



General Assembly

Distr.: General
4 February 2025
English
Original: English/French

Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Forty-ninth session
Geneva, 28 April–9 May 2025

Guinea

Compilation of information prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the outcome of the previous review.¹ It is a compilation of information contained in relevant United Nations documents, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with human rights mechanisms

2. The United Nations country team encouraged Guinea to accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.²
3. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Guinea ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.³

III. National human rights framework

1. Constitutional and legislative framework

4. The Secretary-General noted that, on 5 September 2021, a coup d'état had led to the overthrow of the President, Alpha Condé, and his Government and the suspension of the Constitution of 2020. The coup leaders had established the National Committee for Reconciliation and Development. On 27 September 2021, following consultations with multiple national stakeholders, the National Committee had issued a transition charter providing for a civilian government and an 81-member national transitional council. Once established, the council would be tasked with drafting a new Constitution and devising a transition calendar.⁴

5. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) encouraged Guinea to: (a) consider enshrining the right to education without discrimination in the Constitution; (b) enshrine the right to education without discrimination in the legal framework; (c) guarantee in law at least 12 years of free primary and secondary education, of which 9 years should be compulsory; (d) guarantee in law at least one year of free



compulsory preschool education; and (e) amend legislation to ensure that the minimum age for marriage is 18, without exception.⁵

6. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Guinea: (a) adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law, prohibiting all direct and indirect discrimination on any grounds, including sexual orientation; (b) repeal article 274 of the Criminal Code; (c) enact the bill on the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with albinism and adopt its implementing legislation; (d) ensure the effective implementation of existing legislation on discrimination and access to effective remedies for victims; and (e) carry out awareness-raising campaigns to combat stereotypes about individuals and groups at risk of discrimination, such as persons living with HIV/AIDS and persons with albinism.⁶

7. UNESCO encouraged the Government to decriminalize defamation laws and incorporate them into a civil code that was aligned with international standards. The Government was also encouraged to revise existing legislation, including the 2016 cybersecurity law, in particular undefined and overly broad terminology, which might restrict the exercise of freedom of expression in ways that were incompatible with international human rights law.⁷

2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

8. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights noted that Organic Act No. L/08/CNT/2011 of 14 July 2011 on the organization and functioning of the independent national human rights institution was not consistent with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), in particular with regard to the participation of representatives of the executive branch in decision-making. It recommended that Guinea reform the independent national human rights institution to bring it into line with the Paris Principles and ensure that it could be accredited by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions.⁸

IV. Promotion and protection of human rights

A. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

1. Equality and non-discrimination

9. The United Nations country team noted that persons with albinism in Guinea faced frequent violations of their fundamental rights, including the right to life, health, education and non-discrimination. It commended the Government's efforts to combat all forms of discrimination, which was now an offence under the Criminal Code.⁹

10. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights noted that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation was not a prohibited ground of discrimination in Guinea and that article 274 of the Criminal Code criminalized sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex. The Committee also noted that persons with albinism were not protected against discrimination. It recommended that Guinea carry out awareness-raising campaigns to combat stereotypes about individuals and groups at risk of discrimination, such as persons living with HIV/AIDS and persons with albinism.¹⁰

2. Right to life, liberty and security of person, and freedom from torture

11. On 19 July 2024, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) expressed extreme worry about the disappearance of two activists in Guinea. Oumar Sylla and Mamadou Billo Bah, leaders of the Front national pour la défense de la Constitution, a civic movement, had been arrested by security forces on 9 July in the capital, along with Mohamed Cissé, the coordinator for the Front national pour la défense de la Constitution in Matoto, Conakry. Reports had indicated that the arrest had been carried out violently and without warrant. While Mr. Cissé had been released the following day, the fate of Mr. Sylla and Mr. Bah remained unknown, raising concerns about arbitrary detention and

enforced disappearance, in violation of international human rights law. Although the Attorney-General had publicly asserted in 2024 that they were not being held in any official detention centre, OHCHR had received reports indicating that they had been subjected to acts of torture, inhumane and degrading treatment by members of the security forces.¹¹

12. OHCHR urged the transitional authorities in Guinea to immediately and unconditionally release the two activists, unless they were formally charged in accordance with established judicial procedures, guaranteeing their right to an adequate legal defence. The authorities should also conduct a prompt and independent investigation into the circumstances of their detention and disappearance, as well as the reports of torture and other forms of ill-treatment. All those responsible for any violations of their human rights must be held accountable.¹²

3. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

13. On 1 August 2024, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights acknowledged a long-awaited trial verdict handed down in Guinea over mass killings and rapes at Conakry stadium on 28 September 2009. At least 156 people had been killed, many disappeared and at least 109 girls and women had been subjected to sexual violence, including sexual mutilation and sexual slavery, when security and military forces had attacked a peaceful political rally at the stadium in the capital. A number of victims had been tortured to death and buried in mass graves. The High Commissioner emphasized the importance of further work to establish the full facts and responsibilities around those events. Among the eight men found guilty of crimes against humanity in the ruling by the First Instance Court of Dixinn, Conakry, was the former President, Mr. Dadis Camara. Four persons had been acquitted.¹³

14. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights noted that it was crucial for the Government to determine the whereabouts of all those who had gone missing and to ensure that those responsible for enforced disappearances and associated violations were held to account. He also stressed the importance of guaranteeing the defendants' right to appeal.¹⁴

15. The United Nations country team noted, however, that questions remained as to the fairness of the proceedings, particularly with regard to the right to a defence, and that major challenges remained, including delays in the organization of trials, the protection of witnesses and victims, the reparation process for victims, judicial logistics and infrastructure, political influence over and external pressure on justice.¹⁵

16. The United Nations country team commended the Government's efforts to combat impunity, in particular the establishment and operationalization of the Court for the Prevention of Financial Offences, tasked with preventing misappropriation of funds and corruption. In this regard, the Public Prosecution Service of the First Instance Court of Dixinn had opened investigations into 26 former officials from the ousted regime of President Alpha Condé, including 11 ministers, including the Prime Minister and the President of the National Assembly. These former dignitaries were charged with violations of the right to life committed by the security forces during the 12 years of President Alpha Condé's regime.¹⁶

17. The United Nations country team also found that between 1 June 2022 and 31 May 2024, at least 59 allegations of human rights violations committed by members of the defence and security forces had been documented by OHCHR; 8 cases were in the preliminary investigation phase and 2 cases had been tried, resulting in convictions. One investigation had been closed and referred to the military court of Kindia. Some of the detainees had been the subject of conditional release orders that the judicial authorities were unwilling to enforce, even though the Court of Justice of the Economic Community of West African States had ruled against Guinea in cases concerning with illegal detentions.¹⁷

18. The United Nations country team noted that in some of the country's prisons, such as those in Boké, Téliélé, Kindia, Koundara and Kankan, conditions of detention remained of concern. The dilapidated infrastructure was compounded by prison overcrowding, characterized by large numbers of people in prolonged pretrial detention, a lack of tools and equipment for security and registry work, and a lack of sanitation and drinking water.¹⁸

19. The United Nations country team also noted that conditions of detention for women and children were of particular concern when it came to non-compliance with international standards on the separation of detainees by age and gender. This lack of separation exposed women and children to increased risks of violence, abuse and harassment. Women prisoners were held in alarming hygiene conditions. They did not have regular access to basic hygiene kits, including sanitary towels and toiletries. Children lacked access to education.¹⁹

4. Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life

20. OHCHR noted that, on 13 May 2022, the ruling National Rallying Committee for Development had issued a statement in which it had banned “demonstrations and/or gatherings in the public places” and ordered “political parties and social actors to hold all forms of political demonstrations only within their headquarters”. That decision had come at a time when political actors and civil society in the country had been voicing their displeasure after the military authorities had announced that the ongoing transition period would last for 36 months. OHCHR noted that the announced measures to restrict public gatherings and demonstrations did not comply with the requirements of necessity and proportionality. The measures therefore violated international human rights norms and standards and constituted a setback in the path to strengthening democracy and the rule of law.²⁰

21. OHCHR encouraged the transitional authorities to ensure real and meaningful protection of democratic space, including by upholding the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly.²¹

22. On 29 December 2023, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights expressed concern about increased repression of media freedom in Guinea and urged the transitional authorities to change course. He stressed that journalists had been harassed, intimidated, assaulted and arrested, their equipment seized and dismantled, broadcast transmissions blocked and media channels jammed, suspended or shut down. Access to several social media sites had been blocked and access to the Internet restricted. The High Commissioner stressed that those measures failed to comply with the strict requirements of international human rights law. He emphasized that they must be promptly halted and the right to freedom of expression and opinion fully upheld. He strongly urged the transitional authorities in Guinea to take all steps necessary to immediately correct that worrying situation.²²

23. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned at the reported conditions in which human rights defenders operated in Guinea. It recommended that Guinea effectively protect human rights defenders from harassment, intimidation and reprisals. It urged Guinea to carry out information and awareness-raising campaigns focusing on the importance of the work of human rights defenders with a view to creating a climate of tolerance in which they could fulfil their mission without fear of intimidation, threats or reprisals of any kind.²³

24. The Secretary-General noted that protracted disagreements over the content and duration of the political transition had deepened divisions between the authorities and the main political and civil society actors. Attempts at dialogue undertaken by the Government had remained ineffective, owing to a lack of trust between the parties, compounded by allegations of politically motivated judicial action targeting civil society and opposition figures. On 8 August 2022, the authorities had dissolved the Front national pour la défense de la Constitution, a platform of political parties, trade unions and civil society actors, which had staged several protests during the reporting period to demand an inclusive and timely transition process. During those protests, at least 12 civilians had been killed.²⁴

25. The Secretary-General noted that, in September 2023, on the second anniversary of the 2021 coup d’état, four people had reportedly been killed during protests called for by the group Forces vives de Guinée, while the 2022 ban on public demonstrations remained in place. He also noted that uncertainties remained around the implementation of the transition road map within the timeline agreed with the Economic Community of West African States.²⁵

5. Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons

26. While noting the efforts of Guinea to combat human trafficking and contemporary forms of slavery, the United Nations country team was concerned about the extremely high number of women and children involved in migrant smuggling and human trafficking.²⁶

27. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights noted with concern that trafficking in children remained a major problem and frequently went unpunished. It recommended that Guinea: (a) effectively investigate, prosecute and punish individuals for acts of trafficking in persons; and (b) establish shelters for victims and ensure that victims had access to assistance, rehabilitation and reintegration programmes.²⁷

6. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

28. The same Committee noted the measures taken by Guinea to promote employment. It regretted, however, the lack of participation of social partners and workers – including rural and informal sector workers – in the formulation of employment policies. The Committee also noted the lack of updated and disaggregated data on employment and was concerned at the high rates of unemployment and underemployment, which disproportionately affected women and young people.²⁸

29. The same Committee recommended that Guinea: (a) redouble efforts to reduce the rates of unemployment and underemployment by adopting strategies with action plans that included specific objectives and identified the financial and technical resources required for their implementation; (b) prioritize investment in sectors that were labour intensive with a view to generating decent jobs in line with the Committee's general comment No. 23 (2016) on the right to just and favourable conditions of work; (c) give priority to the most affected groups, especially women and young people; (d) reform and diversify vocational and technical training in order to promote the acquisition of the skills needed in the labour market; and (e) improve its system for the collection of data on unemployment and underemployment as a tool for effectively combating those phenomena, by producing data disaggregated by factors relating to the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups.²⁹

7. Right to social security

30. The same Committee noted with concern that workers employed in the informal sector of the economy were not sufficiently protected by labour laws or covered by the social security system. It recommended that Guinea strengthen its efforts to accelerate the transition from the informal to the formal economy and, in the meantime, extend labour legislation, to the extent possible, to cover workers in the informal economy, including in relation to protection from economic exploitation, the minimum wage and occupational health and safety.³⁰

8. Right to an adequate standard of living

31. The same Committee was concerned about the high rates of poverty in Guinea, particularly in rural areas and among women and children, despite the implementation of poverty reduction programmes such as the National Plan for Economic and Social Development 2016–2020. It recommended that Guinea continue to combat poverty, including by adopting specific measures targeting rural areas, women and children. It recalled Goal 1 of the Sustainable Development Goals and drew the State's attention to the statement it had adopted in 2001 on poverty and the Covenant. It urged Guinea to incorporate a human rights-based approach into its poverty reduction strategies.³¹

32. The same Committee noted with concern that a large number of people suffered from anaemia and faced food insecurity and that access to safe drinking water and sanitation remained a major problem, particularly in rural areas. It also regretted the low breastfeeding rate. It recommended that Guinea: (a) progressively guarantee all peasants access to support programmes and agroecological solutions without discrimination, respecting the choice of each person, in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas; (b) promote peasants' access to local markets in order to reduce rural poverty; (c) take measures to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation throughout the country; and (d) encourage exclusive breastfeeding for the first six

months after birth, including by obliging employers to make accommodations for employees who wished to breastfeed.³²

33. The same Committee was concerned about the difficulties faced by the most vulnerable persons in obtaining access to adequate housing. It noted with concern that many forced evictions carried out by Guinea had left many people without shelter, and that those people had been unable to claim their rights and often did not receive adequate compensation or even humanitarian support. The Committee recommended that Guinea strengthen its efforts to ensure access to adequate housing for all. The Committee urged Guinea to take the measures necessary to ensure that evictions, when unavoidable, were carried out in accordance with due process of law, were preceded by consultation with the persons concerned and consideration of alternatives, were subject to appeal, and resulted in adequate compensation or provision of adequate alternative housing.³³

9. Right to health

34. The United Nations country team noted that, according to the World Health Organization, significant efforts had been made to improve health services. This included a health financing strategy aimed at increasing available services and making high quality care more accessible to all. However, the structural underfunding of the health sector and the weakness of the health system's accountability mechanisms undermined people's enjoyment of their right to health, especially in rural areas. Also noting the difficult access to primary healthcare in mining areas, the United Nations country team recommended that Guinea set up mobile health teams.³⁴

35. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned at the high maternal and infant mortality rates, the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS and the lack of access to antiretroviral treatment, the lack of medical facilities and the dilapidated condition of existing facilities, the lack of training for medical personnel, the low number of medical personnel per capita and the excessive burden that healthcare expenditure represented for low-income households. It urged Guinea to take all appropriate measures to: (a) effectively combat maternal and infant mortality; (b) increase access to antiretroviral treatment and reduce the prevalence of HIV/AIDS; (c) improve healthcare facilities and the training of health workers; and (d) increase the number of doctors and paramedical staff.³⁵

36. The same Committee was concerned at the high rates of early and unwanted pregnancies, the low level of sexual and reproductive health education, the low level of access to contraceptives and the very restrictive conditions under which abortions could be performed. It recommended that Guinea: (a) step up its efforts to ensure the availability and accessibility of sexual and reproductive health services and access to affordable, safe and effective contraceptives and emergency contraceptives, including for adolescents and particularly in rural areas; (b) improve comprehensive, age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health education, including on contraception, for girls and boys in primary and secondary schools; and (c) relax the conditions under which abortion was permitted.³⁶

10. Right to education

37. The United Nations country team commended the Government's efforts in formulating and implementing the ten-year education programme for the period from 2020 to 2029, which enshrined free education, particularly at the primary level. It noted, however, that concerns remained about children in mining areas dropping out of school and being put to work at artisanal mining sites, and about the recent drop in the rate of girls completing secondary school, often due to discrimination in favour of their brothers, whose education was prioritized by the family, or to discriminatory social phenomena such as forced marriage and early pregnancy.³⁷

38. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned at: (a) the insufficient funds allocated to education; (b) the persistence of inequalities in access to education affecting children living in rural areas and children with disabilities in particular; (c) the high dropout rate in primary and secondary schools, especially among girls, owing to, inter alia, early marriage and the perception that girls' education was a burden on families; (d) the poor quality of teaching on account of the shortage of qualified teachers and the lack

of teaching materials and facilities, particularly in rural areas; (e) the limited access to water and sanitation facilities in schools; and (f) the high illiteracy rate, especially in rural areas and in particular among women.³⁸

39. The same Committee recommended that Guinea: (a) increase the resources allocated to education; (b) strengthen the various measures and programmes in place in order to address the problem of access to school for children living in rural areas; (c) take urgent measures to reduce the high dropout rate in primary and secondary schools, in particular among girls; (d) improve the quality of teaching provided and invest more in teacher training, in particular by increasing the capacity of the teacher training colleges so as to provide teachers in need of capacity-building with adequate training; and (e) improve school infrastructure and learning materials, especially in rural areas, and ensure that all schools had adequate water supply and sanitation facilities and, in particular, separate bathrooms for girls and boys.³⁹

11. Cultural rights

40. UNESCO noted that Guinea was a State party to the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. It encouraged Guinea to fully implement the provisions of those Conventions that promoted access to and participation in cultural heritage and creative expressions and which, as such, were conducive to implementing the right to take part in cultural life, as defined in article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It encouraged Guinea, in doing so, to give due consideration to the participation of communities, practitioners, cultural actors and civil society organizations, as well as vulnerable groups (minorities, Indigenous Peoples, migrants, refugees, young people and persons with disabilities), and to ensure that equal opportunities were given to women and girls to address gender disparities.⁴⁰

12. Development, the environment, and business and human rights

41. The United Nations country team welcomed the Government's implementation of the pilot project on the right to development, as well as the holding in July 2021 of the Hernán Santa Cruz dialogue on the effective implementation of economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development for the entire population of Guinea. It continued to raise its concerns with the Guinean authorities about the impact of extractive activities on the environment and local communities, as these activities harm their livelihoods and pollute waterways.⁴¹

42. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights noted the revision in 2013 of the Mining Code and the role of the Local Economic Development Fund in ensuring better distribution of mining revenue throughout the State. However, the Committee remained concerned about the negative effects of extractive activities on the environment and the health of local communities. It was also very concerned about reports of populations being displaced without adequate compensation, including by mining and hydroelectric companies, and about the delays in validating the local development agreements provided for in article 130 of the Mining Code.⁴²

43. The same Committee recommended that Guinea: (a) ensure compliance with the Mining Code, particularly the provisions concerning local development agreements, the proper functioning of the consultation committees in mining communities and the operationalization of the Local Economic Development Fund in all mining areas in order to ensure that communities shared in the economic benefits of the mining industry, particularly through the creation of stable and well-paid jobs, and greater transparency and traceability of revenue; and (b) prepare independent studies on the effects of extractive and hydroelectric activities on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights prior to and during the implementation of investment projects.⁴³

44. The same Committee also recommended that Guinea: (a) carry out regular inspections of mining and hydroelectric sites and allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources to the entities in charge of those inspections, especially at the local level, with a

particular focus on combating corruption; (b) step up its efforts to guarantee the quality of water sources, including by establishing the liability of companies and individuals involved in mining activities that led to the pollution of water sources; and (c) respect the legal guarantees for persons whose property had been expropriated, be they landowners or persons with land usage rights, and ensure that they were consulted and paid adequate compensation and damages, which should be commensurate with the actual value of the land.⁴⁴

B. Rights of specific persons or groups

1. Women

45. The same Committee noted that women and girls continued to face discrimination in relation to access to land ownership, employment and education, as well as in relation to marriage. It also noted that the number of cases of violence against women, particularly domestic and sexual violence, remained very high. It recommended that Guinea: (a) continue to take measures to effectively prevent all forms of discrimination against women and girls, including in relation to access to property, employment and education and in relation to polygamy, and to address customary practices and patriarchal attitudes based on stereotypes; (b) make marital rape a criminal offence; (c) ensure that cases of violence against women and female genital mutilation were promptly and impartially investigated, that perpetrators were prosecuted and that victims received reparation, and conduct awareness-raising campaigns in that regard.⁴⁵

46. The United Nations country team noted that, despite the Government's efforts to protect and promote women's rights, challenges remained, particularly with regard to the urgent establishment of strategies to eradicate the practice of female genital mutilation, the creation of a consultation framework enabling the referral of cases, the lack of a functioning national mechanism for collecting data on gender-based violence and the continuation of efforts to combat all forms of violence against women and intensify awareness-raising campaigns. As for gender equality, the law on quotas for women in elected office had still not been promulgated, nor were there any implementing regulations.⁴⁶

2. Children

47. The United Nations country team welcomed the promulgation in March 2020 of the new Children's Code, which formally and explicitly prohibited all corporal punishment of children. It noted with concern, however, that the exploitation of children in artisanal mining remained frequent in Basse-Guinee, putting their physical and mental health at risk, in violation of children's rights, and urged the Government to take effective measures for the rights of children involved in artisanal mining in Guinea.⁴⁷

48. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned at the large number of children who were exploited in economic activities, especially in the informal sector, including in hazardous conditions. It recommended that Guinea: (a) strengthen its legislation, ensure that it was enforced effectively and punish the perpetrators of child labour offences, in particular the worst forms of child labour; and (b) take measures to facilitate the rehabilitation and social reintegration of child labourers and to ensure that they had access to education, including by strengthening support measures for disadvantaged families.⁴⁸

49. In a report on the situation of imprisoned children in conflict with the law, OHCHR highlighted the violations of children's rights in prisons and the challenges in this area, in particular: the situation of overcrowding and malnutrition; the lack of separation between juveniles and adults and between criminal offenders and other categories of detainees; and the lack of appropriate healthcare and education and training opportunities. Programmes for the protection of children in conflict with the law, including for their social reintegration, were rare.⁴⁹

50. OHCHR recommended that the Government: (a) guarantee access to healthcare by rehabilitating, equipping, supplying and operationalizing prison infirmaries, making available specialized health services adapted to the individual needs of juvenile detainees, including those of detained girls, and ensuring that they are at least equivalent to those

available to the rest of the population; (b) improve educational infrastructure within prisons, including classrooms, libraries and vocational training facilities; and (c) guarantee an adequate, predictable and regular supply of food, hygiene products – including for the specific health needs of girls – bedding and cleaning products for prisons.⁵⁰

3. Persons with disabilities

51. The United Nations country team reported having provided support in November 2023 to the ministry responsible for vulnerable persons in its work to amend Act No. L/2018/021/AN of 15 May 2018 on the protection and advancement of persons with disabilities and in drafting and approving the implementing regulations. The Government was in the process of adopting these texts. An initiative was also under way to give women and girls with disabilities free access to high quality sexual and reproductive health services in Conakry, by adapting infrastructure and providing equipment and medicines. The United Nations country team recommended that Guinea disseminate the Act and its implementing regulations to promote the empowerment and inclusion of persons with disabilities.⁵¹

4. Refugees and asylum-seekers

52. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) noted that, as at 30 August 2024, Guinea had hosted 2,244 refugees and 57 asylum-seekers. UNHCR congratulated the Government for its renewed commitments during the Global Refugee Forum in 2023, inter alia: (a) to strengthen the functioning of the asylum system and maintain its integrity; (b) to facilitate access to healthcare for 500 vulnerable refugees every year; and (c) to develop a law on the protection of stateless persons and the procedure for determining the status of stateless persons. UNHCR encouraged the Government to accelerate the effective implementation of those important commitments.⁵²

53. UNHCR noted that, in 2018, the National Assembly had adopted law No. L/2018/050/AN regarding asylum and the protection of refugees in Guinea. That law was considered one of the most comprehensive in West Africa and in June 2021, a group of government experts had validated the implementing texts for it. However, no implementing decree had yet been published for its effective implementation. UNHCR recommended that Guinea enhance protection for refugees and asylum-seekers and facilitate their access to solutions, including through the adoption of implementing decrees for the 2018 asylum law.⁵³

5. Stateless persons

54. UNHCR stressed that, in 2021, the Ministry of Justice had drawn up the first draft of a bill concerning the protection of stateless persons and the procedure for determining statelessness in Guinea. Following the military coup in 2021, the draft had been submitted to the National Transitional Council for its consideration. UNHCR recommended that Guinea enhance the protection of stateless persons and facilitate access to solutions, including through the adoption of the bill on the protection of stateless persons and the implementation of a statelessness determination procedure.⁵⁴

Notes

¹ [A/HRC/44/5](#), [A/HRC/44/5/Add.1](#) and [A/HRC/45/2](#).

² United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Guinea, p. 10.

³ [E/C.12/GIN/CO/1](#), para. 49.

⁴ [S/2021/1091](#), para. 12.

⁵ UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of Guinea, para. 13.

⁶ [E/C.12/GIN/CO/1](#), para. 19.

⁷ UNESCO submission, paras. 14 and 15.

⁸ [E/C.12/GIN/CO/1](#), paras. 6 and 7.

⁹ United Nations country team submission, p. 3.

¹⁰ [E/C.12/GIN/CO/1](#), paras. 18 and 19.

¹¹ See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2024/07/un-human-rights-office-extremely-worried-about-disappearance-two-activists-guinea>.

- ¹² Ibid.
- ¹³ See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/08/turk-says-crucial-continue-fight-against-impunity-after-ruling-guinea-2009>.
- ¹⁴ Ibid.
- ¹⁵ United Nations country team submission, p. 6.
- ¹⁶ Ibid., p. 5.
- ¹⁷ Ibid., p. 5.
- ¹⁸ Ibid., p. 4.
- ¹⁹ Ibid., p. 5.
- ²⁰ See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/05/comment-un-human-rights-office-spokesperson-seif-magango-after-guinean>.
- ²¹ Ibid.
- ²² See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/12/turk-concerned-about-media-repression-guinea-urges-prompt-change-course>.
- ²³ [E/C.12/GIN/CO/1](#), paras. 8 and 9.
- ²⁴ [S/2022/1019](#), para. 12.
- ²⁵ [S/2023/1075](#), para. 11.
- ²⁶ United Nations country team submission, p. 7.
- ²⁷ [E/C.12/GIN/CO/1](#), paras. 35 and 36.
- ²⁸ Ibid., para. 24.
- ²⁹ Ibid., para. 25.
- ³⁰ Ibid., paras. 26 and 27.
- ³¹ Ibid., paras. 37 and 38.
- ³² Ibid., paras. 39 and 40.
- ³³ Ibid., paras. 41 and 42.
- ³⁴ United Nations country team submission, p. 8.
- ³⁵ [E/C.12/GIN/CO/1](#), paras. 43 and 44.
- ³⁶ Ibid., paras. 45 and 46.
- ³⁷ United Nations country team submission, pp. 8 and 9.
- ³⁸ [E/C.12/GIN/CO/1](#), para. 47.
- ³⁹ Ibid., para. 48.
- ⁴⁰ UNESCO submission, para. 17.
- ⁴¹ United Nations country team submission, pp. 3 and 4.
- ⁴² [E/C.12/GIN/CO/1](#), para. 16.
- ⁴³ Ibid., para. 17.
- ⁴⁴ Ibid., para. 17.
- ⁴⁵ Ibid., paras. 20 and 21.
- ⁴⁶ United Nations country team submission, pp. 9 and 10.
- ⁴⁷ Ibid., p. 10.
- ⁴⁸ [E/C.12/GIN/CO/1](#), paras. 29 and 30.
- ⁴⁹ See <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/countries/guinea/Rapport-situation-mineurs-detention-2024-guinee.pdf>, pp. 4–10.
- ⁵⁰ Ibid., p. 21.
- ⁵¹ United Nations country team submission, pp. 10 and 11.
- ⁵² UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of Guinea, p. 1.
- ⁵³ Ibid., p. 2.
- ⁵⁴ Ibid.