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Universal periodic review

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

### Togo

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\* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.



## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its fortieth session from 24 January to 11 February 2022. The review of Togo was held at the 1st meeting, on 24 January 2022. The delegation of Togo was headed by the Minister of Human Rights, Civic Education and Relations with the State Institutions, Christian Eninam Trimua. At its 10th meeting, held on 28 January 2022, the Working Group adopted the report on Togo.

2. On 12 January 2022, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Togo: Eritrea, United Arab Emirates and Ukraine.

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 Togo:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);<sup>1</sup>

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);<sup>2</sup>

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).<sup>3</sup>

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Benin, Germany, Liechtenstein, Slovenia, Spain, Panama, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay was transmitted to Togo 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 delegation of Togo highlighted the steps taken by the Government to implement the recommendations accepted during the previous cycle of the universal periodic review. Togo had submitted periodic reports to treaty-monitoring bodies, including the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in 2016, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Committee against Torture in 2018, and the Human Rights Committee in 2019. Togo had ratified the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families in 2020 and had acceded to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness in 2021.

6. The constitutional amendments adopted on 15 May 2019 had enshrined the abolition of the death penalty and the prohibition of life sentences and had established a limit on the number of terms that the President could serve, a new voting system for presidential elections, and limits on the number and length of terms of deputies, senators, territorial authority councils and the governing bodies of the country's institutions. The legislative reforms had strengthened the independence of the country's institutions for the protection of human rights, including the Constitutional Court, the National Human Rights Commission, the Court of Audit, the High Audiovisual and Communications Authority, and the High Authority for Preventing and Combating Corruption and Related Offences, expanded their powers to receive referrals and improved their functioning.

7. The National Policy on Gender Equality and Gender Equity and its action plan had been updated in 2019. From 2018 onwards, Togo had accelerated the advancement of women

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<sup>1</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/40/TGO/1](#).

<sup>2</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/40/TGO/2](#).

<sup>3</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/40/TGO/3](#).

in the public administration sector. Women had been appointed to lead a number of institutions; the posts in question included those of President of the National Assembly, Prime Minister and Head of Government, President of the National Human Rights Commission, Minister and Secretary-General of the Office of the President, and Minister of the Armed Forces. In addition, women accounted for 35 per cent of members of the current Government and headed 30 per cent of the country's institutions.

8. In 2021, a national commission to combat trafficking in persons had been established and its members appointed. In order to combat torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the functions of the national mechanism for the prevention of torture had been entrusted to the National Human Rights Commission. Although visits to detainees had been suspended since 13 April 2020 owing to the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), the National Human Rights Commission and other mechanisms for monitoring places of detention had continued to carry out visits, and the Government had considered their recommendations with interest.

9. Pursuant to the Act of 30 October 2019 on the Judicial Code, a new and more modern and accessible judicial system had been established under which judicial specialization and independence and equitable access to local justice had been strengthened. Togo had strengthened free access to local justice by establishing and operationalizing 14 justice centres, which provided conciliation and mediation services and promoted alternative means of dispute resolution.

10. A major reform of the legal framework governing the press and the media had been under way since 2020 to strengthen freedom of expression and opinion. That process had involved the adoption of a new Press and Communications Code, followed by the amendment, in 2021, of the Organic Act on the High Audiovisual and Communications Authority, which ensured that a very large majority of the Authority's members were press and media professionals, and the introduction of measures to strengthen the protection of all Internet users, including journalists, against cybercrime and illegal data interception. A new amendment to the Act establishing the conditions for the exercise of freedom of peaceful public assembly and protest had been adopted on 11 October 2021 to bring the text into line with proposals that had been received and the specific security context of the West African subregion.

11. In order to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable people, the Government had implemented an electronic cash transfer programme, of which women were the main beneficiaries, had paid the social portion of water and electricity bills and had reduced network connection costs.

12. Persons with disabilities were fully taken into account in the development, education and health strategy. A committee responsible for monitoring the inclusion of persons with disabilities had been established in 2016.

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

13. During the interactive dialogue, 89 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

14. Germany commended Togo for its efforts to improve prison conditions and the national mechanism on torture prevention. Germany was concerned about the protection of human rights defenders, impunity for members of the security forces and restrictions on the freedoms of expression, association and assembly.

15. Ghana welcomed the measures Togo had taken to strengthen national human rights institutions and improve the quality of education, as well as adopting judicial reforms.

16. Haiti noted the legislative reforms that had been made and welcomed the adoption of the National Development Plan (2018–2022), aimed at combating poverty. Haiti encouraged the Togolese authorities to ensure the Plan was implemented.

17. Iceland made recommendations.

18. India welcomed the harmonization of national legislation with the international human rights instruments that Togo had ratified, its adoption of national sectoral policies and programmes and the progress it had made in promoting women's participation in the public and business sectors.
19. Indonesia welcomed the progress Togo had made in strengthening its human rights legislation, particularly its ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, and its handling of the pandemic.
20. Iraq commended the efforts of Togo to promote democracy, human rights and good governance. It welcomed the reforms aimed at harmonizing the national normative and institutional frameworks with the relevant international human rights instruments.
21. Ireland welcomed the holding of municipal elections in 2019 and efforts to improve women's participation in local elections. It expressed concern about restrictions on the freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly and about reprisals against political opponents and human rights defenders.
22. Italy welcomed the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the progress made to promote women's empowerment and leadership.
23. Kenya welcomed the positive steps taken in the promotion and protection of human rights, and cooperation with human rights mechanisms.
24. Lebanon welcomed the engagement of Togo with international human rights mechanisms, its inclusion of human rights in new civic education curricula in primary and secondary schools and the National Health Development Plan (2017–2022), which had been harmonized with the Sustainable Development Goals.
25. Libya commended Togo for its cooperation with human rights mechanisms and welcomed the steps it had taken to enhance women's participation in political life and to increase their chances of attaining leadership positions.
26. Luxembourg made recommendations.
27. Malaysia encouraged Togo to continue taking concrete measures to promote the rights of children, including by addressing child labour, to tackle the disparity between the enrolment rates of girls and boys in secondary and higher education through inclusive and robust measures, and to strengthen measures towards gender equality.
28. Mali welcomed the ratification of numerous regional and international legal instruments on the status of stateless persons, the reduction in the number of cases of statelessness, the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and of the elderly, and measures to achieve cybersecurity and protect personal data.
29. The Marshall Islands welcomed the recent amendments to the Constitution, particularly the abolition of the death penalty and life imprisonment, demonstrating the commitment of Togo to the right to life.
30. Mauritania welcomed the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It encouraged Togo to continue its efforts to protect human rights.
31. Mauritius welcomed the ratification by Togo of the African Union Convention on Cybersecurity and Personal Data Protection and its efforts to democratize access to education by halving school fees for girls.
32. Mexico welcomed efforts to improve detention conditions and awareness-raising campaigns aimed at eliminating child labour and early marriage.
33. Montenegro welcomed efforts to harmonize national legislation with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the response of Togo to the COVID-19 pandemic and its post-pandemic economic recovery plan. Montenegro reiterated its call for Togo to issue a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders.

34. Morocco welcomed the reports Togo had submitted to the treaty bodies, particularly regarding torture, racial discrimination and children's rights, and the visit of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences.
35. Mozambique commended Togo for its ratification of the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants Workers and Members of Their Families.
36. Namibia commended the positive measures Togo had taken to improve human rights, including the adoption of limits on the number of terms of office for the President and other office bearers, in order to strengthen good governance and democracy.
37. Nepal welcomed the improvements made in education, the decree on the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons and the National Health Development Plan (2017–2022).
38. The Netherlands welcomed the adoption of the law on the protection of human rights defenders. It was concerned about reports of acts of torture, ill-treatment and excessive use of force by some defence and security forces, such as during widespread demonstrations by opposition political parties and civil society.
39. Nigeria commended the continued cooperation of Togo with international and regional human rights mechanisms, its ratification of a number of international instruments, its efforts to strengthen legal and institutional frameworks on human rights and the strides it had made in poverty alleviation and addressing the plight of vulnerable groups.
40. Pakistan welcomed the steps Togo had taken to improve access to livelihoods, health and education, and to implement the national development, health and COVID-19 response plans. It encouraged Togo to continue its efforts to improve socioeconomic indicators and promote people's well-being.
41. Panama made recommendations.
42. The Philippines commended the measures Togo had taken to promote gender equality and advance women's rights and economic empowerment, its programmes on human rights education and training and its ratification in 2020 of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
43. Poland commended Togo for its efforts to improve children's access to education by increasing enrolment rates for girls in primary education. Poland expressed concern about the persistently low rate of birth registration and encouraged Togo to continue raising public awareness of the importance of birth registration.
44. Responding to the questions submitted in advance by States, the delegation of Togo emphasized that, concerning allegations of torture, the security forces performed their duties in accordance with the legislation in force. The Government had strengthened the applicable penalty system. Offenders were thus liable to disciplinary and criminal proceedings, depending on the seriousness of the offence. In 2021, penalties of various kinds had been imposed on 159 police officers and gendarmes. Of these, 55 had been placed under close arrest, 50 had been suspended for six months without pay, 33 had been dismissed, 1 had been forced to retire early, 13 had received warnings and 7 had been dismissed and referred to the justice system to be held accountable for their actions.
45. Concerning conditions of detention, women were held separately from men, as were minors from adults, and communication with the outside world, the quantity and quality of meals served and the health of detainees had been improved. In April 2020, 1,042 detainees had been granted a presidential pardon in order to reduce prison overcrowding as part of efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 95 per cent of detainees had been vaccinated, as had prison staff.
46. With regard to combating discrimination against women and girls within the family, it should be recalled that customary practices constituting violence or discrimination against women, in particular discriminatory practices against widows, were prohibited under the Persons and Family Code of 2014. Inheritance rights had also been strengthened under the

Code, and succession occurred in accordance with modern law. Women enjoyed the same level of access to land ownership as men under the new Land and Property Code of 2018.

47. With regard to early marriage, the legal age for marriage in Togo was 18 years for both sexes, and forced marriage was prohibited and punished.

48. In December 2021, a multifunctional centre had been established in Lomé to provide comprehensive health care, counselling and legal support for victims of violence. There had been 229 convictions for sexual violence against women and girls between 2016 and 2019.

49. Portugal welcomed efforts to improve primary school enrolment and the achievement of gender parity in primary education. It acknowledged the reforms to consolidate democracy and the rule of law.

50. Qatar welcomed the efforts of Togo to address the COVID-19 pandemic and appreciated the measures Togo and its partners had taken to increase access to education and to improve the education system.

51. Saudi Arabia noted many positive developments, including the introduction of health, social and economic measures, including measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

52. Senegal welcomed the action Togo had taken to increase access to education and improve the quality of teaching and training, including by strengthening performance indicators in the education system. It welcomed the efforts Togo had made at the normative and institutional levels to implement the recommendations from the previous review cycles.

53. Serbia noted the measures taken in response to the recommendations made during the previous review cycle.

54. Sierra Leone noted the measures Togo had taken to advance the rights of women and children and its ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

55. Singapore noted the steps taken to improve enjoyment of the right to health and the emphasis on testing, treatment and vaccination during the COVID-19 pandemic.

56. Slovenia took note of reports of arbitrary detention, restrictions on freedom of assembly, the criminalization of consensual same-sex sexual conduct and the persistence of gender-based violence.

57. South Africa welcomed the efforts made since the previous review cycle to improve the enjoyment of economic and social rights.

58. Spain welcomed the progress Togo had made with regard to the education and health systems. Nevertheless, it was concerned at the serious restrictions on fundamental freedoms.

59. Sri Lanka commended the development of a national social protection policy for the period 2020–2029, the ongoing efforts to draft a national child protection policy, the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the strengthening of the National Human Rights Commission.

60. Switzerland made recommendations.

61. Timor-Leste noted the various initiatives Togo had taken, including the harmonization of national legislation with the international human rights instruments that Togo had ratified and its implementation of recommendations from the previous review cycle.

62. Tunisia welcomed the measures taken to reform the judiciary, combat corruption, improve education, health and social inclusion, promote children's and women's rights and support gender equality, among others.

63. Ukraine commended the steps Togo had taken in the social, economic and health protection spheres, by adopting the National Health Development Plan and launching various projects aimed at ensuring access to quality health-care services. Greater efforts were required to combat child labour and discriminatory customary practices and to ensure gender equality.

64. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland noted the democratic progress Togo had made, including constitutional reforms and the appointment of its first female Prime Minister. Nevertheless, the United Kingdom remained concerned about allegations of human rights violations, including restrictions on freedom of expression and of assembly.
65. The United Republic of Tanzania commended the harmonization of legislation with international instruments, the adoption of national and sectoral policies and programmes, and the initiatives taken to promote gender equality, improve maternal and child health and improve access to clean and safe water.
66. The United States of America commended the Government's efforts to hold a political dialogue with opposition parties following the 2020 presidential elections to consider amendments to the Electoral Code and ways to improve future elections.
67. Uruguay welcomed the efforts Togo had made, including its adoption of a new child welfare policy.
68. Uzbekistan noted the measures Togo had taken to protect human rights and reduce the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
69. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the National Health Development Plan (2017–2022) and measures taken to promote the right to education, including the "School Assur" insurance scheme.
70. Viet Nam welcomed the efforts of Togo to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights and effectively ensure the exercise of human rights in the country, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. It also commended the national initiatives Togo had taken to promote gender equality and reduce poverty.
71. Yemen commended the achievements of Togo in the field of human rights, including the strengthening of constitutional institutions, the adoption of the National Development Plan (2018–2022) and the ratification of several international instruments.
72. Algeria welcomed the ratification of the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
73. Angola commended Togo for its cooperation with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and for the steps it had taken since its previous review to address statelessness and the exploitation of children.
74. Argentina made recommendations.
75. Armenia welcomed measures to fight HIV/AIDS and malaria. It also acknowledged the steps Togo had taken to decrease maternal and infant mortality, improve access to education and establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture.
76. Australia welcomed the constitutional amendment that embedded the abolition of the death penalty in the Constitution of Togo. It was deeply concerned by reports of torture and excessive use of force by security and law enforcement officials.
77. Azerbaijan welcomed the efforts of Togo to harmonize national legislation with the international instruments it had ratified and the reforms it had made in the judiciary and the prison service. Azerbaijan also commended the steps Togo had taken to strengthen the national human rights institution.
78. Bangladesh commended the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the initiative to develop a national social protection policy and a child protection policy and the continued efforts to reduce poverty.
79. Barbados commended the measures Togo had taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which had minimized the negative impacts of the pandemic and ensured the exercise of individual and collective freedoms and the enjoyment of political, social, economic and cultural rights.

80. Belgium commended the efforts made by Togo since its previous review, while noting that further progress could be made.

81. Brazil commended the ratification of the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the development of the National Health Development Plan. It called on Togo to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

82. The delegation of Togo stressed that, under national law, women were able to pass on their nationality to their children. As birth certificates were key to obtaining nationality, the Government had decided to make birth registration free of charge. The National Commission to Combat Statelessness had been established and had a national plan to counter that phenomenon. The new Nationality Code was currently being drafted.

83. The Act on the composition, organization and operation of the National Human Rights Commission tasked the Commission with protecting human rights defenders. A law on the protection of human rights defenders was being prepared using a participatory approach.

84. Freedom of peaceful public assembly and protest was guaranteed by article 30 of the Constitution and the Act of 16 May 2011, as amended in 2019 and again in 2021, in a specific subregional security context. The adjustments made related to the routes, times and places of demonstrations and took into account the conclusions of the national consultations with political actors and the concerns expressed by various partners about the changes made in 2019. An observatory on demonstrations had been set up to improve demonstration management.

85. The Government had made efforts to ensure that every child had the right to a birth certificate. Children without birth certificates enjoyed all the same social, educational and health services as other citizens.

86. With regard to the decriminalization of defamation, freedom of opinion and freedom of the press were recognized under the Constitution of 14 October 1992. There had been no documented cases in which the law had been misapplied to unduly restrict freedom of expression.

87. The richness and pluralism of debates in the media and on social networks in Togo showed that freedom of expression was alive and well. No democratic State could have existed without reasonable rules to govern the exercise of fundamental freedoms.

88. As for extending a standing invitation to all the special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, Togo remained open to receiving requests for visits from all of them, at any time. Togo had not received a request for a visit from the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation. The Government had responded to a joint communication received from four special rapporteurs in 2019 regarding amendments to the law on peaceful gatherings and demonstrations.

89. Concerning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, Togo protected all its citizens and the communities living in the country, regardless of their origin, against discrimination in all its forms, whatever its source, grounds or mode of expression. Nevertheless, Togo had yet to begin considering the possibility of decriminalizing sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex, since homosexuality was alien to Togolese social mores and values. Similarly, Togo had yet to reflect on forms of gender identity beyond those of men and women as distinguished on the basis of observable biological characteristics.

90. The ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court raised many constitutional issues and would require a thorough revision of the Constitution of Togo from an institutional and normative standpoint. In view of the current state of constitutional thinking and political debate in the country, Togo was not able to ratify the Rome Statute. However, in order to respond to the need to protect human rights against the offences set out in the Rome Statute, Togo had incorporated into its Criminal Code of 2015 all those offences, reproducing their definitions, ingredients and wording.

91. Bulgaria commended the strengthening of the National Human Rights Commission, by having its members elected by the parliament, and the establishment of the National Committee on the Rights of the Child.
92. Burkina Faso appreciated the progress made in implementing the recommendations Togo had accepted at the review held in 2016, while stressing that challenges remained, notably in combating violence against women and girls.
93. Burundi welcomed the initiatives taken to harmonize national legislation with the international instruments Togo had ratified, the adoption of national or sectoral policies and programmes, the development of a national child welfare policy and the measures taken to deal with COVID-19 and to ensure better detention conditions for persons deprived of their liberty.
94. Cabo Verde commended Togo for its cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms and its constant commitment to the Human Rights Council. It noted that the reforms under way in the country deserved sustained support from the international community to help Togo achieve its noble objectives.
95. Canada was grateful for the efforts made by Togo to strengthen its National Human Rights Commission.
96. Chad welcomed the initiatives taken to strengthen cooperation with human rights mechanisms, in particular through the harmonization of national legislation with ratified instruments and the adoption of national or sectoral policies and programmes.
97. Chile highlighted the swift implementation of a socioeconomic response plan to address the crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.
98. China commended the efforts made to improve enjoyment of human rights, including the implementation of the National Development Plan (2018–2022), the fight against poverty and against the COVID-19 pandemic, the developments in education and health and the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups.
99. The Congo welcomed the significant progress made in terms of the well-being of the population, particularly the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights.
100. Côte d’Ivoire congratulated Togo for having revised the Persons and Family Code, ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and adopted the new Criminal Code.
101. Cuba acknowledged the implementation of recommendations from the previous review, such as legislative reforms in the field of human rights and advances in the health and education sectors.
102. The Democratic Republic of the Congo commended Togo for its ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa.
103. Denmark acknowledged the significant progress Togo had made since its previous review.
104. Djibouti welcomed efforts to strengthen the normative and institutional framework, in particular through the amendment of the Constitution on 15 May 2019 and through legislative reforms aimed at improving democracy and the rule of law by strengthening civil and political rights.
105. The Dominican Republic encouraged Togo to continue taking steps to improve its normative and institutional framework for the protection of human rights.
106. Ethiopia commended the efforts made to implement the recommendations received during the second review cycle, the increased submission of periodic reports and the amendments to national legislation, including the Constitution.

107. Fiji commended Togo on the establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform for collaboration between the Government, the National Human Rights Commission and other stakeholders to exchange information on human rights issues.

108. Finland commended the efforts made to increase women's participation in politics and the organization in 2019 of municipal elections, for the first time in 37 years.

109. France noted the progress achieved, particularly the operationalization of the national mechanism for the prevention of torture. It also noted that the situation of human rights remained fragile.

110. Georgia noted with satisfaction the efforts made to put in place a socioeconomic response plan to the COVID-19 crisis and to better protect civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

111. Botswana commended Togo on the steps it had taken to reduce the maternal and infant mortality rates. It noted with concern that only 51.7 per cent of lower secondary school children completed their studies and that children and young people with albinism faced obstacles to enjoying their right to education.

112. Maldives commended Togo for the progress made to promote gender equality by developing and implementing national programmes on women's leadership. It welcomed the efforts made to improve detention conditions for persons deprived of their liberty, especially in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

113. Egypt commended Togo for its cooperation with the human rights mechanisms, the adoption of the National Development Plan (2018–2022) and its efforts to combat poverty.

114. The Niger welcomed the adoption by Togo of a policy to eliminate poverty and to guarantee the rights to health and education. It encouraged Togo to continue its efforts to eliminate female genital mutilation.

115. Zambia welcomed the delegation of Togo and thanked it for the comprehensive national report.

116. Gabon welcomed the efforts of Togo to harmonize its national legislation with the international human rights instruments it had ratified, and the constitutional and legislative reforms it had made to abolish the death penalty and combat trafficking in persons, gender-based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

117. The delegation of Togo emphasized that universal health insurance had been introduced under the Act of 18 October 2021 to guarantee access to quality health care for all sections of society. Togo had been one of the countries most committed to COVID-19 vaccination, with its efforts having yielded fairly satisfactory results. As at 20 January 2022, around 2.5 million vaccine doses had been administered, representing a vaccination coverage rate of 35.12 per cent.

118. In its concluding remarks, the delegation of Togo, while noting the challenges encountered in implementing recommendations received within the framework of the universal periodic review, had stressed that it remained open to hearing the concerns of technical and financial partners, receiving their support and working with them, all in the service of realizing the country's vision for human rights.

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

119. **The following recommendations will be examined by Togo, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fiftieth session of the Human Rights Council:**

119.1 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Luxembourg);**

119.2 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Luxembourg);**

- 119.3 **Accede to those international legal instruments to which Togo is not yet a party, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Ghana);**
- 119.4 **Continue efforts to ratify international instruments and cooperate with the human rights mechanisms (Morocco);**
- 119.5 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Namibia);**
- 119.6 **Ratify the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Namibia);**
- 119.7 **Extend a standing invitation to the special procedures and accept their visits, such as those from the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation (Poland);**
- 119.8 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);**
- 119.9 **Continue the process of accession to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Senegal);**
- 119.10 **Expedite the process of accession to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Sierra Leone);**
- 119.11 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Sierra Leone);**
- 119.12 **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Slovenia);**
- 119.13 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Iceland);**
- 119.14 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Spain);**
- 119.15 **Issue a standing invitation to the special procedures (Ukraine);**
- 119.16 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Argentina);**
- 119.17 **Enhance cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms to fight all forms of child abuse (Armenia);**
- 119.18 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Cabo Verde);**
- 119.19 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Cabo Verde);**
- 119.20 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Canada);**
- 119.21 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Denmark);**
- 119.22 **Ratify the International Labour Organization Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) (Denmark);**
- 119.23 **Issue a standing invitation to the special procedures, including accepting a visit from the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (Finland);**
- 119.24 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Finland);**

- 119.25 **Ratify the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Gabon);**
- 119.26 **Involve relevant civil society actors in the elaboration of legislation on human rights defenders and establish their legal recognition (Germany);**
- 119.27 **Improve the legislative protection of women against violence and discrimination (Germany);**
- 119.28 **Adopt and implement legislation to protect and facilitate the work of journalists and bloggers (Germany);**
- 119.29 **Finalize the adoption of the special reserve police and municipal police complaints authority bill into law (Kenya);**
- 119.30 **Amend the Criminal Code to include a specific definition of domestic violence and to align the penalty prescribed for marital rape with that prescribed for rape in general (Marshall Islands);**
- 119.31 **Guarantee the independence of the National Human Rights Commission and provide it with sufficient resources to carry out its functions (Mexico);**
- 119.32 **Enact reforms to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including gender discrimination, and reform the Criminal Code in order to decriminalize consensual sexual acts between adults of the same sex (Mexico);**
- 119.33 **Review the Criminal Code to define and classify domestic violence as a crime and harmonize the punishment provided for marital rape with that imposed for rape in general (Mexico);**
- 119.34 **Provide the National Human Rights Commission with adequate and predictable financial, human and material resources to enable it fully to perform its duties (Montenegro);**
- 119.35 **Consider the possibility of adopting a comprehensive law, in consultation with civil society and other stakeholders, to prevent, combat and punish all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, both in the public and private spheres (Panama);**
- 119.36 **Ensure the provision of adequate resources to support the work of the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons (Philippines);**
- 119.37 **Ensure that the National Human Rights Commission receives adequate funding and enjoys the necessary independence and impartiality, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Haiti);**
- 119.38 **Amend the Criminal Code to decriminalize sexual relationships between consenting adults of the same sex, and prohibit all forms of violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Portugal);**
- 119.39 **Enact a law to remove gender discrimination from its nationality legislation (Sierra Leone);**
- 119.40 **Consider adopting a comprehensive law to prevent, combat and punish all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, in the public and private domains (Slovenia);**
- 119.41 **Fully implement the provisions of the Convention against Discrimination in Education, which it has ratified, enshrine the principle of non-discrimination in Ordinance No. 75-016 and revise the Ordinance to progressively guarantee 12 years of free, publicly funded primary and secondary education (South Africa);**
- 119.42 **Amend the Criminal Code to establish domestic violence as a separate offence (Iceland);**

- 119.43 **Reform the 2019 law on public demonstrations, as well as the law on association, in order to guarantee the exercise of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, in accordance with international human rights standards (Spain);**
- 119.44 **Repeal the provisions of the Criminal Code that criminalize consensual relationships between adults of the same sex (Spain);**
- 119.45 **Amend legislation that violates the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, such as Law No. 2019-010 of 12 August 2019 establishing the conditions for the exercise of freedom of peaceful public assembly and protest, in order to bring it into compliance with international human rights standards (Switzerland);**
- 119.46 **Decriminalize same-sex consensual relations to protect the human rights of all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 119.47 **Review the current legislation on nationality to eliminate discriminatory provisions based on gender, guaranteeing that women have the right to transmit their nationality to their children and their spouse on an equal basis with men (Uruguay);**
- 119.48 **Consider introducing the principle of gender parity in the current review process of the nationality law, aiming at the reduction of statelessness (Angola);**
- 119.49 **Provide specialized training on international human rights law to the judiciary, with a view to ensuring the harmonization and implementation of international norms at the national level (Angola);**
- 119.50 **Take the necessary legislative measures to expressly prohibit all forms of violence against children and systematically initiate legal action when cases of ill-treatment against children, including cases of sexual violence or exploitation, are confirmed, in order to punish the perpetrators (Argentina);**
- 119.51 **Ensure adequate financing for the national preventive mechanism under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Armenia);**
- 119.52 **Eliminate the use of torture and excessive force by security and law enforcement officials, including by aligning the legal definition of torture with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Australia);**
- 119.53 **Take legislative measures to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence, including by ensuring the penalty for marital rape is addressed with appropriate gravity, in line with other forms of rape (Australia);**
- 119.54 **Continue to strengthen the legal framework for the prevention of torture (Bangladesh);**
- 119.55 **Amend laws that restrict the right to freedom of expression, freedom of peaceful assembly and association to bring them into line with international human rights standards (Canada);**
- 119.56 **Introduce legislation prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity and expression (Canada);**
- 119.57 **Step up the establishment of the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons, put in place mechanisms to identify victims of trafficking and apply laws to punish the perpetrators (Chad);**
- 119.58 **Complete the process of legislative reform to better integrate international human rights standards into national legislation (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

- 119.59 Fully incorporate the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights into national legislation and provide training to public officials on the treaty (Dominican Republic);
- 119.60 Carry out the necessary legislative adjustments to improve prison conditions and to ensure the rights of persons deprived of their liberty (Dominican Republic);
- 119.61 Strengthen efforts to professionalize human rights institutions (Ethiopia);
- 119.62 Review and amend its legislation to guarantee the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, allowing individuals to safely protest, without fear of intimidation or excessive use of force (Ireland);
- 119.63 Intensify efforts to develop and strengthen the necessary legislative frameworks that address cross-sectoral environmental challenges, including climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks (Fiji);
- 119.64 Monitor the measures taken in the legislative reform process to better integrate international human rights standards (Georgia);
- 119.65 Enact legislative and administrative measures against child labour (Botswana);
- 119.66 Continue efforts aiming to eliminate all forms of violence against women (Egypt);
- 119.67 Introduce legislation that expressly and comprehensively prohibits all forms of violence against children in all settings (Zambia);
- 119.68 Align legislation with the international standards regarding freedom of expression and peaceful assembly (Italy);
- 119.69 Decriminalize homosexuality by amending the Criminal Code (Luxembourg);
- 119.70 Take measures to protect sexual minorities from all forms of violence and marginalization (Slovenia);
- 119.71 Decriminalize sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex and adopt comprehensive legislation that clearly prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics (Iceland);
- 119.72 Strengthen its policy to address gender equality and the elimination of discrimination based on sexual orientation (Timor-Leste);
- 119.73 Reaffirm its commitment to the principles of equality and non-discrimination, including through the prompt decriminalization of sexual relations between same-sex consenting adults (Uruguay);
- 119.74 Take all necessary measures to guarantee the protection of people who are discriminated against on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity, and of the organizations that defend them (Argentina);
- 119.75 Decriminalize consensual same-sex relations (Australia);
- 119.76 Make the necessary efforts to strengthen laws to ensure that sexual orientation and gender identity are included among the grounds for the prohibition of discrimination, in order to avoid impunity for acts of discrimination based on them (Chile);
- 119.77 Effectively combat all forms of discrimination, including those based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and decriminalize same-sex relations (France);
- 119.78 Put in place official mechanisms to effectively protect and promote the rights of persons with albinism (Gabon);

- 119.79 **Decriminalize consensual adult same-sex relations and combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Italy);**
- 119.80 **Continue to mobilize resources and seek the necessary international support for the promotion and protection of human rights (Nigeria);**
- 119.81 **Sign the Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action (Panama);**
- 119.82 **Adopt and implement measures to adequately protect the population against the risks of natural disasters, which are inevitable, due to climate change (Haiti);**
- 119.83 **Continue to implement the road map of the National Development Plan for 2020–2025 to ensure, among other things, that more jobs are created for young people and people’s living standards are further improved (United Republic of Tanzania);**
- 119.84 **Consider developing a national action plan on human rights, including in the business sector (Indonesia);**
- 119.85 **Further improve prison conditions, including by considering alternative sentences and by improving medical and sanitary conditions (Germany);**
- 119.86 **Address the issue of prison overcrowding to ensure prisoners’ human rights (Sierra Leone);**
- 119.87 **Implement the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) to improve conditions of detention (Switzerland);**
- 119.88 **Ensure law enforcement officers receive annual training on respect for human rights, particularly international and national law restrictions against the use of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of persons in custody (United States of America);**
- 119.89 **Take measures to ensure that prisoners’ constitutional rights are respected and allow humanitarian and human rights organizations access to these prisoners to monitor their welfare (United States of America);<sup>4</sup>**
- 119.90 **Continue efforts to improve prison conditions and the treatment of people in detention, involving also possible bilateral and international cooperation (Indonesia);**
- 119.91 **Consider adopting measures to reaffirm the absolute prohibition of torture, condemning its practice and disseminating the content of the Criminal Code (Chile);**
- 119.92 **Continue efforts aimed at reforming and developing the prison system and reducing overcrowding in a manner that ensures its compatibility with international human rights standards and taking all measures to ensure justice and the fight against impunity (Libya);**
- 119.93 **Continue efforts to combat impunity and to provide redress for victims of acts of torture and ill-treatment (Luxembourg);**
- 119.94 **Conduct full and timely investigations into past acts of torture and provide victims with access to effective remedies (Marshall Islands);**
- 119.95 **Intensify efforts to investigate all allegations of acts of torture and ill-treatment and bring the perpetrators to justice (Ghana);**

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<sup>4</sup> The recommendation, as read out during the interactive dialogue, was: “Take measures to ensure that political prisoners’ constitutional rights are respected and allow humanitarian and human rights organizations access to these prisoners to monitor their welfare”.

- 119.96 **Redouble its efforts to expand capacity-building for judicial officials in matters of human rights (Mozambique);**
- 119.97 **Promptly, thoroughly and impartially investigate all allegations of arbitrary arrest and detention, intimidation, threats, harassment and attacks against human rights defenders, journalists or anyone expressing a dissenting opinion, and bring perpetrators to justice (Netherlands);**
- 119.98 **Investigate cases of arbitrary detention and ill-treatment against persons exercising their civil and political rights during demonstrations (Poland);**
- 119.99 **Establish effective mechanisms to prevent and investigate human rights violations committed by security forces, identify those responsible and bring them to justice, in particular by amending Decree No. 2013-013 governing the use of force (Switzerland);**
- 119.100 **Ensure that all allegations of arbitrary arrest, detention and torture are promptly, impartially and thoroughly investigated and perpetrators brought to justice (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 119.101 **Pursue efforts to strengthen the judicial system, in particular the independence of the judiciary and access to justice, especially for vulnerable people (Algeria);**
- 119.102 **Absolutely prohibit torture, publicly condemn this practice and ensure that the alleged perpetrators are duly prosecuted and, if found guilty, sentenced according to the seriousness of their acts (Argentina);**
- 119.103 **Continue implementing reforms in the judiciary and the prison service (Azerbaijan);**
- 119.104 **Take further measures to combat corruption through training and awareness-raising programmes on the economic and social costs of corruption (Indonesia);**
- 119.105 **Give clear instructions to the heads of the security forces on the absolute prohibition of torture and its criminalization, and instruct the public prosecutor's office to investigate any allegation of torture and to prosecute the perpetrators of such acts (Belgium);**
- 119.106 **Continue promoting reforms to improve the effectiveness, accessibility, transparency and equity of the justice system (Dominican Republic);**
- 119.107 **Ensure that all individuals, including human rights defenders, who have been arbitrarily detained without trial are released, and allegations of torture are investigated (Ireland);**
- 119.108 **Strengthen efforts to address violence against women, children and against all persons on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender identity, including measures to prevent violence and support survivors, as well as by removing obstacles that prevent access to justice (Fiji);**
- 119.109 **Ensure respect for the rule of law, including by strengthening the independence of the judiciary, improving the conditions of detention and adopting a new code of criminal procedure (France);**
- 119.110 **Adopt a national anti-corruption strategy to ensure that all acts of corruption are investigated independently and impartially and that perpetrators are brought to justice (Maldives);**
- 119.111 **Release all persons who remain in custody for demonstrating peacefully and exercising their freedom of expression (Marshall Islands);**
- 119.112 **Amend laws that restrict the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, such as the Criminal Code and Law No. 2011-010 on freedom of assembly and public and peaceful demonstrations, and bring them into line with international and regional human rights standards, including by removing provisions that**

**criminalize the organization of and participation in peaceful demonstrations (Netherlands);**

**119.113 Guarantee the exercise of the right to freedom of expression and media freedom, without undue restrictions, harmonizing the relevant legislation with international human rights standards, among others, concerning the crime of defamation, and protect journalists and their activities (Spain);**

**119.114 Leverage the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of expression (Timor-Leste);**

**119.115 Protect the right to freedoms of expression and peaceful assembly regardless of political belief or affiliation (United States of America);**

**119.116 Redouble efforts to foster a safe and enabling environment for civil society activities, free from acts of intimidation and reprisals, including by removing measures that unjustifiably restrict the legal registration of non-governmental organizations and the exercise of the rights to freedom of association and expression (Uruguay);**

**119.117 Guarantee freedom of expression and assembly by removing legislative provisions that limit free speech and public demonstrations, and ensure a safe and enabling environment for civil society, human rights defenders and journalists (Australia);**

**119.118 Take measures to promote a safe, respectful and enabling environment for civil society, including by abolishing legal and administrative measures that unjustifiably restrict freedom of association (Belgium);**

**119.119 Take steps to ensure freedom of conscience, religion and association (Brazil);**

**119.120 Protect fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression and of the media, as well as combating arbitrary arrests (France);**

**119.121 Pursue efforts to address people's social acceptance of child labour, including practices, customs and traditional beliefs that could result in abuse and exploitation of children, including slavery-like situations (Lebanon);**

**119.122 Redouble efforts to combat child labour and trafficking (Libya);**

**119.123 Renew the national action plan to combat trafficking in human beings and set up a related national commission, in particular to prevent the use of child labour (Luxembourg);**

**119.124 Intensify its efforts to significantly reduce cases of trafficking in persons, especially women and children (Mali);**

**119.125 Continue efforts to combat forced child labour in order to enable children to enjoy all their rights (Mauritania);**

**119.126 Redouble its efforts on awareness-raising campaigns and capacity-building for duty bearers to combat child trafficking and child labour, especially the worst forms of child labour (Philippines);**

**119.127 Step up the fight against torture and trafficking in persons (Ukraine);**

**119.128 Implement a comprehensive strategy to tackle child abuse and criminalize contemporary forms of slavery including human trafficking, forced labour and forced marriage, in line with international standards (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

**119.129 Continue its efforts to implement projects and programmes aimed at combating poverty and to develop a plan to combat the COVID-19 pandemic (Yemen);**

- 119.130 **Extend the scope of labour inspections to private households in order to increase the number of inspections that employers who exploit child labour are subjected to, particularly in the field of domestic labour (Belgium);**
- 119.131 **Address seriously any practice that could be assimilated to a form of slavery (Congo);**
- 119.132 **Allocate the necessary human, technical and financial resources to effectively implement its policies and procedures to combat trafficking in persons, with a focus on trafficking in women and children (Fiji);**
- 119.133 **Sustain its efforts on poverty alleviation and addressing the plight of vulnerable groups in society (Nigeria);**
- 119.134 **Continue to take steps aimed at promoting social inclusion and social safety, especially for the most marginalized segments of society (Pakistan);**
- 119.135 **Continue its efforts aimed at combating poverty and achieving more resilience for the most vulnerable communities (Saudi Arabia);**
- 119.136 **Continue to advance the economic empowerment of vulnerable groups through national programmes for social protection and financial inclusion (Sri Lanka);**
- 119.137 **Continue efforts to further promote the right to education, health and social protection (Tunisia);**
- 119.138 **Take measures to improve the social life of persons with albinism (Ukraine);**
- 119.139 **Continue to strengthen its sound policies in the field of economic, social and cultural rights, in order to improve the quality of life of its people, especially the most vulnerable sectors (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 119.140 **Continue the implementation of measures aimed at reducing poverty and improving educational outcomes for children (Viet Nam);**
- 119.141 **Continue taking steps to mitigate COVID-19 related socioeconomic challenges, with support from the international community (Bangladesh);**
- 119.142 **Continue to strengthen policies and programmes that promote productive employment and decent work (Barbados);**
- 119.143 **Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development so as to improve people's living standards (China);**
- 119.144 **Incorporate a human rights-based approach in the development of a national social protection policy for the period 2020–2029 aimed at universal social protection and ensure that adequate resources are available to implement this policy (Maldives);**
- 119.145 **Adapt regulations to ensure access to sexual and reproductive health services and comprehensive sexuality education for men, women, girls and boys across the country (Luxembourg);**
- 119.146 **Establish and effectively support a sustainable system of social accountability for public health services to ensure quality preventive and curative care for all people (Ghana);**
- 119.147 **Continue to mitigate the negative socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable persons (Mozambique);**
- 119.148 **Strengthen its efforts to ensure the full implementation of the National Health Development Plan in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (Qatar);**
- 119.149 **Continue to strengthen its health-care system and ensure that it is adequately resourced (Singapore);**

- 119.150 Ensure that sufficient funds are allocated to HIV/AIDS education in secondary schools, strengthening preventive action with young people and targeting adolescents from the most vulnerable groups (South Africa);
- 119.151 Ensure universal and safe access to abortion and the right to other sexual and reproductive health services (Iceland);
- 119.152 Ensure that sufficient funds are allocated to HIV/AIDS education programmes in secondary schools, in order to strengthen the prevention of this disease and combat stigma and discrimination, paying special attention to adolescents who are in situations of greater vulnerability (Uruguay);
- 119.153 Redouble the efforts to decrease maternal and infant mortality (Armenia);
- 119.154 Extend measures to minimize the negative impacts of the pandemic in the country and to continue to ensure the well-being of its population (Cuba);
- 119.155 Step up efforts and plans in the health-care system to continue to significantly reduce maternal and infant mortality throughout the country (Cuba);
- 119.156 Take steps to integrate human rights education in the training modules of law enforcement officials (Pakistan);
- 119.157 Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on the International Conference on Population and Development to continue improving access to quality inclusive education and decent employment for young people, with the empowerment of women and gender equity being the fundamental basis for harnessing the demographic dividend for development (Panama);
- 119.158 Continue efforts to step up school attendance by girls and the most vulnerable children (Senegal);
- 119.159 Further enhance national initiatives on human rights education and training (Sri Lanka);
- 119.160 Pursue efforts to strengthen awareness-raising on education and human rights training for civil society and law enforcement officials (Algeria);
- 119.161 Centre further efforts on the right to education for girls, especially those living in rural areas (Armenia);
- 119.162 Continue taking steps to increase access to and improve the quality of education (Azerbaijan);
- 119.163 Continue to increase access to education, to improve the quality of teaching and training and to enhance the performance of the education system (Barbados);
- 119.164 Address the disparities between girls and boys in secondary and higher education and promote equality in matters of marriage and family relations (Brazil);
- 119.165 Increase input in schools in rural areas to further reduce the dropout rate (China);
- 119.166 Ensure free primary education, increase the enrolment rate and reduce the dropout rate (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 119.167 Repeal circular 8478/MEN-RS, which prohibits pregnant students from going to school (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 119.168 Continue actions to raise the levels of schooling and completion of studies in primary and secondary schools (Cuba);
- 119.169 Step up its efforts to strengthen the right to quality education for all by implementing measures to promote increased access for girls to school in secondary and higher education (Djibouti);

- 119.170 Devise different mechanisms to instil human rights as a culture at the individual level (Ethiopia);
- 119.171 Step up efforts to increase access to education (Georgia);
- 119.172 Formulate mechanisms to improve equality and inclusion of persons with albinism in the education system and seek technical support where necessary from OHCHR (Botswana);
- 119.173 Continue efforts to empower women in political leadership, both in the public and private sectors (Kenya);
- 119.174 Pursue the efforts made and the awareness campaign aiming at the eradication of female genital mutilation (Lebanon);
- 119.175 Develop new intervention strategies to eradicate female genital mutilation, including during the COVID-19 pandemic (Marshall Islands);
- 119.176 Work towards the abolition of all forms of early and forced marriage, in particular by raising the minimum age of marriage to 18 years (Mauritius);
- 119.177 Strengthen national coordination in order to fight even more effectively against domestic violence (Mauritius);
- 119.178 Carry out effective policies to enhance gender equality in political and public life (Nepal);
- 119.179 Further strengthen protection measures for women against all forms of violence, including domestic violence (Philippines);
- 119.180 Develop and support programmes aimed at providing women and girls with equal access to decision-making bodies and educational and economic opportunities (Sierra Leone);
- 119.181 Enhance its efforts to promote gender equality within society, including through public awareness-raising campaigns and by countering any existing discriminatory practices (Singapore);
- 119.182 Take further steps to address domestic violence and other forms of violence against women and girls (Singapore);
- 119.183 Eradicate female genital mutilation through effective implementation of the law (Iceland);
- 119.184 Establish effective mechanisms for the protection of women and girls who are victims of gender-based violence, sexual crimes or female genital mutilation, including assistance, complaint and investigation mechanisms (Spain);
- 119.185 Continue efforts to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women, and promote gender equality (Tunisia);
- 119.186 Ensure adequate enforcement of the existing laws prohibiting gender-based violence (Ukraine);
- 119.187 Consider strengthening its efforts to combat violence against women (India);
- 119.188 Continue efforts to strengthen its legislation and the monitoring of programmes to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women (India);
- 119.189 Ensure the further implementation of national programmes to promote the protection, interests and development of women and ensure gender equality (Uzbekistan);
- 119.190 Continue to promote gender equality, combat sexual and gender-based violence and step up policies aimed at reducing disparities between men and women (Viet Nam);

- 119.191 Intensify efforts to ensure gender equality and promote the participation of women in political life (Azerbaijan);
- 119.192 Further strengthen the legal and institutional mechanisms to empower women and end discrimination against them (Bangladesh);
- 119.193 Take further steps to ensure safe working conditions for women and improve the maternal and child health-care system (Bulgaria);
- 119.194 Continue the efforts made towards the total eradication of female genital mutilation, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic (Burkina Faso);
- 119.195 Strengthen efforts to combat domestic violence against women and forced marriage (Iraq);
- 119.196 Increase efforts aimed at preventing and combating all forms of violence against women (Chile);
- 119.197 Continue the effective implementation of measures to combat violence against women (Djibouti);
- 119.198 Fight against violence and discrimination against girls and women and continue its efforts to ensure better participation by women in the country's governance (France);
- 119.199 Redouble efforts to prevent and combat violence against women (Zambia);
- 119.200 Strengthen efforts to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, including domestic violence and harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation (Italy);
- 119.201 Continue to take the necessary measures to end child labour in all its forms (Kenya);
- 119.202 Conduct a nationwide awareness-raising campaign on the criminalization of child labour, child marriage and other harmful practices (Montenegro);
- 119.203 Reinforce measures to ensure the efficiency of the civil registration system, in particular birth registration (Mozambique);
- 119.204 Continue taking measures to eliminate child labour, child marriage and other harmful practices (Nepal);
- 119.205 Further intensify efforts to eradicate child labour, including in the domestic work sector (Poland);
- 119.206 Conduct nationwide awareness-raising campaigns on the criminalization of child labour, child, early and forced marriage and other harmful practices with a view to eliminating these practices (Portugal);
- 119.207 Take further necessary measures in the areas of technical and vocational training and youth employment, including in the agricultural sector (Qatar);
- 119.208 Adopt further measures to combat the worst forms of child labour (Qatar);
- 119.209 Continue its work in the field of promoting and protecting the rights of children, especially girls (Saudi Arabia);
- 119.210 Implement an effective plan to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates and ensure that all children are duly registered at birth and have equal access to education, health care and other social services, including those who are unregistered or lack birth certificates (Serbia);

119.211 Continue its actions with a view to strengthening measures in the promotion and protection of the rights of children, in particular young girls, including with regard to child labour and child marriage (South Africa);

119.212 Further promote the rights of the child, including by enhancing access to education and continuing the noteworthy achievements on girls' school enrolment (Sri Lanka);

119.213 Continue efforts to combat the employment of children in domestic work (India);

119.214 Continue to work to promote and encourage the rights of children and youth (Uzbekistan);

119.215 Raise awareness about the rights of the child and continue to provide the relevant actors with a guiding reference framework on child protection (Barbados);

119.216 Intensify the fight against all forms of early and forced marriage, by strengthening awareness-raising activities in rural areas on the harmful effects of these practices (Burkina Faso);

119.217 Implement systematic training, awareness and information programmes focused on the laws and regulations in force on child labour for the actors concerned (Chad);

119.218 Intensify efforts to prevent child labour, including launching awareness campaigns in this regard at the national level (Iraq);

119.219 Step up its efforts to fight against child labour (Congo);

119.220 Continue efforts to complete the development of the national child protection policy (Georgia);

119.221 Ensure the abolition of all forms of early and forced marriage, including by considering increasing the minimum age of marriage to 18 years for girls (Zambia);

119.222 Take further measures to eradicate child labour (Italy);

119.223 Consider the adoption of legislation to prevent discrimination in employment against persons with disabilities (Bulgaria);

119.224 Continue the progress made in the eradication of statelessness in accordance with the national plan that has been drawn up for this purpose (Tunisia).

120. 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 de la délégation

La délégation de Togo était présidée par S.E. Dr. Christian Eninam TRIMUA, Ministre des droits de l'homme, de la formation à la citoyenneté et des relations avec les institutions de la République:

- Prof. AYEWOUDAN Akodah, Ministre de la Communication et des Médias, Porte-parole du Gouvernement;
- Son Excellence Monsieur Yackoley Kokou JOHNSON, Ambassadeur extraordinaire et plénipotentiaire, Représentant permanent de la Mission permanente du Togo auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies, de l'organisation mondiale du commerce et des autres organisations internationales à Genève;
- Honorable Yobate KOLANI épouse BAKALI, Premier rapporteur de la Commission des droits de l'homme de l'Assemblée nationale;
- Honorable Torou TETOU, Membre de la Commission des droits de l'homme de l'Assemblée nationale;
- Monsieur Baoubadi BAKAI, Directeur de cabinet du ministre de l'Administration territoriale, de la décentralisation et du développement des territoires;
- Monsieur Adjawè DJERI, Directeur de cabinet du ministre chargé des droits de l'homme, de la formation à la citoyenneté et des relations avec les institutions de la République;
- Madame Sahadatou ABIRANGAO, Attachée de cabinet du ministre chargé des droits de l'homme, de la formation à la citoyenneté et des relations avec les institutions de la République;
- Monsieur Kpatchaa MELEOU, Chef d'escadron, Conseiller juridique du ministre de la sécurité et de la protection civile;
- Monsieur KOYE Akila, Conseiller en communication du Ministre des droits de l'homme, de la formation à la citoyenneté et des relations avec les institutions de la République;
- Médecin Commandant MOUZOU Tchilalo, médecin militaire au ministère des armées;
- Monsieur Abdou Gafaou AKPAOU, Directeur de la législation et de la protection des droits de l'homme au ministère des droits de l'homme, de la formation à la citoyenneté et des relations avec les institutions de la République;
- Madame Bénédicte Koudjoukalo GNANSA, Directrice de l'assistance à l'enfant en difficulté au ministère de l'action sociale de la promotion de la femme et de l'alphabétisation;
- Monsieur Akibou IDRISOU, Directeur de l'administration pénitentiaire et de la réinsertion;
- Monsieur Tmanawoe TAZO, premier Conseiller à la Mission permanente du Togo auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies, de l'organisation mondiale du commerce et des autres organisations internationales à Genève;
- Monsieur Agbessi Togbé ALANGUE, deuxième Conseiller à la Mission permanente du Togo auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies, de l'organisation mondiale du commerce et des autres organisations internationales à Genève;
- Madame Amavi Mawoussi GBEGBE, deuxième Conseiller à la Mission permanente du Togo auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies, de l'organisation mondiale du commerce et des autres organisations internationales à Genève;

- Monsieur Essowaza BELEI, Chef division du personnel administratif, technique et d'encadrement au ministère des enseignements primaire, secondaire, technique et de l'artisanat;
  - Madame Yawa AKONTOM, Chef division de la formation et renforcement des capacités du personnel au ministère de la santé, de l'hygiène Publique et de l'Accès Universel aux Soins.
-