up an independent mechanism aimed at ensuring the implementation of the decree of 2017 on implementation procedures of the Act on the promotion and protection of human rights defenders (Canada);**

140.115 **Align all provisions in the Criminal Code and the law on the press which currently restrict the right to freedom of expression with international and regional human rights law, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Netherlands);**

140.116 **Ensure that any restriction on press and media activities is in full compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other relevant human rights instruments (Republic of Korea);**

140.117 **Effectively guarantee freedom of assembly as enshrined in the Constitution (Republic of Korea);**

140.118 **Take the necessary steps to ensure that human rights defenders, especially women human rights defenders, are protected against threats and intimidation, to allow them to freely carry out their work and to bring to justice perpetrators of harassment, threats and intimidation against human rights defenders (Republic of Moldova);**

140.119 **Improve on press freedom even though the National Assembly in December 2017 adopted a law on the press that in principle prohibits detaining or imprisoning journalist (Sierra Leone);**

140.120 **Carry out independent investigations into all human rights violations, including those which took place as a result of the post-electoral violence in 2010–2011, and guarantee that those responsible will be brought to justice (Spain);**

140.121 **Invite long-term international election observers (Switzerland);**

140.122 **Promulgate the Act on the promotion and protection of human rights defenders (Timor-Leste);**

140.123 **Protect the right to freedom of expression, in line with article 19 of the Constitution, so that all individuals, including journalists, may speak openly without fear of reprisal or arrest (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

140.124 **Strengthen the quality of institutions of good governance (Yemen);**

140.125 **Adopt all necessary measures to provide a safe environment for freedom of expression for those who protect and promote human rights, in particular human rights defenders and journalists, including measures to investigate and prosecute all acts of violence against them (Argentina);**

140.126 **Set the same minimum age of marriage for men and women, in accordance with international standards (Zambia);**

140.127 **Continue its efforts to tackle unemployment, especially of women, young people and those living in rural areas (Pakistan);**

140.128 **Strengthen measures aimed at protecting vulnerable persons and ensure their full access to natural resources (El Salvador);**

140.129 **Step up efforts for resource mobilization for poverty reduction (Ethiopia);**

140.130 **Increase efforts to raise awareness about sociocultural factors that affect the promotion or protection of the rights of vulnerable groups in society (Ethiopia);**

140.131 **Sustain its efforts in poverty alleviation and in addressing the plight of vulnerable groups in society (Nigeria);**

- 140.132 **Intensify the implementation of poverty-alleviation initiatives that promote the economic empowerment of vulnerable groups, especially women (Philippines);**
- 140.133 **Mobilize funds for the alleviation of poverty (Sudan);**
- 140.134 **Ensure that all its citizens can share the benefits of economic progress in a participatory and inclusive manner (Bangladesh);**
- 140.135 **Continue working on extending access to various free medical services, including to children above the age of 5, taking effective advantage of the improvement of the health infrastructure that has taken place in the country (Cuba);**
- 140.136 **Consolidate the free targeted health-care system and share good practices in this regard (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 140.137 **Improve access to health care for the most vulnerable populations and promote the right to health (France);**
- 140.138 **Strengthen the health-care infrastructure, aiming toward universal health-care coverage (Holy See);**
- 140.139 **Facilitate access to emergency obstetric care, midwife training and health-care access for women from both rural and urban backgrounds (Holy See);**
- 140.140 **Provide support for health policies, particularly programmes for women and infants, in order to decrease the mortality rate among women and infants (Oman);**
- 140.141 **Continue its efforts to improve access to health care by ensuring that all health facilities are fully accessible to vulnerable persons, including persons from rural areas and persons with disabilities (Seychelles);**
- 140.142 **Continue its efforts with regard to the right to health, and guarantee accessibility for all, including women and girls, to all health services (State of Palestine);**
- 140.143 **Increase significantly financial resources in the health sector (Congo);**
- 140.144 **Further strengthen its efforts to ensure quality education for all children (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 140.145 **Strengthen measures aimed at promoting education for girls and continue efforts to combat the main reasons behind school dropout (Djibouti);**
- 140.146 **Continue strengthening the right to education for persons with disabilities by ensuring that they are integrated in the traditional school system and they participate actively in community life, and allocate sufficient resources to this end (Djibouti);**
- 140.147 **Ensure access to free quality education for both boys and girls (Holy See);**
- 140.148 **Reinforce measures to guarantee equal access to inclusive and equitable education for all (Honduras);**
- 140.149 **Continue investing in the field of education to ensure opportunities for all in education (Lebanon);**
- 140.150 **Continue its efforts to ensure equal access to education, particularly the assurance of girls' participation (Myanmar);**
- 140.151 **Continue the efforts to provide quality education for all (Oman);**
- 140.152 **Ensure that all children have access to quality education, including children with disabilities (Qatar);**

- 140.153 Pursue efforts to combat school dropout and to improve the quality of education (Tunisia);
- 140.154 Step up efforts to guarantee equal access to inclusive and equitable quality education for all (Algeria);
- 140.155 Strengthen the judicial and educational framework to combat violence against women, in particular female genital mutilation (France);
- 140.156 Continue efforts to promote women's rights and in particular combat all forms of female genital mutilation and forced or early marriages (Georgia);
- 140.157 Continue to take effective action in protecting women and children from sexual violence, by strengthening and implementing legislation against domestic violence and providing counselling services and safe places for victims (Germany);
- 140.158 Outlaw domestic violence and penalize marital rape (Iceland);
- 140.159 Ensure full implementation of penalties for female genital mutilation (Iceland);
- 140.160 Take steps to criminalize domestic violence and repeal all discriminatory laws that impede the advancement of women in public and political affairs (India);
- 140.161 Improve gender equality through public awareness campaigns to enhance women's ability to exercise their fundamental human rights (Indonesia);
- 140.162 Intensify efforts to increase women's participation in political and public life (Iraq);
- 140.163 Strengthen efforts to prevent and combat all harmful practices against women and girls, including female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage (Italy);
- 140.164 Continue combating child labour and child exploitation, and ensure that all children have access to education (Italy);
- 140.165 Continue its efforts to ensure that girls can be properly educated and particularly that they can return to school if they have been forced to drop out of education, and look more closely at the reasons behind school dropout (Lebanon);
- 140.166 Increase measures to eradicate female genital mutilation, especially in the northern and western parts of the country (Lesotho);
- 140.167 Continue its efforts to promote girls' access to education, their retention and their return to education if they dropped out, and to combat the main reasons why they dropped out of education (Maldives);
- 140.168 Encourage women's political participation for a higher representation in the parliament (Myanmar);
- 140.169 Take further measures aimed at eliminating harmful practices, especially female genital mutilation, that violate the rights of women and girls (Namibia);
- 140.170 Adopt and implement new laws aimed at promoting the empowerment of women, including their political participation (Canada);
- 140.171 Continue to promote women's empowerment (Oman);
- 140.172 Continue its efforts to achieve gender parity and women's empowerment (Pakistan);
- 140.173 Make efforts to increase the number of women in decision-making roles and positions (Pakistan);

- 140.174 **Criminalize explicitly domestic violence and conjugal rape (Paraguay);**
- 140.175 **Continue promoting access to education for girls and the efforts to ensure their return and retention in case of school dropout (Peru);**
- 140.176 **Further strengthen efforts to combat maternal and child mortality (Philippines);**
- 140.177 **Continue public awareness campaigns with a view to changing sociocultural attitudes that hinder the promotion of the rights of women and girls (Republic of Korea);**
- 140.178 **Continue the work on the implementation of the national programme and strategy to combat violence against women and children (Russian Federation);**
- 140.179 **Strengthen measures to combat discrimination and violence against women, including through the implementation of relevant laws, eliminating any loopholes in national legislation that might undermine the protection of women's rights and addressing discriminatory stereotypes that affect women (Rwanda);**
- 140.180 **Continue with measures that guarantee access to reproductive health services throughout the country to women and adolescents, and organize education and awareness-raising programmes on the importance of contraception and the right to sexual and reproductive health (Serbia);**
- 140.181 **Expedite the implementation of programmes aimed at promoting and protecting women's rights in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) (South Africa);**
- 140.182 **Step up its action to bring an end to female genital mutilation and forced marriage (Spain);**
- 140.183 **Continue combating violence against women (Tunisia);**
- 140.184 **Redouble efforts to eradicate such phenomena as crimes perpetrated under the guise of ritual procedure and female genital mutilation (Turkey);**
- 140.185 **Further protect the rights of women and children, continue to develop education and public health care (China);**
- 140.186 **Continue to strengthen its social programmes in favour of the most vulnerable groups, particularly women and children (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 140.187 **Consolidate existing measures to promote gender equality and women's empowerment (Zimbabwe);**
- 140.188 **Ensure the effective integration of women in all sectors of public life (Congo);**
- 140.189 **Redouble efforts to combat female genital mutilation (Congo);**
- 140.190 **Continue its commitment to empowering women and ensuring equal opportunities (Armenia);**
- 140.191 **Enforce Law No. 98-757 of 23 December 1998 on the punishment of certain forms of violence against women and raise awareness of the harmful effects of female genital mutilation and the penalties incurred by perpetrators of female genital mutilation (Australia);**
- 140.192 **Continue measures aimed at promoting women's empowerment as one of the goals of the Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Project (Azerbaijan);**

- 140.193 **Take further measures to protect and promote the rights of women and children, particularly access for girls to schools (Bhutan);**
- 140.194 **Continue the support programme to strengthen inclusion and social cohesion to guarantee the security of land tenure with a gender perspective (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**
- 140.195 **Continue to take effective measures in order to end child labour, for example in the agriculture and mining sectors (Germany);**
- 140.196 **Keep improving the system of child registration at birth and guarantee the rights of children, especially in situations of conflict (Holy See);**
- 140.197 **Intensify the fight against child labour (Iceland);**
- 140.198 **Mainstream the rights of the child into all policies concerning the business sector, in line with general comment No. 16 (2013) of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Iceland);**
- 140.199 **Continue efforts to support national policies for the protection of children and adolescents (Libya);**
- 140.200 **Implement the necessary national strategy to support victims of gender-based violence and child victims of sexual exploitation (Myanmar);**
- 140.201 **Ensure the allocation of adequate resources for the comprehensive implementation of the national child protection policy (Philippines);**
- 140.202 **Continue to support the important role of civil society and continue to cooperate with it in terms of improving the situation of juvenile delinquents (Serbia);**
- 140.203 **Guarantee that the legal and institutional framework ensures that children in conflict with the law are dealt with in a manner that conforms to international standards (South Africa);**
- 140.204 **Step up efforts to ensure that all children born in the country are duly registered and regularize the situation of stateless minors (Spain);**
- 140.205 **Pursue efforts for the protection of children (Tunisia);**
- 140.206 **Reinforce the implementation of measures and policies for the protection of children in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols (Angola);**
- 140.207 **Reinforce measures to facilitate the birth registration of a higher number of internally displaced persons, especially children (Angola);**
- 140.208 **Continue expanding the regulatory framework and ensure its effective implementation for the full social inclusion of persons with disabilities, including in relation to the right to decent work in the public and private sectors (Cuba);**
- 140.209 **Continue efforts to protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities (Egypt);**
- 140.210 **Continue efforts to protect human rights and encourage the employment of persons with disabilities (Morocco);**
- 140.211 **Ensure that persons with disabilities are integrated in the mainstream education system, while providing them with any special service they may require (Saudi Arabia);**
- 140.212 **Continue the work on the continental and subregional initiatives in the area of statelessness through the adoption and implementation of the national action plan on statelessness, in accordance with the commitment made in the Abidjan Declaration and target 16.9 of the Sustainable Development Goals (Switzerland);**

140.213 Enhance efforts to guard against statelessness including by facilitating birth registration and implementing the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Uganda).

141. The following recommendations will be examined by Côte d'Ivoire, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-second session of the Human Rights Council:

141.1 Ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization (Denmark);

141.2 Consider ratifying the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Uruguay);

141.3 Consider extending a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders (Georgia) (Latvia) (Qatar);

141.4 Continue with the ongoing efforts to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ghana);

141.5 Ratify the main human rights treaties to which it is not yet a party, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Honduras);

141.6 Intensify efforts towards the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);

141.7 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Madagascar) (Azerbaijan) (Rwanda) (Senegal) (Paraguay);

141.8 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Timor-Leste);

141.9 Fully cooperate with the investigations of the International Criminal Court and other judicial mechanisms aimed at bringing all perpetrators to justice for violations committed in past conflicts (Montenegro);

141.10 Speed up the ratification process of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Mozambique);

141.11 Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

141.12 Consider publishing the report of the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Peru);

141.13 Make the report from the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission publicly available and develop a clear reparation policy (Australia);

141.14 Ensure that women, children, persons with disabilities, indigenous and marginalized communities are meaningfully engaged in the development of legislation, policies and programmes on climate change and disaster risk reduction at the local, national and international levels (Fiji);

141.15 Eliminate the fees associated with education in order to provide free educational services (Saudi Arabia);

141.16 Promote access to continuous, free and quality education throughout the country (France);

141.17 Ensure equal access to inclusive quality education for all and guarantee free public education for a minimum of 12 years (India);

141.18 Continue to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, significantly by working to guarantee free public education for all children for at least 12 years (State of Palestine);

141.19 Guarantee free public education for a minimum of 12 years (Ukraine);

141.20 Guarantee free public education for at least 12 years, in line with the commitments undertaken to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Algeria).

142. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Côte d'Ivoire and have been noted by Côte d'Ivoire:

142.1 Better protect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons by expanding non-discrimination laws to include sexual orientation and gender identity and by abolishing homosexuality as an aggravating circumstance, as in article 360 of the Criminal Code (Germany);

142.2 Take the necessary steps to protect persons with albinism and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons against all forms of discrimination, intimidation and violence (Czechia);

142.3 Enact legislation protecting the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex individuals, including expanding non-discrimination laws to include discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);

142.4 Conduct public awareness campaigns to help to bring about a change in traditional attitudes (Republic of Moldova);

142.5 Ensure that law enforcement officers comply with laws protecting the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex individuals and undertake awareness-raising campaigns to combat the stigmatization of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Iceland);

142.6 Amend all legislation that discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, including article 360 of the Criminal Code, and take concrete steps to protect lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex individuals from acts of violence, discrimination and harassment (Ireland);

142.7 Amend article 360 of the Criminal Code and other provisions of its legislation which discriminate against persons on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, in line with Sustainable Development Goals 5 and 10 (Netherlands);

142.8 Repeal the provisions in the penal legislation which are discriminatory on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity, in particular article 360 of the Criminal Code (Chile);

142.9 Investigate allegations of violence and serious levels of discrimination targeting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (United States of America);

142.10 Take the necessary measures to modify the provisions of article 36 of the Criminal Code, as well as the other provisions of its legislation that are discriminatory on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Argentina);

142.11 Strengthen efforts to address inequality, violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Australia);

142.12 Guarantee the independence of the judiciary by ensuring respect for the security of tenure of judges, revising the Constitution to allow judges to

**elect the President of the Supreme Council of Justice themselves and combating corruption and interference by the executive branch in the judiciary (Slovenia);**

**142.13 Amend provisions in the Criminal Code and the law on the press that unduly restrict freedom of expression, such as criminal libel and penalties for insulting the Head of State (United States of America);**

**142.14 Repeal circular No. 10 of 26 of September 2017 on the punishment of offences committed by minors (Belgium).**

**143. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**



## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Côte d'Ivoire was headed by Madame Aimée ZEBEYOUS, Secrétaire d'Etat auprès du Garde des Sceaux, Ministre de la Justice et des Droits de l'Homme, chargée des Droits de l'Homme, and composed of the following members:

- Son Excellence Monsieur Kouadio ADJOUANI, Ambassadeur, Représentant permanent de la République de Côte d'Ivoire à Genève;
- Son Excellence Monsieur KINDIA Etienne, Ambassadeur, Directeur des Nations Unies et Institutions Spécialisées au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères;
- Monsieur ACKA Kassy Joseph, Directeur de Cabinet au Ministère de la Santé et de l'Hygiène Publique;
- Monsieur NIAVA Bogui Innocent, Chef de Cabinet au Secrétariat d'Etat chargé des Droits de l'Homme;
- Monsieur DELBE Zirignon Constant, Conseiller Technique au Ministère de la Justice et des Droits de l'Homme;
- Monsieur NIMAGA Bassirou Mohamed, Conseiller Technique au Secrétariat d'Etat chargé des Droits de l'Homme;
- Monsieur AKA Assemian Guy Claude, Conseiller Technique au Ministère de la Femme, de la Famille et de l'Enfant;
- Monsieur N'DJOMOU De Achille, Directeur de la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme et de la Réglementation;
- Docteur NEVRY Roger, Directeur de la Réglementation, du Contentieux et de la Coopération au Ministère de la Femme, de la Famille et de l'Enfant;
- Monsieur Karim SILUE, Conseiller à la Mission permanente de la République de Côte d'Ivoire à Genève;
- Monsieur SORO Fozilé, Sous-Directeur de la Législation et de la Réglementation au Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Développement Rural;
- Mademoiselle DIE Mindeba Hanna Grâce, Sous-Directrice à la Direction des Affaires Juridiques et du Contentieux au Ministère du Plan et du Développement;
- Madame BOHUI Némédéré Juliette épouse TAHOUO, Sous-Directrice de la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme et de la Réglementation au Ministère de la Justice et des Droits de l'Homme;
- Monsieur TANH Guillaume, Conseiller Juridique du Ministre d'Etat, Ministre de la Défense;
- Monsieur NENE Bi Zah, Chargé d'Etudes au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères;
- Monsieur François Konan KOUAME, Premier Secrétaire à la Mission permanente de la République de Côte d'Ivoire à Genève;
- Monsieur Constant KACOU BI, Premier Secrétaire à la Mission permanente de la République de Côte d'Ivoire à Genève;
- Monsieur Martin Kouassi YEBOUA, Premier Secrétaire à la Mission permanente de la République de Côte d'Ivoire à Genève;
- Monsieur TAHI Ezan Emmanuel, Chargé des Affaires Juridiques au Ministère de l'Equipement et de l'Entretien Routier;
- Monsieur KOUASSI Kouadio Bertin, Chargé d'Etudes au Ministère de l'Intérieur et de la Sécurité;

- Monsieur KOUADIO N'Da N'Guessan Lazare, Chargé d'Etudes au Ministère de l'Education Nationale, de l'Enseignement Technique et de la Formation Professionnelle.
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