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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Iraq

* 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 forty-eighth session from 20 to 31 January 2025. The review of Iraq was held at the 12th meeting, on 27 January 2025. The delegation of Iraq was headed by the Minister of Justice, Khalid Salam Saeed. At its 17th meeting, held on 31 January 2025, the Working Group adopted the report on Iraq.
2. On 8 January 2025, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Iraq: Burundi, Chile and Marshall Islands.
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 Iraq:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);¹
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);²
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).³
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, members of the core group of sponsors of the resolutions on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Costa Rica, Maldives and Slovenia), Germany, Liechtenstein, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Iraq 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 Iraq expressed strong commitment to the universal periodic review process, a unique tool that had facilitated frank, constructive discussions on human rights among States, civil society and other stakeholders. While no State maintained a perfect human rights record, such dialogues had truly advanced expertise and effectively promoted human rights globally.
6. The national report submitted by Iraq for the current review cycle detailed progress made on legislative, executive and judicial fronts, and reflected the outcomes of extensive consultations with civil society organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The report answered advance questions raised by several countries and outlined the multitude of challenges that Iraq had faced in recent years. Such challenges had included the devastating effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on public health, persistent security issues such as organized crime, terrorism and regional instability that had led to recurrent displacement, and economic hardships caused by a global recession, declining oil prices and disrupted international commerce. In addition, Iraq had confronted environmental problems, including desertification, drought and reduced water flow from upstream nations. The report emphasized that, despite such obstacles, Iraq had achieved significant progress by holding early parliamentary elections in 2021, which had resulted in the formation of a Government, and by conducting elections to governorate councils in 2023 and to the Parliament of the Kurdistan Region in 2024. The report underscored the determination of Iraq to overcome challenges and improve its rights record through reforms.

¹ [A/HRC/WG.6/48/IRQ/1](#).

² [A/HRC/WG.6/48/IRQ/2](#).

³ [A/HRC/WG.6/48/IRQ/3](#).

7. Concurrently, the Government had pursued an approach centred on human rights by implementing reforms across the economy, finance, public services, healthcare, education, housing, infrastructure and security. It had achieved 73 per cent of its planned programme within two years and had invested in digital transformation and e-government initiatives to modernize service delivery. A long-overdue general population and housing census had been successfully conducted, revealing that the population had reached 45 million, with 8 million families and an average family size of 5.7 individuals, while the overall growth rate had climbed to 2.3 per cent. The Government had integrated the Sustainable Development Goals into national policies through Iraq Vision 2030 and had undertaken major economic projects, such as the Iraq Development Road, from Al-Faw Grand Port, involving the construction of an investment corridor with neighbouring countries, and large-scale initiatives in the manufacturing, agriculture and energy sectors. Those measures signified renewed commitment to national development.

8. Iraq focused on enhancing human rights within its arrest centres and prisons. The Government had enacted legislation on alternative penalties and constructed new prisons that met international standards, while also establishing health centres and educational facilities for inmates. Vocational training programmes had been introduced and complaints mechanisms for human rights violations set up, to ensure that the judiciary remained independent and applied international standards. Several laws and draft laws had been developed, including the Legal Aid Act, amendments to the amnesty legislation and proposed legislation concerning freedom of expression and measures against trafficking in persons. Iraq had decisively cooperated with international bodies such as OHCHR and representatives of the United Nations, and it had participated in joint initiatives with the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (UNITAD) and the United Nations country team to prevent child recruitment in armed conflict, resulting in the country's removal from critical violation lists.

9. On the rights of minorities, the delegation emphasized that the Constitution guaranteed religious, cultural and linguistic freedoms. Minorities had been integrated into decision-making, with representation in the parliament and governorate councils, and specific quotas had been established for the Kurdistan Region. The Government had developed protection laws that classified crimes against minorities as collective genocide, and had initiated measures to combat crimes against humanity and hate speech. It had established committees to restore property to Christians, while providing both financial and moral reparations to affected communities. Reconstruction efforts in minority areas, including Sinjar District in Nineveh Governorate, had been supported and damaged churches and places of worship had been rehabilitated. Such initiatives underscored the Government's commitment to ensuring the safe return and integration of displaced minority groups.

10. The members of the delegation who were from Kurdistan Region provided an overview of the regional government's dedicated plan of action for 2021–2025. Policies had been coordinated with the legislative and judicial branches, United Nations agencies, international organizations and civil society to promote human rights. Under the plan, significant progress had been achieved in implementing reforms in the executive, legislative and judicial spheres and in combating discrimination. Furthermore, the region had collaborated with UNITAD to compile extensive terrorism-related dossiers, and had liberated 3,579 abductees and taken effective anti-corruption and anti-torture measures.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

11. During the interactive dialogue, 93 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

12. The Dominican Republic applauded Iraq for the importance that it attached to the universal periodic review.

13. Egypt commended Iraq for having adopted of a number of laws and strategies compliant with international human rights obligations.

14. Estonia noted the positive steps taken by Iraq, but expressed concern about violence against women and restrictions on basic freedoms.
15. Ethiopia commended Iraq for the significant progress made, particularly the enactment of numerous laws advancing fundamental rights.
16. Finland welcomed the engagement of Iraq in the review process.
17. France noted measures taken by Iraq since the previous review cycle.
18. The Gambia acknowledged the progress made by Iraq, including the adoption of the Act on Support to Female Yazidi Survivors (Act No. 8 of 2021) and the creation of the Social Fund for Development.
19. Georgia welcomed efforts towards women's empowerment, including the adoption of the national strategy for combating violence against women and girls 2018–2030.
20. Germany commended Iraq for having adopted the Yazidi Female Survivors Act, but noted that it remained concerned about the overall human rights situation in the country.
21. Iceland welcomes the delegation of Iraq and presented its recommendations.
22. India expressed appreciation for the adoption of national strategies on early childhood, on education and for Iraqi women.
23. Indonesia commended Iraq for its ongoing efforts to establish, inter alia, robust legislative frameworks and policies aimed at empowering and protecting women.
24. The Islamic Republic of Iran commended Iraq for the new laws and strategies that it had developed during recent years to promote and protect human rights.
25. Ireland commended Iraq for the implementation of the Yazidi Female Survivors Act, but expressed concern about reported violations of human rights and about the use of the death penalty.
26. Israel stated that it remained concerned about the ongoing widespread human rights violations in Iraq, especially the increasing violence against women and minority communities.
27. Italy thanked the delegation for the presentation of its national report and made recommendations.
28. Jordan welcomed legislative progress and strategies on the rights of persons with disabilities and of women.
29. Kazakhstan welcomed legislative progress and the national plan for the implementation of the strategy to combat trafficking in persons 2023–2026.
30. Kuwait welcomed efforts to address water and infrastructure challenges, and the adoption of a human rights-based strategy for drought preparedness.
31. Latvia welcomed the adoption of the national strategy for Iraqi women 2023–2030 and the progress made on the next national for human rights plan.
32. Lebanon commended Iraq for its efforts to harmonize its national legislation with international obligations, including with regard to torture and enforced disappearance.
33. Libya welcomed the progress made on the legal framework on human rights, including the Legal Aid Act and the Health Insurance Act.
34. Lithuania welcomed the reforms to achieve justice, equality and climate change resilience and its national strategy for women's empowerment.
35. Malaysia commended Iraq for the initiatives taken to expand social protection programmes for vulnerable groups and to promote gender equality.
36. Maldives commended Iraq for the measures taken to promote social solidarity with the families of journalists who had been killed.
37. Malta expressed regret about the restrictions on civic space, and the limited developments with regard to women's rights and the ratification of treaties.

38. Mauritania praised the strategies and plans adopted to address poverty, unemployment, social security and climate change.
39. Mauritius welcomed the progress made by Iraq since the previous review cycle, and made recommendations.
40. Mexico thanked Iraq for its national report and its efforts with regard to the rights of persons with disabilities.
41. Montenegro called on Iraq to adopt a holistic approach towards addressing the situation of internally displaced persons and to combat violence against women.
42. Morocco welcomed the adoption and implementation of a national plan to promote human rights.
43. Nepal expressed appreciation for the adoption of the national strategy for Iraqi women 2023–2030 and the national strategy for education and higher education 2022–2031.
44. The Kingdom of the Netherlands applauded Iraq for its reform efforts and its commitment to regional stability, while expressing concern about some elements of the human rights situation.
45. Nicaragua encouraged the implementation of development projects, especially in the areas of health, drinking water and the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and with regard to the national plan for the implementation of the strategy to combat trafficking in persons 2023–2026.
46. Nigeria acknowledged the Yazidi Female Survivors Act, the civilian protection policy and efforts to tackle corruption.
47. Norway commended Iraq for its adoption of the Yazidi Female Survivors Act and enactment of a civilian protection policy.
48. Oman commended Iraq for its efforts to empower persons with disabilities and special needs, including the preparation of a national plan for persons with disabilities for the period 2022–2024.
49. Pakistan expressed appreciation for the development of strategies on early childhood development, nutrition, women’s empowerment and education.
50. Paraguay expressed concern about the possible amendment of legislation to reduce the minimum age for marriage to 9 years.
51. The Philippines commended Iraq for its poverty eradication initiatives, its strategies to increase school enrolment and the creation of specialized human rights courts.
52. Portugal commended Iraq for having adopted the Yazidi Female Survivors Act and the national integrity and anti-corruption strategy 2021–2024.
53. Qatar commended Iraq for its approval of the national plan for the implementation of the strategy to combat trafficking in persons 2023–2026.
54. The Republic of Korea commended Iraq for its commitment to enhancing women’s political empowerment through the national strategy for Iraqi women 2023–2030.
55. Romania expressed appreciation for the adoption of national strategies to promote human rights and to strengthen the social protection of citizens.
56. The Russian Federation noted the stable situation of human rights in Iraq despite the challenges faced by the country.
57. Samoa commended Iraq for having adopted the national strategy for Iraqi women 2023–2030.
58. Saudi Arabia commended Iraq for the efforts made to develop legal frameworks aimed at improving the quality of its educational, health and social systems.
59. The delegation of Iraq stressed that the Government had taken steps to advance the rights of women and children by introducing federal draft laws on domestic violence and child protection. A draft amendment to legislation on domestic violence had been proposed

as part of a broader strategy that included the second plan for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), 82 per cent of which had been completed, and the third national plan, for the period 2025–2030, which was in the process of being launched. As a result of the first and second plans to increase women’s political participation, there were 96 women members of the Council of Representatives and women comprised 29 per cent of the governorate councils and 31 per cent of the Parliament of the Kurdistan Region.

60. Furthermore, the delegation announced the establishment of a third electoral plan, for 2025, and a number of strategies focusing on the economic empowerment of women. Iraq had implemented a comprehensive plan for young children and established centres dedicated to protecting victims of violence and trafficking. Specialized family courts had been created to expedite the processing of domestic violence cases, and had processed 58,205 cases so far. The Government had taken measures to prohibit the arrest of women in certain circumstances, and a code of ethics regarding women’s rights within institutions had been implemented.

61. Measures had been taken to provide monthly social welfare payments to women, provide compensation for families and women affected by military and terrorist activities, ensure the integration of 4.85 million children into the social protection system and ensure the disbursement by Iraqi banks of over \$115 million in loans to women.

62. The delegation highlighted reforms in the judicial sector aimed at strengthening the right to a fair trial and ensuring regular proceedings. Iraq had sought to strengthen the independence of the judiciary through revised selection procedures and improved monitoring. The Government had held a number of workshops and signed 11 memorandums of understanding in the field of human rights and the right to a fair trial, with a view to building greater trust between the judiciary and the public. The Government had improved the judicial infrastructure by opening 57 new courts and expanding the judiciary, which presently comprised a total of 1,172 judges and 392 prosecutors, 119 of whom were women.

63. In the area of law enforcement, strategies had been adopted to protect civilians, combat trafficking in narcotic drugs and reduce trafficking in persons by 70 per cent. The Government had implemented training programmes in human rights for security officers, reaching 40 per cent of officers across all security departments. Databases had been created to document cases of enforced disappearance and track missing persons. Efforts to better manage peaceful demonstrations had been enhanced by improved police training and the integration of human rights education into curricula.

64. Measures had been taken with regard to poverty, employment and the rights of persons with disabilities, including the amendment of legislation related to pensions, social security and employment. The creation of various funds for social development had helped reduce poverty by 17.06 per cent between 2018 and 2024, while unemployment had decreased from 16 to 14 per cent. Complementary support through credits, training and housing reconstruction initiatives had further bolstered the economy.

65. Lastly, with regard to reforms in the health and environmental sectors, laws and strategies had been amended in order to provide equitable access to quality health services, while new hospitals, medical centres and specialized care units had been established. Vaccination coverage had reached 95 per cent and maternal mortality had significantly dropped. Environmental strategies had been implemented to mitigate the effects of climate change, including dam construction, pollution clean-up and the promotion of clean energy initiatives, in a comprehensive approach to public health and sustainability.

66. Senegal noted with appreciation the establishment of the national network of “Women Mediators for Peace”.

67. Sierra Leone commended Iraq for its mechanisms for reform and its national reconciliation efforts with the involvement of various groups of society.

68. Singapore welcomed the development of a national strategy for nutrition as part of poverty eradication efforts.

69. Slovenia expressed concern about the newly adopted amendments to the Personal Status Act (No. 188 of 1959).

70. Spain welcomed the adoption in 2021 of the Yazidi Female Survivors Act, which was aimed at providing assisting victims of Da'esh.
71. Sri Lanka expressed appreciation for the national human rights strategies aimed at combating terrorism and improving the welfare of children and women.
72. The State of Palestine noted efforts to improve national legislation in accordance with the international treaties to which Iraq was party.
73. The Sudan commended Iraq for the efforts made to protect minorities' rights and for the creation of specialized courts to consider human rights cases.
74. Sweden expressed concern about the human rights situation, which in some cases had deteriorated.
75. Switzerland welcomed the delegation of Iraq and presented its recommendations.
76. Togo noted the steps taken to strengthen protection of the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities, journalists and minorities.
77. Tunisia noted the steps taken to promote human rights, the ratification of several international human rights treaties and the adoption of various human rights-related laws.
78. Türkiye welcomed the decision by Iraq to ban the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) and urged an inclusive, fair electoral process for all.
79. Ukraine noted the efforts made by Iraq to implement recommendations from the previous review cycle and the progress achieved in the field of human rights protection, including the national strategy for Iraqi women 2023–2030.
80. The United Arab Emirates welcomed the delegation of Iraq and presented its recommendations.
81. The United Kingdom urged Iraq to strengthen legal protections for journalists and civil society while ensuring fundamental freedoms.
82. Uruguay welcomed the delegation of Iraq and presented its recommendations.
83. Uzbekistan noted the adoption of national strategies, including those on early childhood development and women's rights.
84. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela acknowledged the cooperation of Iraq with the review process and emphasized the effectiveness of voluntary mechanisms in advancing human rights.
85. Viet Nam commended Iraq for its progress on human rights, particularly its efforts in enhancing legislative frameworks, addressing the rights of vulnerable groups and advancing gender equality.
86. Yemen commended Iraq for its efforts to promote human rights.
87. Albania welcomed the progress made in implementing recommendations from the previous review cycle, adopting human rights laws and advancing national strategies for women's and children's rights.
88. Algeria commended Iraq for having enacted various human rights laws and implemented relevant national strategies.
89. Armenia commended Iraq for its efforts to combat trafficking in persons, for its counter-terrorism strategy and for the adoption of the Yazidi Female Survivors Act.
90. Australia stated that it remained concerned about ongoing human rights violations against women, minorities and LGBTQIA+ persons and about potential setbacks in legal protections.
91. Bahrain stated that it valued the participatory approach taken in the preparation of the report and noted progress in legislation, plans and programmes to enhance human rights protection.

92. Bangladesh highlighted the country's ratification of several conventions of the International Labour Organization during the reporting period.
93. Belarus acknowledged legislative measures and strategies in the field of human rights, and efforts to improve social stability and expand access to healthcare and education.
94. Belgium welcomed the de facto moratorium on the death penalty in Kurdistan Region, but stated that it remained concerned about the death penalty and persistent challenges to women's and girls' rights.
95. Brazil recognized efforts to ensure the representation of minorities in Kurdistan Region, promote women's political participation and support persons with disabilities.
96. Brunei Darussalam noted the adoption of human rights laws and strategies, particularly concerning persons with disabilities and education.
97. Burkina Faso praised Iraq for its counter-terrorism policies, including the national strategy to combat terrorism 2021–2025.
98. Burundi encouraged Iraq to continue its efforts to prevent discrimination and protect minority rights, and highlighted progress in combating trafficking in persons.
99. Cabo Verde acknowledged progress in implementing the recommendations from the previous review cycle and welcomed the adoption of the national strategy for Iraqi women 2023–2030.
100. Canada expressed concern about the proposed amendments to the Personal Status Act, which risked legitimizing child marriage.
101. Chile commended Iraq for having promulgated the Yazidi Female Survivors Act, and expressed hope that it would be implemented promptly.
102. China welcomed efforts in combating terrorism, protecting cultural heritage, promoting sustainable development, protecting the rights of specific groups and combating trafficking in persons.
103. Colombia welcomed the delegation of Iraq and presented its recommendations.
104. Costa Rica commended Iraq for having created the Health Insurance Commission to protect citizens from unaffordable healthcare costs.
105. Croatia commended Iraq for the positive developments since the previous review cycle, including the adoption of the Yazidi Female Survivors Act.
106. Cuba recognized the adoption of the Retirement and Social Security Act, which provided protection for workers and the labour sector.
107. Cyprus commended Iraq for the progress made with regard to social security, education, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, and women's empowerment.
108. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea commended Iraq for its efforts to protect the human rights of its people despite ongoing challenges.
109. Denmark stated that it remained concerned about the rights of women and girls and about restrictions on freedom of expression.
110. Djibouti expressed appreciation for the programmes for inclusion and non-discrimination and encouraged the continuation of protections for vulnerable populations.
111. The delegation of Iraq stated that the Government had implemented several reforms over the previous four years to modernize the educational system. The Government had updated the legislative system with regard to higher education with the enactment of 13 new laws, and two further laws in Kurdistan Region, and had adopted the comprehensive national strategy for education and higher education 2022–2031, which encompassed various programmes. Launched in 2020, a human rights school award was to be granted for the fourth time in 2025. Iraq had adopted the Bologna Process, and the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System had been implemented in all universities for engineering, agricultural and administrative disciplines. More than 2,000 international students had been admitted to

Iraqi universities. The Government had also initiated more than 1,000 exchange opportunities between Iraqi and foreign universities and established a classification system to improve public university rankings globally.

112. The Government had recorded an increase in enrolment of 9 per cent in kindergarten, 70 per cent at the secondary level and 27 per cent at the university level. The Government had opened 1,530 schools in 2022 and 2023 and built 777 schools, and in Kurdistan Region 1,300 schools had been reconstructed and 80 built between 2019 and 2023. Public universities had been expanded to include scientific sectors, achieving growth of 22 per cent in scientific disciplines, while in Kurdistan Region there were 20 State-run universities and 12 institutes.

113. A total of 33,271 individuals had attended reading courses between 2019 and 2024, as part of efforts to end illiteracy, and in Kurdistan Region more than 335,000 marginalized children had been admitted to schools. The Government had reconstructed universities in areas devastated by Da'esh and opened educational centres in conflict-affected provinces to re-enrol students who had dropped out.

114. Iraq had provided education to more than 16,000 students in new schools and introduced mitigation programmes in areas affected by Da'esh, especially in Kurdistan Region. It had provided specialized support to ethnic and religious minorities and established quotas for persons with special needs, ensuring free education.

115. With regard to culture, the Government had organized exhibitions, international conferences, seminars and festivals to honour victims of Da'esh and to promote diversity. Iraq had recovered more than 12,000 archaeological pieces and more than 15,200 artefacts, discovered 84 new sites with the assistance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and signed memorandums with universities for archaeological research and cultural preservation.

116. Lastly, the delegation noted that the national human rights plan 2021–2025 had been launched as part of efforts to implement recommendations, covering 26 areas, and a secretariat had been established to monitor progress. The Government had reformed migration policies, supported the return of displaced Iraqis, resettled families from Syrian refugee camps, closed refugee camps in Iraq that were no longer needed, welcomed thousands of refugees and provided financial and legal support to returning migrants. Such measures demonstrated the strong commitment of Iraq to human rights, cultural diversity and the reconstruction of a more inclusive society.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

117. **The following recommendations will be examined by Iraq, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fifty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council:**

117.1 **Ratify outstanding international human rights treaties (Gambia);**

117.2 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile) (Denmark) (Latvia) (Switzerland (Togo) (Ukraine);**

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

117.4 **Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Iceland);**

117.5 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and adopt a moratorium on the death penalty, as a first step towards its definitive abolition (Spain); Immediately establish a moratorium on executions and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Croatia); Adopt a moratorium on the application of the death penalty**

and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (France);

117.6 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (France);

117.7 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Sierra Leone);

117.8 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Spain);

117.9 Ratify all pending optional protocols to human rights treaties, including the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Malta);

117.10 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);

117.11 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Mexico);

117.12 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Portugal);

117.13 Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Uruguay);

117.14 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Senegal);

117.15 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Paraguay);

117.16 Consider acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sri Lanka);

117.17 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Cyprus);

117.18 Continue efforts to strengthen its legal framework on human rights by ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Burkina Faso);

117.19 Lift its reservations to articles 9 and 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Colombia);

117.20 Amend new and existing domestic legislation, including the Personal Status Act, in compliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Norway);

- 117.21 **Strengthen efforts to educate and train law enforcement personnel on human rights standards relevant to their field of work (Qatar);**
- 117.22 **Continue to develop national legislation on human rights and strengthen mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 117.23 **Continue efforts to strengthen the legal framework related to human rights (Sudan);**
- 117.24 **Continue to bring its national legislation into line with its international human rights obligations (Russian Federation);**
- 117.25 **Expand human rights education for law enforcement agents, strengthen training on respecting human rights and enhance mechanisms for investigating and addressing misconduct to ensure accountability (Brazil);**
- 117.26 **Facilitate the creation, legal recognition, financing and operation of civil society organizations (Colombia);**
- 117.27 **Strengthen its positive efforts to implement the national human rights plan by providing the necessary financial and human resources (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 117.28 **Continue efforts to implement the national human rights plan 2021–2025 and provide the necessary support to put the plans and programmes contained therein into practice (Bahrain);**
- 117.29 **Continue the implementation of national strategies for the promotion, protection and enjoyment of the human rights of its people, with special priority given to the most vulnerable populations (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 117.30 **Continue efforts to make the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights more effective in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Djibouti); Strengthen the independence and effectiveness of the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights, ensuring its full compliance with the Paris Principles (Armenia); Take further measures to ensure that the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights complies with the Paris Principles (Qatar);**
- 117.31 **Expedite the appointment of the board of human rights commissioners to ensure the implementation of its human rights protection mandate in line with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea);**
- 117.32 **Enhance efforts to strengthen the capacity of the national human rights institution and ensure effective implementation of its recommendations (Kazakhstan);**
- 117.33 **Provide additional support in terms of human and financial resources to the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights to enable it to perform all its duties effectively and independently (Morocco);**
- 117.34 **Establish a permanent national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up with regard to recommendations on human rights (Paraguay);**
- 117.35 **Repeal all provisions from the Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and other laws of the country that contradict the rights of women and discriminate against them in relation to men (Cabo Verde);**
- 117.36 **Repeal all gender-discriminatory provisions of the Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and other legislation to ensure equal legal protections for women (Iceland);**
- 117.37 **Take legislative and policy measures to ensure non-discrimination against women and girls, including by withdrawing its reservations to articles 2 and 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination**

against Women and observing the provisions of these articles in Iraqi national legislation concerning personal status (Finland);

117.38 Continue efforts to promote the policy of eliminating inequalities between men and women by taking effective measures to increase the participation of women in political and public life in accordance with the national strategy for Iraqi women 2023–2030 (Djibouti);

117.39 Decriminalize and legalize abortion in all circumstances (Iceland);

117.40 Decriminalize same-sex relations and gender-affirming care (Iceland);

117.41 Continue legislative efforts undertaken to expedite the adoption of national laws for the prevention and eradication of discrimination and hate speech (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

117.42 Continue to implement measures to combat discrimination and hate speech, as well as to protect the rights of minorities (Belarus);

117.43 Continue efforts to prepare relevant laws and legislation to prevent discrimination and hate speech, to guarantee the rights of all citizens regardless of their religious beliefs (State of Palestine);

117.44 Establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Latvia) (Montenegro);

117.45 Abolish the death penalty in all instances (Malta); Abolish the death penalty (Canada);

117.46 Adopt an immediate moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Albania); Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to abolishing it (Finland); Establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to abolishing capital punishment (Slovenia);

117.47 Establish immediately a moratorium on executions and commute all death sentences with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Sweden); Establish immediately a countrywide moratorium on executions as a first step towards the abolition of the death penalty and commute all death sentences (Belgium);

117.48 Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty and seek alternative outcomes for those already sentenced to capital punishment (Australia);

117.49 Impose an immediate moratorium on the death penalty and ensure respect for prisoners' rights, including by investigating allegations of torture and inadequate medical care (Norway);

117.50 Immediately suspend executions and adopt a formal moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to its abolition (Dominican Republic);

117.51 Consider establishing a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Cyprus); Consider placing a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition (Sierra Leone); Take into consideration the possibility of introducing a de facto moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Italy);

117.52 Accede to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and prohibit the use of the death penalty for crimes still punishable by it (Colombia);

117.53 Review current legislation in order to reduce the number of types of crime punishable by death, in accordance with article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, with a view to total abolition (Paraguay);

117.54 Reduce the number of crimes punishable by death and limit them to the most serious crimes under international law, in accordance with Iraq's international obligations (Switzerland);

- 117.55 **Reduce the number of crimes punishable by death and encourage public debate on a moratorium on the death penalty (Chile);**
- 117.56 **Abolish the death penalty and ensure in law and in criminal justice practice that the right to life and fair trial guarantees are fully respected (Costa Rica);**
- 117.57 **Promote public debate and public awareness campaigns on the complete abolition of the death penalty (Lithuania);**
- 117.58 **Reduce prison overcrowding by adopting alternatives to incarceration, ensure the separation of minors from adults in detention facilities and provide adequate healthcare, nutrition and humane conditions for detainees (Gambia);**
- 117.59 **Take legislative measures to end the use of torture in detention centres (Albania);**
- 117.60 **Intensify efforts to investigate cases of enforced disappearance by allocating additional funds and personnel to the specialized national team and create a public and centralized registry of missing persons (Croatia);**
- 117.61 **Implement a domestic legal framework, aligned with international legal standards, for the prosecution of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes (Australia);**
- 117.62 **Continue efforts to make sure that Iraqi citizens stop suffering at the hands of not yet fully neutralized terrorists and organized crime, as well as the consequences of past internal conflicts (Russian Federation);**
- 117.63 **Sustain its fight against terrorism, and officially designate PKK as a terrorist organization (Türkiye);**
- 117.64 **Increase efforts towards establishing a State monopoly on the use of force, preventing militia groups from overall engagement in State affairs and their access to government resources, and ensure their legal accountability (Germany);**
- 117.65 **Continue efforts to combat corruption and ensure accountability for perpetrators (Qatar);**
- 117.66 **Ensure that due process rights, from arrest and detention through to a fair trial, are respected as guaranteed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Ireland);**
- 117.67 **Undertake judicial system reforms to enhance the transparency of legal proceedings and ensure defendants' rights to due process (Brazil);**
- 117.68 **Take all measures deemed necessary to guarantee, de jure and de facto, the full independence, impartiality and security of judges and prosecutors when making decisions (Cabo Verde);**
- 117.69 **Intensify efforts to safeguard judicial independence and impartiality by implementing comprehensive anti-corruption strategies alongside measures to prevent impunity (Republic of Korea);**
- 117.70 **Ensure that judicial practices consistently respect Iraq's Penal Code, that the law is applied consistently and that steps are taken to develop comprehensive legislation on international crimes (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**
- 117.71 **Approve the bill on enforced disappearance, which would classify enforced disappearance as an autonomous crime, and strengthen collaboration with the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (Mexico);**
- 117.72 **Conduct immediate, impartial, thorough and transparent investigations into all credible allegations of torture and ill-treatment and enforced disappearance, in accordance with international standards, and ensure accountability for these crimes (Chile);**

- 117.73 Ensure that the rights of freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, and media freedom, are fully respected and protected, both online and offline (Canada);
- 117.74 Ensure full respect for freedom of expression by strengthening its commitment to safeguarding freedom of expression across all platforms, including social media (Ukraine);
- 117.75 Ensure freedom of expression, allowing civil society, journalists, human rights defenders, faith-based organizations and others to participate in public discourse without fear of retaliation (Norway);
- 117.76 Ensure full respect for freedom of expression by adopting protective measures that allow journalists, activists and individuals to express their views without fear of reprisal both online and offline (Republic of Korea);
- 117.77 Protect the right to freedom of assembly, including by holding accountable any perpetrators of violence against protestors (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 117.78 Review and align national laws and practices with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in order to safeguard freedom of expression (Denmark);
- 117.79 Respect and protect the right of human rights defenders and journalists to undertake their legitimate work without fear of harassment, intimidation or reprisal (Finland);
- 117.80 Remove all restrictions imposed on freedom of expression and media freedom and on access to Internet (Estonia);
- 117.81 Promote an enabling, safe and secure environment for journalists and media workers in line with international human rights standards (Latvia);
- 117.82 Facilitate favourable conditions for civil society organizations, journalists and other media workers to freely exercise their rights to freedom of opinion and expression, association and peaceful assembly (Lithuania);
- 117.83 Guarantee the rights to freedom of expression, the press, association and peaceful assembly, including by amending all provisions of the Penal Code that restrict these rights in order to align them with international human rights standards (Switzerland);
- 117.84 Take the necessary measures to ensure that human rights defenders can work safely and exercise their right to freedom of expression without fear of being persecuted, intimidated or detained (Spain);
- 117.85 Adopt effective measures to protect the freedom of peaceful assembly, ensuring impartial and thorough investigations into acts of violence against protesters (Dominican Republic);
- 117.86 Implement specific protection measures for journalists and media workers to prevent harassment, intimidation and unjust prosecutions and establish independent bodies to investigate and ensure accountability for those actions (Portugal);
- 117.87 Re-establish the media and publications court, ensuring that sanctions imposed on journalists are proportionate and do not include prison sentences, and release all journalists detained for their professional work (Dominican Republic);
- 117.88 Expand access to comprehensive sexuality education in and outside school settings (Iceland);
- 117.89 Repeal all provisions in the Personal Status Act that discriminate against women and girls, including in marriage, divorce and custody (Iceland);

- 117.90 Set the minimum age of marriage at 18 with no exceptions by removing the exceptions in article 8 (1) of the Personal Status Act (Sweden);
- 117.91 Ensure the compliance of national legislation, including the provisions of the Personal Status Act, with international standards, particularly by raising the minimum legal age of marriage to 18 years (Italy);
- 117.92 Repeal the amendments to the Personal Status Act that allow the religious authorities to decide on the marriage of children and re-establish the previous ban on the marriage of children under the age of 18 (Croatia);
- 117.93 Remove existing legal exceptions allowing child marriage (Lithuania);
- 117.94 Eliminate provisions that allow marriage before the age of 18 with judicial authorization (Colombia);
- 117.95 Continue legal measures to address underage marriage, reduce the dropout rate of girls from school and provide training to build capacities among girls (Maldives);
- 117.96 Take the necessary measures to eradicate de jure and de facto cases of child marriage and forced marriage (Paraguay);
- 117.97 Reverse immediately all legislation and policies curtailing the rights of the child, including by resetting the age of marriage to 18 years for both girls and boys (Slovenia);
- 117.98 Adopt a national plan to eliminate child marriage (Cyprus);
- 117.99 Repeal the recently passed legislation that further lowers the age of consent (Israel);
- 117.100 Repeal article 398 of the Penal Code, which exempts offenders of rape from prosecution if they marry their victim (Denmark);
- 117.101 Withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, in order to repeal all discriminatory laws and practices and ensure equality in all matters relating to family and marital relations, and repeal legal provisions under which rapists who marry their victims avoid punishment (Uruguay);
- 117.102 Continue efforts aimed at combating trafficking in persons and the exploitation of women and children (Egypt);
- 117.103 Step up efforts to implement the strategy to combat trafficking in persons (Jordan);
- 117.104 Increase efforts seeking to combat the crime of trafficking in persons, by mobilizing appropriate financial resources, building the capacities of law enforcement personnel and benefiting from best practices in this regard (Bahrain);
- 117.105 Continue to implement measures to combat trafficking in persons, including within the framework of the national plan for the implementation of the strategy to combat trafficking in persons 2023–2026 and other policy documents (Belarus);
- 117.106 Repeal the amendment of April 2024 to the anti-prostitution law (Sweden);
- 117.107 Increase efforts to address unemployment (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 117.108 Increase efforts to address unemployment and underemployment with targeted public-sector employment schemes, vocational training and public-private sector partnerships (Malaysia);
- 117.109 Promote economic empowerment programmes for vulnerable groups, including youth and persons with disabilities, by fostering vocational training and creating more sustainable job opportunities (Viet Nam);

- 117.110 **Strengthen labour laws in line with international standards (Sri Lanka);**
- 117.111 **Continue to enhance the social security system, particularly through support for low-income individuals (Pakistan);**
- 117.112 **Continue to improve the social security system and ensure that low-income groups can share the benefits of social development (China);**
- 117.113 **Continue efforts to strengthen the system of social security (Cuba);**
- 117.114 **Continue efforts to strengthen the social protection system (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 117.115 **Enhance social and economic support mechanisms for families living in poverty to improve their living conditions (Indonesia);**
- 117.116 **Continue to work on the development and stability programme to ensure that support reaches the most needy groups (Saudi Arabia);**
- 117.117 **Continue to take action towards poverty eradication through the strengthening of its current services and programmes (Brunei Darussalam);**
- 117.118 **Strengthen those social protection programmes that prioritize rural areas (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 117.119 **Continue to support the rights of those covered by social protection benefits in order to ensure an improvement in their standard of living (Oman);**
- 117.120 **Continue to strengthen measures to ensure access to adequate and affordable housing, safe drinking water and sanitation (Pakistan);**
- 117.121 **Continue to implement development projects, especially those relating to clean drinking water and healthcare (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 117.122 **Continue its efforts to improve access to food across Iraq (Singapore);**
- 117.123 **Improve access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, healthcare, education, public transport, electricity, waste disposal services and other services (Malaysia);**
- 117.124 **Continue its efforts to achieve higher economic growth so as to raise the standard of living of the people, especially vulnerable groups (Uzbekistan);**
- 117.125 **Continue the policy of socioeconomic development to eliminate poverty, ensure access to healthcare and quality education, and improve the well-being of children and protect them from all forms of violence (Russian Federation);**
- 117.126 **Take more effective measures to eradicate illiteracy and address obstacles to access to education, especially for girls (Morocco);**
- 117.127 **Strengthen measures for human rights education through awareness-raising, training and capacity-building campaigns (Egypt);**
- 117.128 **Take steps to improve maternal and child health indicators by improving access to affordable maternal healthcare, sanitation and adequate nutrition for women in rural and remote areas (India);**
- 117.129 **Continue the efforts made to enhance mother and child healthcare and to secure reproductive health services for all women, particularly in rural areas (Tunisia);**
- 117.130 **Take action to ensure the right to health with access to healthcare for every citizen without discrimination (Sri Lanka);**
- 117.131 **Redouble efforts to ensure that health services reach all segments of society (Saudi Arabia);**

- 117.132 Expand access to healthcare services, particularly for rural communities (Viet Nam);
- 117.133 Prioritize universal access to health coverage to promote and protect the right to health for all, including by addressing the special needs of children and adults with physical, intellectual and psychosocial disabilities, and vulnerable populations (Bangladesh);
- 117.134 Continue efforts to achieve universal health coverage (Samoa);
- 117.135 Collaborate with relevant United Nations agencies to address food insecurity and increase student attendance, including by implementing school-meals programmes (Malaysia);
- 117.136 Maintain ongoing efforts to improve public health through the development of a national strategy for nutrition and the implementation of a national health-related strategy (Ethiopia);
- 117.137 Develop healthcare by enhancing access to psychosocial support services (United Arab Emirates);
- 117.138 Increase health coverage and ensure equitable access to quality health services (Uruguay);
- 117.139 Continue to invest in its healthcare system and the advancement of primary healthcare (Brunei Darussalam);
- 117.140 Continue efforts to ensure equal access to education for girls and for marginalized communities, addressing barriers to inclusive education (Ethiopia);
- 117.141 Continue its efforts to increase access to education in Iraq (Singapore);
- 117.142 Continue efforts aimed to give priority to developing education and ensuring equal educational opportunities (United Arab Emirates);
- 117.143 Continue the efforts already undertaken to ensure access to education for all children and to reduce school dropout rates, particularly in marginalized areas (Burundi);
- 117.144 Continue to strengthen the education system by increasing the education sector budget and reflecting all cultures in educational curricula (State of Palestine);
- 117.145 Improve the education system and its budget (Jordan);
- 117.146 Implement the inclusive education framework, ensuring equitable access to quality education for girls, boys, young women, and men with disabilities (Ukraine);
- 117.147 Continue efforts to ensure the provision of at least nine years of compulsory education, as recommended by UNESCO (Mauritius);
- 117.148 Guarantee at least nine years of compulsory schooling and inclusive education that covers girls, boys, young women, and men with disabilities (Cabo Verde);
- 117.149 Continue its ongoing efforts to adopt new measures in the field of education, prioritizing educational development, conducting awareness-raising campaigns, training and capacity-building and ensuring equal educational opportunities for Iraqi women and men (Nicaragua);
- 117.150 Strengthen programmes and procedures that contribute to improving education and eradicating illiteracy (Saudi Arabia);
- 117.151 Take further measures regarding education in the field of human rights through awareness campaigns, training and capacity-building (United Arab Emirates);

- 117.152 Take further measures to develop the education system and improve the quality of educational services, including for children with disabilities (Uzbekistan);
- 117.153 Take further steps aimed at protecting, restoring and rehabilitating the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of all communities in Iraq (India);
- 117.154 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, and infrastructure development in the areas of housing and drinking water, and promote and protect the economic, social and cultural rights of the Iraqi people (China);
- 117.155 Enhance economic, social and cultural rights (Türkiye);
- 117.156 Continue to implement development projects, especially those related to clean drinking water and healthcare (Kuwait);
- 117.157 Continue efforts to ensure the sustainable and effective management of water resources, and promote new economical and sustainable irrigation technologies (Bangladesh);
- 117.158 Ensure the sustainability of water resources by increasing resources allocated to addressing water scarcity and environmental degradation (Kuwait);
- 117.159 Implement a national policy with a human rights-based approach to protect the environment, including on combating biodiversity loss, adapting to climate change and ensuring the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and waste, and activate and create mechanisms to promote citizen participation, including the participation of environmental human rights defenders, in initiatives aimed at addressing this triple global crisis (Costa Rica);
- 117.160 Continue cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to alleviate food insecurity, as recommended by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Mauritius);
- 117.161 Continue efforts to realize the right to development, including by emphasizing a “right to development” perspective in policy formulation and implementation (Pakistan);
- 117.162 Step up support for the initiative for technology transfer and capacity-building to promote the effective implementation of the right to development (Cuba);
- 117.163 Continue its efforts towards better public services, accountability, reconstruction, development and Iraq’s reintegration into the region (Türkiye);
- 117.164 Strengthen the work of the national committee for sustainable development in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 117.165 Strengthen disaster risk reduction for communities that are vulnerable to disasters resulting from natural hazards, with the support from relevant partners (Samoa);
- 117.166 Seek the necessary international cooperation to advance socioeconomic development and improve the well-being of its citizens (Nigeria);
- 117.167 Enhance international cooperation to assist in the effective implementation of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Samoa);
- 117.168 Continue to strengthen laws and policies that promote gender equality and enhance women’s participation in the workforce and in political spheres (Ethiopia);

- 117.169 Pursue the policy for the elimination of inequalities between men and women by taking measures to increase the participation of women in the workforce (Kazakhstan);
- 117.170 Continue efforts to empower women economically and increase their participation in decision-making (Sudan);
- 117.171 Continue its efforts to empower women in decision-making and the financial sector, through greater political participation and improvement of access to education (India);
- 117.172 Enhance the participation of women in public life (Jordan);
- 117.173 Continue its policy to promote the representation of women in public life, and to strengthen women's economic empowerment (Burundi);
- 117.174 Continue to ensure sufficient resources for the implementation of the national strategy for Iraqi women 2023–2030 and the national strategy for combating violence against women and girls 2018–2030 (Philippines);
- 117.175 Continue to enhance women's representation in leadership and decision-making positions (Gambia);
- 117.176 Continue efforts to increase the representation of women in decision-making bodies (Nepal);
- 117.177 Make additional efforts to increase the representation of women in public and political life (Bangladesh);
- 117.178 Ensure that the rights and freedoms of all, as outlined in Iraq's national and international obligations, are effectively protected by law, paying particular attention to the rights of minorities, as well as the rights of women and girls within the codification process following the recent approval of amendments to the Personal Status Act (Kingdom of the Netherlands);
- 117.179 Continue efforts to further promote the rights of women and children (Libya);
- 117.180 Ensure the further practical implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Uzbekistan);
- 117.181 Redouble efforts to promote and protect the rights of women, girls, and persons with disabilities (Burkina Faso);
- 117.182 Continue efforts aimed at empowering women within the framework of the strategies related to them (Algeria);
- 117.183 Intensify efforts to empower women and promote the role of women in social, economic and political life (Oman);
- 117.184 Increase efforts to guarantee the rights of women and children (Azerbaijan);
- 117.185 Ensure that amendments to the Personal Status Act, including the code to be subsequently developed, are in line with Iraq's international commitments on women and children's rights (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 117.186 Pay particular attention to financing programmes for the protection of children's rights and the economic and social empowerment of women (Senegal);
- 117.187 Ensure the protection of women's rights and pass a law against domestic violence (Germany);
- 117.188 Take all the necessary measures to respect the rights of women and girls, including by criminalizing marital rape in all circumstances and by setting the minimum age of marriage at 18 without exception, in accordance with Iraq's international obligations (Switzerland);

- 117.189 Repeal all legislation that violates the rights of women, girls and minorities (Canada);
- 117.190 Fully criminalize marital rape in all circumstances and repeal article 41 (1) of the Iraqi Penal Code, which gives a husband a legal right to punish his wife (Israel);
- 117.191 Withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and take public policy action to overcome gender stereotypes that do not allow women equal conditions of participation in politics, education and employment (Costa Rica);
- 117.192 Enact comprehensive legislation criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence, including domestic violence, in compliance with international human rights standards (Estonia);
- 117.193 Adopt and enforce a comprehensive law to combat gender-based violence and honour killings (Montenegro);
- 117.194 Enact and implement comprehensive legislation to combat gender-based violence and honour killings and strengthen women's participation in the workforce (Chile);
- 117.195 Enact comprehensive legislation against all forms of domestic violence (Cyprus);
- 117.196 Strengthen efforts to prevent and combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women, in particular by fully implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and by eradicating domestic violence and female genital mutilation (Italy);
- 117.197 Strengthen further efforts to combat all forms of gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation, as well as forced and child marriage (Philippines);
- 117.198 Strengthen implementation of the national strategy for combating violence against women and girls 2018–2030 and adopt specific legislation against domestic violence, providing justice and reparations for the victims (Romania);
- 117.199 Fully implement the national strategy for combating violence against women and girls 2018–2030 as a step towards the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls (Latvia);
- 117.200 Pass and implement legislation that prohibits all forms of gender-based violence and upholds its obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Australia);
- 117.201 Amend the Penal Code to criminalize gender-based violence, and modify the provisions that allow the use of corporal punishment against wives and children to discipline them (Spain);
- 117.202 Criminalize honour killings and ensure that perpetrators of violence against women are held accountable (Germany);
- 117.203 Repeal provisions in the Penal Code that allow for the defence of “honour” as a mitigating circumstance for homicide (Australia);
- 117.204 Adopt the draft law on domestic violence in accordance with international standards (Albania);
- 117.205 Promote legal reforms to punish all cases of physical, psychological and sexual violence against women, without exceptions or mitigating circumstances (Paraguay);
- 117.206 Take concrete measures to adopt a law protecting women and girls from domestic violence and to end the practice of early marriage, including by strengthening legislation to protect children from child marriage, prohibiting

such practices and defining child marriage as an offence in the Penal Code (Belgium);

117.207 Promote the adoption of a comprehensive law against domestic violence that includes cases such as marital rape and eliminates mitigating factors for so-called “honour” crimes (Colombia);

117.208 Take concrete measures to combat early, child and forced marriage and to further protect women in cases of divorce or inheritance, including by refraining from amending the Personal Status Act in such a way as to would restrict women’s and children’s rights (Portugal);

117.209 Continue and enhance efforts aimed at the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls (Georgia);

117.210 Protect women from all forms of violence, enhancing their empowerment through education, skills training, facilitation of their access to the labour market and their participation in public and political life (Lebanon);

117.211 Adopt a law on the protection of women and girls who are victims of domestic violence, giving victims protection in the short term and the prospect of reintegration into society in the medium term (France);

117.212 Allocate sufficient resources to the implementation of domestic violence legislation, including by ensuring that the directorate for combating violence against women and the family receives sufficient funding to carry out its mission, and provide effective protection for survivors (Malta);

117.213 Strengthen the capacity and independence of the judicial system to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of sexual violence, and provide effective and necessary support for victims (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

117.214 Redouble efforts to ensure that victims of crimes committed by Da’esh, especially women and girls, obtain justice and reparation (Colombia);

117.215 Provide more comprehensive support for survivors of crimes committed by Da’esh, particularly for women with children born of conflict-related sexual violence, and ensure that mothers and their children have access to all public services (Germany);

117.216 Introduce exceptions to personal status laws in order for children born of conflict-related sexual violence to take on the name and religion of their mothers, and encourage the implementation of already existing legal possibilities (Germany);

117.217 Enhance strategies and resources for combating violence against women and promote women’s political participation (Maldives);

117.218 Adopt and implement the draft law on child protection, which should include provisions prohibiting child, early and forced marriage and online sexual exploitation of children (Italy);

117.219 Institutionalize child protection by developing preventive frameworks, including by adopting the draft law on child protection, in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international human rights law (Ukraine);

117.220 Adopt a child protection law in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international human rights law, addressing issues such as children lacking legal documentation and accountability for child recruitment by armed groups (Belgium);

117.221 Align the federal law on child protection and the law on children’s rights with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Estonia);

- 117.222 **Implement the amended Personal Status Act in conformity with Iraq's commitments under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to ensure the protection of the rights of young girls (Ireland);**
- 117.223 **Take immediate measures to issue legal documentation, such as birth registration, for all children in Iraq (Romania);**
- 117.224 **Provide civil documentation, such as birth registration, to all children in the country (Costa Rica);**
- 117.225 **Implement simplified and expedited procedures for obtaining civil documentation for children and their caregivers, particularly those in vulnerable situations (Bangladesh);**
- 117.226 **Take the necessary measures to address stillbirths and infant mortality (Sri Lanka);**
- 117.227 **Ensure access to education for children residing in correctional facilities (Indonesia);**
- 117.228 **Implement programmes to guarantee access to education for displaced children, refugees and persons with disabilities (Yemen);**
- 117.229 **Strengthen the mechanism for including all children in the education system (Mauritania);**
- 117.230 **Ensure better access to schools for all children, especially in rural areas, at the primary level (Mauritania);**
- 117.231 **Redouble efforts to ensure equitable access to education for girls, and children with disabilities (Nepal);**
- 117.232 **Explore the possibility of incorporating a new curriculum at all educational levels that promotes respect for human rights, specifically children's rights (Armenia);**
- 117.233 **Continue efforts to promote children's rights, especially regarding education, healthcare, safe drinking water and protection from all forms of violence (Morocco);**
- 117.234 **Redouble efforts to guarantee the human rights of girls and boys, including education, health services, drinking water, and protection against all forms of violence and discrimination (Cuba);**
- 117.235 **Make more efforts to improve the welfare of children, especially girls, in terms of access to education, healthcare and all the conditions of a nurturing environment (Lebanon);**
- 117.236 **Continue to strengthen the protection of children's rights and improve systems for their education, healthcare and safe drinking water (China);**
- 117.237 **Continue efforts made to improve social protection and healthcare for children and persons with disabilities (Algeria);**
- 117.238 **Continue the efforts made to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, secure their needs and enhance educational and employment opportunities for their benefit (Tunisia);**
- 117.239 **Continue to take measures to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities in a manner consistent with international treaties (Azerbaijan);**
- 117.240 **Continue to meet the needs of persons with disabilities in all regions of Iraq, and provide them with job and education opportunities in line with international treaties (Oman);**
- 117.241 **Promote the training of public sector personnel in the field of human rights and implement policies aimed at supporting the inclusion of all persons with disabilities in society, as well as their active participation in community life (Djibouti);**

- 117.242 Continue efforts aimed at improving access to healthcare services and quality education, particularly for children with disabilities and special needs, as well as internally displaced children (Georgia);
- 117.243 Take immediate steps to ensure the effective protection of persons belonging to religious minorities from all forms of violence and harassment, including through investigation and prosecution of such acts (Israel);
- 117.244 Consolidate the freedom of religion and belief and intensify efforts to protect religious minorities (Italy);
- 117.245 Accelerate the process for the adoption of comprehensive legislation to protect minority communities and effectively combat all forms of discrimination (Philippines);
- 117.246 Fully and equitably implement all the provisions of the 2021 Yazidi Female Survivors Act (Italy);
- 117.247 Focus on inclusive policies and prevent any attempts or facts on the ground that may disrupt the delicate balance among the components of Iraqi society, including in Kirkuk (Türkiye);
- 117.248 Investigate all allegations of violence against persons targeted because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identities and expressions, and publicly and expressly condemn violence of this kind (Chile);
- 117.249 Take concrete steps to combat all forms of discrimination, investigate crimes and end violence, including killings, against LGBTIQ+ persons (Finland);
- 117.250 Enact anti-discrimination legislation explicitly prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identities and expressions or sexual characteristics (Iceland);
- 117.251 Decriminalize same-sex relations, and eliminate all discriminatory provisions, in order to combat the stigmatization of sexual orientation and gender identity (Spain);
- 117.252 Decriminalize same-sex relations by repealing the anti-prostitution law (Malta);
- 117.253 Repeal the 2024 anti-LGBT+ law (Mexico);
- 117.254 Strengthen measures to ensure the safety and rights of migrant workers, protecting them from physical and labour abuse, including by ensuring no impunity for employers or agents who violate their obligations under the law (Indonesia);
- 117.255 Step up efforts to enhance migrant workers' access to justice and ensure their equal rights in the labour market (Nepal);
- 117.256 Make legal and financial means available to reconstruct in areas under former occupation by Da'esh and restore public services provided by the State in those territories to ensure the safe return and sustainable integration of internally displaced persons (France);
- 117.257 Take action to address the issue of internally displaced persons and ensure their safe return to their communities (Sri Lanka);
- 117.258 Intensify efforts to facilitate the safe return of internally displaced persons to their communities (Canada);
- 117.259 Continue to implement measures to ensure the safe and orderly resettlement of willing internally displaced persons still living in camps (Sierra Leone);
- 117.260 Take possible steps to resettle those in tent camps with more than 1 million internally displaced persons (Russian Federation);

117.261 **Protect and ensure the rights of all internally displaced persons, including the right to voluntary return in safety (Norway);**

117.262 **Continue and sustain ongoing efforts to promote human rights by further strengthening mechanisms to protect the rights of women, children and internally displaced persons (Nigeria);**

117.263 **Develop a comprehensive transition plan for the remaining camps for internally displaced persons and all their inhabitants, including Yazidis, providing conditions for a safe and decent livelihood in the areas of return, as well as future prospects (Germany).**

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

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Iraq was headed by Minister of Justice, H.E. Mr. Khalid Salam SAEED and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Abdul-Karim Hashim Mostafa, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Iraq to UNOG;
- H.E. Mr. Abdul Kareem Toma Kaab, Ambassador, Head of the Human Rights Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- H.E. Mr. Zaidan Khalaf Obaid, Prime Minister's Advisor for Human Rights;
- Mr. Dindar Farzanda Zebari, Coordinator of International Recommendations, Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG);
- Mr. Jaafar Abdulsada al Darraji, Counsellor, Council of State;
- Ms. Yusra Kareem Mohsin, Director General of the National Department for Iraqi Women, The General Secretariat of the Iraqi Cabinet;
- Mr. Ahmed Hadi Buniya al-Lami, Director General of the Legal Department, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs;
- Mr. Ehab Naji Abbas Hamad, Director General of the Directorate of Studies, Planning and Follow-up, Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research;
- Mr. Amer Abbas Zghair, Director General of the Planning and Follow-up Department/Ministry of Migration and Displacement;
- Mr. Riyadh Kareem Abdullah, Director General of the General Directorate of Methods;
- Mr. Obay AL-TAII, Minister Plenipotentiary, Deputy Permanent Representative of Iraq to UNOG;
- Ms. Zainab al Abtan, Counselor, Permanent Mission of Iraq to UNOG;
- Mr. Salam Ali Yawer, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Iraq to UNOG;
- Mr. Jaffar Mohamed Ali, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Iraq to UNOG;
- Mr. Mohamad S. Mohamadsalah, Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Haidar Abdulelah Aref; Director of the Human Rights Department, Ministry of Justice;
- Ms. Huda Jawad Abdulridha al-Saedi, Legal Department, The General-Secretariat of the Iraqi Cabinet;
- Ms. Meena Thair Abdullah, Director of the Human Rights Directorate at the Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Salam Hussein Kadhim, Director of the Human Rights Directorate at the Ministry of Defense;
- Ms. Shaymaa Salahaldeen Alabdwahid, Director of the Community Development Department, Ministry of Health;
- Mr. Dashti Salam Saeed; Ministry of Justice/ Media;
- Ms. Hiba Mahmood Mubarak, Ministry of Justice- Human Rights Department-Director of international report writing section;
- Mr. Muayad Radhi Fadhil Akabi, Assistant Director of the Report Writing Department, Human Rights Department, Ministry of Justice;

- Ms. Medya Hoshyar Naqshabandi, Office of the Coordinator of International Recommendations, KRG;
 - Mr. Khaleel Sulaiman Hussein, Office of the Coordinator of International Recommendations, KRG;
 - Mr. Miran Tofiq Abdalqadir, Ministry of Justice;
 - Mr. Ali Hasan Ghafil, Ministry of Justice/Media.
-