



# General Assembly

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**Human Rights Council**  
**Thirty-third session**  
Agenda item 1  
**Organizational and procedural matters**

## **Report of the Human Rights Council on its thirty-third session**

*Vice-President and Rapporteur:* Geert Muylle (Belgium)



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## Part One

### Resolutions, decisions and President's statement adopted by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-third session

#### I. Resolutions

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
33/1	Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences	29 September 2016
33/2	The safety of journalists	29 September 2016
33/3	Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order	29 September 2016
33/4	The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination	29 September 2016
33/5	The human rights of older persons	29 September 2016
33/6	The role of prevention in the promotion and protection of human rights	29 September 2016
33/7	Unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents and human rights	29 September 2016
33/8	Local government and human rights	29 September 2016
33/9	The right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health	29 September 2016
33/10	The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation	29 September 2016
33/11	Preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age as a human rights concern	29 September 2016
33/12	Human rights and indigenous peoples: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples	29 September 2016
33/13	Human rights and indigenous peoples	29 September 2016
33/14	The right to development	29 September 2016
33/15	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights	29 September 2016
33/16	Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights	29 September 2016
33/17	Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights	29 September 2016
33/18	Preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights	30 September 2016
33/19	Human rights and transitional justice	30 September 2016
33/20	Cultural rights and the protection of cultural heritage	30 September 2016
33/21	Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism	30 September 2016
33/22	Equal participation in political and public affairs	30 September 2016
33/23	The human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic	30 September 2016
33/24	Situation of human rights in Burundi	30 September 2016
33/25	Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	30 September 2016
33/26	Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in the Sudan	30 September 2016

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
33/27	Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic	30 September 2016
33/28	Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights	30 September 2016
33/29	Technical assistance and capacity-building for human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	30 September 2016
33/30	Arbitrary detention	30 September 2016

## II. Decisions

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
33/101	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Suriname	21 September 2016
33/102	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	21 September 2016
33/103	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Samoa	21 September 2016
33/104	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Greece	21 September 2016
33/105	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Sudan	21 September 2016
33/106	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Hungary	21 September 2016
33/107	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Papua New Guinea	22 September 2016
33/108	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Tajikistan	22 September 2016
33/109	Outcome of the universal periodic review: United Republic of Tanzania	22 September 2016
33/110	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Antigua and Barbuda	22 September 2016
33/111	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Swaziland	22 September 2016
33/112	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Trinidad and Tobago	22 September 2016
33/113	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Thailand	23 September 2016
33/114	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Ireland	23 September 2016

## III. President's statement

<i>President's statement</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
PRST/33/1	Reports of the Advisory Committee	29 September 2016

## Part Two

### Summary of proceedings

#### I. Organizational and procedural matters

##### A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Human Rights Council held its thirty-third session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 13 to 30 September 2016. The President of the Council opened the session.
2. In accordance with rule 8 (b) of the rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council, as contained in part VII of the annex to Council resolution 5/1, the organizational meeting of the thirty-third session was held on 31 August 2016.
3. The thirty-third session consisted of 42 meetings over 14 days (see para. 17 below).
4. The Human Rights Council also held an intersessional panel discussion on 9 November 2016 (see chap. X, sect. F).

##### B. Attendance

5. The session was attended by representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States of the Council, observers for non-Member States of the United Nations and other observers, and observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations, intergovernmental organizations and other entities, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations (see annex I).

##### C. Officers

6. At its organizational session, held on 7 December 2015, the Human Rights Council elected the following members of the Bureau for its tenth cycle, which would run from 1 January until 31 December 2016:

<i>President</i>	Choi Kyong-lim (Republic of Korea)
<i>Vice-Presidents</i>	Jānis Kārkliņš (Latvia)
	Ramón Alberto Morales Quijano (Panama)
	Negash Kebret Batora (Ethiopia)
<i>Vice-President and Rapporteur</i>	Bertrand de Crombrughe (Belgium)

7. At its organizational meeting on the thirty-third session, held on 31 August 2016, the Human Rights Council elected, in accordance with rules 9 and 13 of the rules of procedure of the Council, Geert Muylle (Belgium) as Vice-President and Rapporteur from Western European and other States, in order to replace Bertrand de Crombrughe, whose term of office had ended.
8. The President and Vice-Presidents of the Human Rights Council served as officers for the thirty-third session.

##### D. Agenda and programme of work

9. At its 1st meeting, on 13 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted the agenda and programme of work of the thirty-third session.

## **E. Organization of work**

10. At the 1st meeting, on 13 September 2016, the President referred to the introduction of a web-based online system for inscription of the lists of speakers for all general debates and individual and clustered interactive dialogues at the thirty-third session of the Human Rights Council. He also referred to the modalities and schedule of the online inscription, which was launched on 6 September 2016.

11. At the same meeting, on the same day, the President outlined, pursuant to the practice introduced at the twenty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council, the modalities for the clustered interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders under agenda item 3. The total duration of each clustered interactive dialogue would not exceed four hours. Each special procedure mandate holder in a cluster would introduce his or her report within 15 minutes and respond to questions and make concluding remarks within 15 minutes. Once the preliminary lists of speakers would be drawn up through the online inscription system, the secretariat would calculate the estimated time needed to complete the clustered interactive dialogue with the mandate holders. Should the total duration of a given interactive dialogue be estimated to last less than four hours, the speaking time limits would be five minutes for member States and three minutes for observer States and other observers. However, if it would be estimated to be more than four hours, the speaking time limits would be reduced to three minutes for member States and two minutes for observer States and other observers. Should this measure be deemed insufficient to ensure that the total duration not exceed four hours, the speaking time limit would be further reduced to two minutes for all speakers.

12. Also at the same meeting, the President referred to the modalities concerning the tabling of draft proposals after the tabling deadline. At the organizational meeting of the thirty-third session, the Human Rights Council had agreed that an extension of the deadline for the submission of draft proposals would be granted only once, under exceptional circumstances, for a maximum of 24 hours.

13. At the 6th meeting, on 14 September 2016, the President outlined the speaking time limits for panel discussions, which would be two minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and other observers.

14. At the 10th meeting, on 16 September 2016, the President outlined the speaking time limits for the general debates, which would be three minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council and two minutes for observer States and other observers.

15. At the 13th meeting, on 19 September 2016, the President outlined the speaking time limits for individual interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders, which would be three minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council and two minutes for observer States and other observers.

16. At the 19th meeting, on 21 September 2016, the President outlined the speaking time limits for the consideration of the outcomes of the universal periodic review under agenda item 6, which would be 20 minutes for the State concerned to present its views; where appropriate, 2 minutes for the national human rights institution with A status of the State concerned; up to 20 minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and United Nations agencies to express their views on the outcome of the review, with varying speaking times according to the number of speakers in accordance with the modalities set out in the annex to Council resolution 16/21; and up to 20 minutes for stakeholders to make general comments on the outcome of the review.

## F. Meetings and documentation

17. The Human Rights Council held 42 fully serviced meetings during its thirty-third session, and an intersessional meeting on 10 November 2016.<sup>1</sup>

18. The list of the resolutions, decisions and President's statement adopted by the Human Rights Council is contained in part one of the present report.

## G. Visits

19. At the 2nd meeting, on 13 September 2016, the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Baroness Anelay, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

20. At the 3rd meeting, on the same day, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Slovenia, Darja Bandaž Kuret, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

21. At the 4th meeting, on 14 September 2016, the Minister of the Interior of Ecuador, José Serrano, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

22. At the 8th meeting, on 15 September 2016, the State Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan, Kamal Ismail Saeed, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

23. At the 9th meeting, on 15 September 2016, the Commissioner for Human Rights and Humanitarian Action of Mauritania, Cheikh Tourad Abdel Malick, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

24. At the 12th meeting, on 16 September 2016, the First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia, David Zalkaliani, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

25. At the 25th meeting, on 23 September 2016, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement by video message, and the President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Evo Morales Ayma, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

26. At the 27th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Chile made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

27. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Chile made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

## H. Election of members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

28. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the Human Rights Council elected, pursuant to its resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, seven experts to the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee. The Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/HRC/33/3 and Add.1) containing the nomination of candidates for election, in accordance with Council decision 6/102, and the biographical data of the candidates.

29. The candidates were as follows:

<i>Nominating State</i>	<i>Expert nominated</i>
<b>African States</b>	
Algeria	Lazhari Bouzid
Egypt	Mona Omar

<sup>1</sup> The proceedings of the thirty-third session of the Human Rights Council and of the intersessional meeting on 10 November 2016 can be followed through the archived webcasts of the Council sessions at <http://webtv.un.org>.

<i>Nominating State</i>	<i>Expert nominated</i>
<b>Asia-Pacific States</b>	
China	Xinsheng Liu
Japan	Kaoru Obata
<b>Eastern European States</b>	
Russian Federation	Mikhail Aleksandrovich Lebedev
<b>Latin American and Caribbean States</b>	
El Salvador	Karla Hananía De Varela
<b>Western European and other States</b>	
Switzerland	Jean Ziegler

30. The number of candidates for each of the regional groups corresponded to the number of seats available in each of these groups. The practice of holding a secret ballot, pursuant to paragraph 70 of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, was dispensed with and Lazhari Bouzid, Mona Omar, Xinsheng Liu, Kaoru Obata, Mikhail Aleksandrovich Lebedev, Karla Hananía De Varela and Jean Ziegler were elected as members of the Advisory Committee by consensus (see annex IV).

## **I. Selection and appointment of mandate holders**

31. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the President of the Human Rights Council presented the list of candidates to be appointed for the five vacancies for special procedure mandate holders.

32. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Russian Federation and Saudi Arabia (on behalf of States members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, with the exception of Albania) made statements on the appointment of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

33. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council appointed, pursuant to Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21 and its decision 6/102, five special procedure mandate holders (see annex V).

34. At the same meeting, the representatives of Kenya and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements on the appointment of the special procedure mandate holders.

## **J. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Reports of the Advisory Committee**

35. At the 38th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft President's statement A/HRC/33/L.1.

36. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted draft President's statement PRST/33/1.

## **K. Adoption of the report of the session**

37. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representatives of Argentina, Australia, Canada (also on behalf of Australia and New Zealand), Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Mali, New Zealand (also on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium,

Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Mexico, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay), Pakistan, Spain and the United States of America made statements as observer States on the adopted resolutions.

38. At the same meeting, the Vice-President and Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council made a statement on the draft report of the Council on its thirty-third session.

39. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft report (A/HRC/33/2) ad referendum and entrusted the Rapporteur with its finalization.

40. At the same meeting, the representatives of the European Union, the Russian Federation, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements.

41. Also at the same meeting, the observers for the Arab Commission for Human Rights and the International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies and Human Rights Watch) made statements on the session.

42. At the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council made a closing statement.

## II. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

### A. Update by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

43. At the 1st meeting, on 13 September 2016, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement providing an update of the activities of his Office.

44. At the 4th and 5th meetings, on 14 September 2016, and at the 7th meeting, on 15 September, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on the oral update by the High Commissioner, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, China, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of)<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Latvia, Maldives, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Slovakia<sup>2</sup> above (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Eritrea, Fiji, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Nepal, Norway, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United States of America, Uzbekistan;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, All-China Environment Federation, Alsalam Foundation, American Association of Jurists (also on behalf of International Educational Development, the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations and Liberation), Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Auspice Stella, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Canners International Permanent Committee, Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, European Union of Public Relations,

<sup>2</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Federación de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, Indian Council of South America, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Muslim Women's Union, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights, International-Lawyers.Org, Iraqi Development Organization, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Nonviolent Radical Party; Transnational and Transparty, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Save the Children International (also on behalf of Arigatou International, Defence for Children International, the International Catholic Child Bureau and International Social Service), United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, Women's Human Rights International Association, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Barua Organization, World Environment and Resources Council, World Muslim Congress.

45. At the 5th meeting, on 14 September 2016, the representatives of Bahrain, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, India, Japan, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Turkey made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

46. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Japan, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

## **B. Reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

47. At the 10th meeting, on 16 September 2016, the Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) presented thematic reports prepared by OHCHR and the Secretary-General under agenda items 2, 3, 5 and 8.

48. At the 10th, 11th and 12th meetings, on the same day, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on the thematic reports under agenda items 2 and 3 presented by the Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR (see chap. III, sect. C).

49. At the 20th meeting, on 21 September 2016, and at the 25th and 26th meetings, on 23 September, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 5, and at the 29th and 30th meetings, on 26 September, the Council held a general debate on agenda item 8, including on the thematic reports under agenda items 2, 5 and 8 presented by the Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR (see chap. V, sect. E, and chap. VIII, sect. B).

50. At the 36th meeting, on 28 September 2016, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented country reports of OHCHR and the Secretary-General submitted under agenda items 2 and 10.

51. At the 37th and 38th meetings, on 29 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 10, including on reports under agenda items 2 and 10 presented by the Deputy High Commissioner (see chap. X, sect. G).

## C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

### **Human rights situation in Yemen**

52. Draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.32 was sponsored by Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Canada, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Malta, Norway, Slovakia, Spain and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

53. As notified to the secretariat, draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.32 was withdrawn by the sponsors on 29 September 2016, prior to its consideration by the Human Rights Council.

### **Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in the Sudan**

54. Draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.33 was sponsored by the United States of America and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Austria, Greece and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

55. As notified to the secretariat, draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.33 was withdrawn by the sponsors on 29 September 2016, prior to its consideration by the Human Rights Council.

### **III. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development**

#### **A. Interactive dialogue with special procedure mandate holders**

##### **Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order**

56. At the 1st meeting, on 13 September 2016, the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, Alfred de Zayas, presented his report (A/HRC/33/40).

57. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 1st and 2nd meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Maldives, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libya, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Tunisia;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alliance Defending Freedom, American Association of Jurists, Arab Commission for Human Rights (also on behalf of Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue), Centre Europe-tiers monde, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, FIAN International, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations, International-Lawyers.Org, International Muslim Women's Union, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Iuventum, Kham Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture.

58. At the 2nd meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

##### **Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights**

59. At the 1st meeting, on 13 September 2016, the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, Idriss Jazairy, presented his reports (A/HRC/33/48 and Add.1).

60. At the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.

61. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 1st and 2nd meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of)<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Russian Federation, South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Sudan<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus, Egypt, Fiji, Libya, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Association of Jurists, Arab Commission for Human Rights (also on behalf of Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue), International-Lawyers.Org, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence.

62. At the 2nd meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

### **Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation**

63. At the 2nd meeting, on 13 September 2016, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, Léo Heller, presented his reports (A/HRC/33/49 and Add.1-3).

64. At the same meeting, the representatives of Botswana, El Salvador and Tajikistan made statements as the States concerned.

65. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 13 September 2016, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Dominican Republic<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Egypt<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Bangladesh, Brazil, Croatia, France, Germany, Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain and Uruguay), Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Namibia, Pakistan<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Switzerland, Togo;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Austria, Bahrain, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Fiji, Greece, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Libya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Peru, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sudan, Uruguay;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Arab Commission for Human Rights, Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Franciscans International, International Lesbian and Gay Association, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

66. At the 3rd meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

### **Working Group on Arbitrary Detention**

67. At the 2nd meeting, on 13 September 2016, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, Sètondji Adjovi, presented the reports of the Working Group (A/HRC/33/50 and Add.1-2, and A/HRC/33/66).

68. At the same meeting, the representative of Malta made a statement as the State concerned.

69. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 2nd and 3rd meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Chair-Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, China, Cuba, Dominican Republic<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Indonesia, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Austria, Bahrain, Brazil, Denmark, Egypt, Greece, Iraq, Japan, Libya, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, Ukraine, United States of America, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alsalam Foundation, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy,

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Human Rights House Foundation, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations, Jssor Youth Organization, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik.

70. At the 3rd meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

71. At the same meeting, the representative of China made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

### **Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons**

72. At the 7th meeting, on 15 September 2016, the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, Rosa Kornfeld-Matte, presented her reports (A/HRC/33/44 and Add.1).

73. At the same meeting, the representative of Costa Rica made a statement as the State concerned.

74. Also at the same meeting, the national human rights institution, La Defensoría de los Habitantes de Costa Rica, made a statement.

75. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 7th and 8th meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, China, Cuba, Dominican Republic<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ecuador, El Salvador, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Slovenia (also on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Brazil, El Salvador, Montenegro, Namibia, Portugal, Singapore, Tunisia and Uruguay), South Africa (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Sudan<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Egypt, Fiji, Greece, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Libya, Malaysia, Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United States of America, Holy See;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union;

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alliance Defending Freedom, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland (also on behalf of the International Lesbian and Gay Association), HelpAge International, Human Rights Watch, International Longevity Center Global Alliance.

76. At the 8th meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

### **Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances**

77. At the 8th meeting, on 15 September 2016, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, Houria Es-Slami, presented the reports of the Working Group (A/HRC/33/51 and Add.1-3).

78. At the same meeting, the representatives of Peru, Sri Lanka and Turkey made statements as the States concerned.

79. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 8th and 9th meetings, on 15 September 2016, the following made statements and asked the Chair-Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, China, Cuba, Dominican Republic<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), France, Kenya, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Chile, Egypt, Greece, Honduras, Iraq, Libya, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukraine, United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Commission of Jurists, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, Nonviolence International.

80. At the 9th meeting, on the same day, the Chair-Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

### **Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and its consequences**

81. At the 8th meeting, on 15 September 2016, the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and its consequences, Urmila Bhoola, presented her reports (A/HRC/33/46 and Add.1).

82. At the same meeting, the representative of El Salvador made a statement as the State concerned.

83. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 8th and 9th meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Cuba, Ecuador, France, Ghana, India, Kenya, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Chile, Egypt, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Liechtenstein, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Thailand, Uganda, United States of America;

(c) Observer for a United Nations entity, specialized agency and related organization: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Anti-Slavery International, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, World Environment and Resources Council.

<sup>3</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

84. At the 9th meeting, on the same day, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

**Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination**

85. At the 9th meeting, on 15 September 2016, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, Patricia Arias, presented the reports of the Working Group (A/HRC/33/43 and Add.1-4).

86. At the same meeting, the representatives of the European Union, Belgium, Tunisia and Ukraine made statements as the parties concerned.

87. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 10th meeting, on 16 September 2016, the following made statements and asked the Chair-Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Russian Federation, South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Alsalam Foundation, Canners International Permanent Committee, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture.

88. At the same meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

**Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes**

89. At the 9th meeting, on 15 September 2016, the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, Baskut Tuncak, presented his reports (A/HRC/33/41 and Add.1-2).

90. At the same meeting, the representatives of Germany and the Republic of Korea made statements as the States concerned.

91. Also at the same meeting, the national human rights institution, the National Human Rights Commission of Korea, made a statement.

92. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 10th meeting, on 16 September 2016, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Brazil, Costa Rica, Egypt, Peru, Sierra Leone, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for a United Nations entity, specialized agency and related organization: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Center for International Environmental Law (also on behalf of Earthjustice), Conectas Direitos Humanos, Human Rights Now, Iuventum.

93. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

### **Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples**

94. At the 17th meeting, on 20 September 2016, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, presented her reports (A/HRC/33/42 and Add.1-3).

95. At the same meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Albert Kwokwo Barume, presented the reports of the Expert Mechanism (A/HRC/33/56, A/HRC/33/57 and A/HRC/33/58) (see chap. V, sect. B).

96. Also at the same meeting, the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples, Claire Charters, made a statement.

97. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil, Finland, Honduras, Norway and Sweden made statements as the States concerned.

98. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 17th and 18th meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur and the Chair-Rapporteur of the Expert Mechanism questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Dominican Republic<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ecuador, Mexico, Nigeria, Paraguay, Philippines, Russian Federation, South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Australia (also on behalf of Canada and New Zealand), Canada, Chile, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Guatemala, Iceland (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libya, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Spain, Sudan, Ukraine, United States of America;

(c) Observer for a United Nations entity, specialized agency and related organization: International Labour Organization (ILO);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (by video message);

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Conectas Direitos Humanos, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, FIAN International, Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries, Indian Council of South America, Indian Law Resource Centre (also on behalf of the Native American Rights Fund), International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (Switzerland), Iraqi Development Organization, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Palestinian Return Centre, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, World Barua Organization, World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations.

99. At the 18th meeting, on the same day, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

100. At the same meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Expert Mechanism answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

## B. Panel discussions

### High-level panel discussion on the fifth anniversary of the United Nations declaration on human rights education and training

101. At the 6th meeting, on 14 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 31/21, a high-level panel discussion on the fifth anniversary of the United Nations declaration on human rights education and training.

102. The Director of the Division of Education 2030 Support and Coordination of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made opening statements for the panel discussion. The Associate Professor of International Law at the University of Roma Tre in Italy, Cristiana Carletti, moderated the discussion.

103. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Minister for Education of Costa Rica, Sonia Marta Mora Escalante; Secretary for Human Rights at the Ministry of Justice of Brazil, Flavia Piovesan; Chair of the Conseil national des droits de l'homme du Maroc, Driss el Yazami; Executive Director at the Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence in Montréal, Herman Deparice-Okomba.

104. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Dominican Republic<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Indonesia, Morocco (on behalf of States members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie), Pakistan<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Slovenia, Switzerland, Timor-Leste<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Greece;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, the Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, the Foundation for GAIA, the Global Eco-Village Network, Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos, the International Catholic Child Bureau, the International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Lazarus Union, Make Mothers Matter, ONG Hope International, the Planetary Association for Clean Energy, Soroptimist International, the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem and the Teresian Association), Soka Gakkai International.

105. At the end of the first speaking slot, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

106. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Congo, Ecuador, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Viet Nam;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Argentina, Poland, Thailand;

(c) Observer for a national human rights institution: Danish Institute for Human Rights;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Association of Jurists (also on behalf of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation and Liberation), Norwegian Refugee Council.

107. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

#### **Annual half-day discussion on the human rights of indigenous peoples**

108. At the 16th meeting, on 20 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolutions 18/8 and 30/4, a half-day panel discussion on the causes and consequences of violence against indigenous women and girls, including those with disabilities.

109. The Director of the Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division of OHCHR made an opening statement for the panel discussion. The Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Albert Kwokwo Barume, moderated the discussion.

110. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: President of the Sami Parliament of Norway, Aili Keskitalo; Director of Fundación Paso a Paso in Mexico, Olga Montúfar Contreras; OHCHR Senior Indigenous Fellow and Senior Indigenous Research Fellow at Curtin University in Australia, Hannah McGlade; Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz.

111. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting, on the same day. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Canada<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia), China, Dominican Republic<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ecuador, Georgia, Norway<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden), South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Greece, Guatemala, United States of America;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, International Development Law Organization;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Australian Human Rights Commission (by video message);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Defence for Children International.

112. At the end of the first speaking slot, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

113. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Congo, France, Maldives, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Paraguay, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Colombia, Egypt, Fiji, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Senegal, Spain, Tunisia;

(c) Observer for a United Nations entity, specialized agency and related organization: United Nations Population Fund;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Conselho Indigenista Missionário, FIAN International, Graduate Women International (also on behalf of the International Alliance of Women, the International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education and Zonta International), Indian Law Resource Centre.

114. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

#### **Panel discussion on youth and human rights**

115. At the 23rd meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 32/1, a panel discussion on youth and human rights.

116. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel discussion. The Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth, Ahmad Alhendawi, made a statement (by video message). The Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Anna Korka, moderated the discussion.

117. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Virginia Bras Gomes; President of the European Youth Forum, Johanna Nyman; Representative of the Asociación de Tierra de Jóvenes in El Salvador, Simon-Pierre Escudero; Representative of the Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Maria D'Onofrio; Head of the Social and Human Sciences Sector at the UNESCO Multisectoral Regional Office for Central Africa in Cameroon, Yvonne Matuturu.

118. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Canada<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the International Organization of la Francophonie), Dominican Republic<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), El Salvador, Georgia, Philippines (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Portugal, Sudan<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia (also on behalf of Canada and New Zealand), Bosnia and Herzegovina;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Australian Human Rights Commission (by video message);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, World Young Women's Christian Association.

119. At the end of the first speaking slot, at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

120. The following made statements during the second speaking slot:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Maldives, Namibia, Republic of Korea;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Austria, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Italy, Libya, Pakistan, Romania, Spain, United States of America;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Save the Children International (also on behalf of Child Helpline International, the Consortium for Street Children, Defence for Children International, Edmund Rice International, Franciscans International and the International Federation of Social Workers).

121. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

### C. General debate on agenda item 3

122. At the 10th meeting, on 16 September 2016, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development, Zamir Akram, presented the report of the Working Group on its seventeenth session (A/HRC/33/45).

123. At the 10th, 11th and 12th meetings, on the same day, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on thematic reports under agenda items 2 and 3, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, China, China (also on behalf of the Group of African States, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Russian Federation), Cuba, Czechia<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Botswana, Indonesia, the Netherlands and Peru), Dominican Republic<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ecuador, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of)<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Colombia, Czechia, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Greece, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Mali, Mauritania, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America), Morocco, Namibia, Namibia (also on behalf of Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Portugal, Rwanda, San Marino, Spain, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Ukraine and Uruguay), Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey), South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Sudan<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Benin, Brazil, Canada, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, Finland, Greece, Haiti, Iraq, Ireland, Libya, Malaysia, Montenegro, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Uganda, United States of America, Holy See;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, All-China Environment Federation, Alliance Defending Freedom, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association of World Citizens, Associazione Comunità Papa

Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of the American Association of Jurists, the Arab Commission for Human Rights, Caritas Internationalis, the Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers, Edmund Rice International, the International Catholic Migration Commission, the International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, the International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, New Humanity, Pax Christi International, the Teresian Association and the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), Auspice Stella, Canners International Permanent Committee, Center for Environmental and Management Studies, Center for Reproductive Rights, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, European Union of Public Relations, Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance, Federación de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Foundation of Japanese Honorary Debts, France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Franciscans International, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Helios Life Association, Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries, Human Rights Now, Indian Council of South America, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Bar Association, International Career Support Association, International Commission of Jurists, International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (Switzerland), International Educational Development, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations, International-Lawyers.Org, International Muslim Women's Union, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iraqi Development Organization, Iuventum, Kham Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Korea Center for United Nations Human Rights Policy, Liberal International, Liberation, Make Mothers Matter, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Norwegian Refugee Council, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Prahar, Reporters sans frontières international, Union of Arab Jurists, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Barua Organization, World Evangelical Alliance, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress.

124. At the 12th meeting, the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Japan, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

125. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

## **D. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences**

126. At the 38th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.2, sponsored by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United

States of America. Subsequently, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Botswana, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Cuba, Czechia, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Lithuania, Maldives, Mongolia, Norway, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

127. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

128. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/1).

### **The safety of journalists**

129. At the 38th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of Austria, also on behalf of Brazil, France, Greece, Morocco, Qatar and Tunisia, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.6, sponsored by Austria, Brazil, France, Greece, Morocco, Qatar and Tunisia, and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Canada, the Central African Republic, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Maldives, Mongolia, New Zealand, Paraguay, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Senegal, the Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

130. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a general comment on the draft resolution.

131. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

132. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/2).

### **Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order**

133. At the 38th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of Cuba, also on behalf of Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Namibia, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.7, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Namibia, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Algeria, the Dominican Republic, Indonesia, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, South Africa and the Syrian Arab Republic joined the sponsors.

134. At the same meeting, the representative of Slovenia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

135. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Slovenia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.7. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia,

Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, France, Germany, Latvia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Georgia, Kenya, Mexico, Paraguay, Togo

136. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 30 votes to 12, with 5 abstentions (resolution 33/3).

**The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination**

137. At the 38th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of Cuba, also on behalf of Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Namibia, Nicaragua, Panama, South Africa and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.8, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Namibia, Nicaragua, Panama, South Africa and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Chile and the Dominican Republic joined the sponsors.

138. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

139. At the same meeting, the representative of Slovenia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

140. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Slovenia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.8. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Togo, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, France, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Ghana, Mexico

141. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 32 votes to 13, with 2 abstentions (resolution 33/4).

**The human rights of older persons**

142. At the 38th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representatives of Brazil and Argentina introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.9, sponsored by Argentina and Brazil, and co-sponsored by Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Colombia, Cyprus, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Slovenia, Spain, Timor-Leste, Turkey and Uruguay. Subsequently, Algeria, Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Costa Rica,

Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, Morocco, Namibia, Paraguay, Singapore and Tunisia joined the sponsors.

143. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

144. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/5).

145. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Slovenia made a general comment.

146. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Belgium, France and the Netherlands) made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

#### **The role of prevention in the promotion and protection of human rights**

147. At the 38th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of Ukraine, also on behalf of Australia, Hungary, Maldives, Morocco, Poland and Uruguay, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.12, sponsored by Australia, Hungary, Maldives, Morocco, Poland, Ukraine and Uruguay, and co-sponsored by Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Fiji, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Panama, Peru, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Czechia, the Dominican Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Haiti, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Libya, Lithuania, Mexico, Mongolia, New Zealand, Norway, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste and Tunisia joined the sponsors.

148. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

149. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/6).

#### **Unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents and human rights**

150. At the 38th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of El Salvador introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.13, sponsored by El Salvador and co-sponsored by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Thailand, Ukraine, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and the State of Palestine. Subsequently, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Japan, South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States) and Turkey joined the sponsors.

151. At the same meeting, the representative of Slovenia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

152. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

153. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

154. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/7).

### **Local government and human rights**

155. At the 39th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of the Republic of Korea, also on behalf of Chile, Egypt and Romania, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.14/Rev.1, sponsored by Chile, Egypt, the Republic of Korea and Romania, and co-sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Djibouti, France, Georgia, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Malta, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Spain, Thailand and the United States of America. Subsequently, Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Maldives, Norway, Panama, Senegal, Sri Lanka, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

156. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

157. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/8).

### **The right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health**

158. At the 39th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of Brazil introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.15, sponsored by Brazil and co-sponsored by Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Libya, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey joined the sponsors.

159. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

160. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/9).

### **The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation**

161. At the 39th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of Germany, also on behalf of Spain, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.19, sponsored by Germany and Spain, and co-sponsored by Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mali, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, the Congo, Costa Rica, Czechia, Egypt, Honduras, Ireland, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Namibia, Norway, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Viet Nam and Yemen joined the sponsors.

162. At the same meeting, the representative of Kyrgyzstan orally amended the draft resolution.

163. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Germany made a statement on the proposed oral amendment to the draft resolution.

164. At the same meeting, the representatives of Namibia and Paraguay made general comments on the draft resolution and on the proposed oral amendment.

165. Also at the same meeting, the representative of China, the President of the Human Rights Council and a representative of OHCHR made statements.

166. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

167. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, a recorded vote was taken on the proposed oral amendment. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Nigeria

*Against:*

Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, Ecuador, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, El Salvador, Mongolia, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

168. The Human Rights Council rejected the proposed oral amendment by 25 votes to 7, with 15 abstentions.

169. At the same meeting, the representative of Kyrgyzstan made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.19.

170. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Kyrgyzstan, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Algeria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Kyrgyzstan

*Abstaining:*

El Salvador, Kenya, Nigeria, Russian Federation

171. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 42 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions (resolution 33/10).

172. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Ecuador made statements in explanation of vote after the vote.

**Preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age as a human rights concern**

173. At the 39th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of Ireland, also on behalf of Austria, Botswana and Mongolia, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.20,

sponsored by Austria, Botswana, Ireland and Mongolia, and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Australia, Bulgaria, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Haiti, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mozambique, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, the United States of America and Zambia joined the sponsors.

174. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

175. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/11).

#### **Human rights and indigenous peoples: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples**

176. At the 39th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of Mexico, also on behalf of Guatemala, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.23, sponsored by Guatemala and Mexico, and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Norway, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and the United States of America. Subsequently, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Germany, Hungary, New Zealand, Paraguay, Poland, the Russian Federation and Slovenia joined the sponsors.

177. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

178. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/12).

179. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia made a general comment.

#### **Human rights and indigenous peoples**

180. At the 39th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of Mexico, also on behalf of Guatemala, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.24, sponsored by Guatemala and Mexico, and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Luxembourg, Norway, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Spain, Sweden and the United States of America. Subsequently, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Germany, Haiti, Lithuania, New Zealand, Paraguay, Poland, the Russian Federation, Slovenia and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

181. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

182. At the same meeting, the representative of France, also on behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

183. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/13).

184. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia made a general comment.

### **The right to development**

185. At the 39th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.29, sponsored by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, and co-sponsored by China. Subsequently, Armenia and Kazakhstan joined the sponsors.

186. At the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela orally revised the draft resolution.

187. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Cuba, India, Kyrgyzstan and South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States) made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

188. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

189. At the same meeting, the representatives of Mexico, Slovenia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

190. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

#### *In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Togo, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

#### *Against:*

France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

#### *Abstaining:*

Albania, Belgium, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

191. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised by 34 votes to 2, with 11 abstentions (resolution 33/14).

### **Preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights**

192. At the 40th meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Colombia, also on behalf of Burkina Faso and New Zealand, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.3/Rev.1, sponsored by Burkina Faso, Colombia and New Zealand, and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Austria, Liechtenstein, Romania, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine. Subsequently, Australia, Belgium, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

193. At the same meeting, the representative of Colombia orally revised the draft resolution.

194. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendments A/HRC/33/L.38, A/HRC/33/L.42, A/HRC/33/L.46, A/HRC/33/L.49 and A/HRC/33/L.51 to draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.3/Rev.1 as orally revised, and announced that amendments A/HRC/33/L.39, A/HRC/33/L.40, A/HRC/33/L.41, A/HRC/33/L.43, A/HRC/33/L.44, A/HRC/33/L.45, A/HRC/33/L.47, A/HRC/33/L.48 and A/HRC/33/L.50 had been withdrawn.

195. Amendments A/HRC/33/L.38, A/HRC/33/L.47, A/HRC/33/L.48, A/HRC/33/L.49 and A/HRC/33/L.51 were sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, China, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) joined the sponsor. Amendments A/HRC/33/L.39, A/HRC/33/L.41 and A/HRC/33/L.46 were sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) joined the sponsor. Amendments A/HRC/33/L.40, A/HRC/33/L.44 and A/HRC/33/L.50 were sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, China, Egypt and Iran (Islamic Republic of) joined the sponsor. Amendments A/HRC/33/L.42 and A/HRC/33/L.45 were sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Egypt and Iran (Islamic Republic of) joined the sponsor. Amendment A/HRC/33/L.43 was sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Egypt joined the sponsor.

196. At the same meeting, the representative of Belgium made a statement on the proposed amendments to draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.3/Rev.1 as orally revised.

197. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Bangladesh and Mexico made general comments on draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.3/Rev.1 as orally revised and on the proposed amendments.

198. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

199. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Belgium, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/33/L.38. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Botswana, Burundi, China, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Morocco, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador, France, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Namibia, Philippines, Togo, Viet Nam

200. The Human Rights Council adopted amendment A/HRC/33/L.38 by 20 votes to 18, with 7 abstentions.<sup>4</sup>

201. At the same meeting, the representatives of Georgia and Switzerland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/33/L.42.

202. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of Belgium and Switzerland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/33/L.42. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya,

<sup>4</sup> The delegations of Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) did not cast a vote.

Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Russian Federation, South Africa, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, France, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Mexico, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Congo, Ethiopia, Namibia, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Togo, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam

203. The Human Rights Council adopted amendment A/HRC/33/L.42 by 23 votes to 13, with 10 abstentions.<sup>5</sup>

204. At the same meeting, the representatives of Albania and Mexico made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/33/L.46.

205. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Belgium, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/33/L.46. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, France, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Morocco, Viet Nam

206. The Human Rights Council adopted amendment A/HRC/33/L.46 by 22 votes to 17, with 5 abstentions.<sup>6</sup>

207. At the same meeting, the representative of the Netherlands made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/33/L.49.

208. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Belgium, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/33/L.49. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bangladesh, Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, Ecuador, France, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Morocco, Namibia, Philippines, Togo, Viet Nam

209. The Human Rights Council adopted amendment A/HRC/33/L.49 by 22 votes to 16, with 6 abstentions.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> The delegation of Cuba did not cast a vote.

<sup>6</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) did not cast a vote.

210. At the same meeting, the representatives of Mexico and the Netherlands made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/33/L.51.

211. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Belgium, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/33/L.51. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Togo, United Arab Emirates

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Mexico, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Ecuador, Mongolia, Morocco, Philippines, Viet Nam

212. The Human Rights Council adopted amendment A/HRC/33/L.51 by 24 votes to 15, with 5 abstentions.<sup>6</sup>

213. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bangladesh, Cuba, El Salvador, Panama, the Russian Federation and Saudi Arabia (also on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the Sudan and the United Arab Emirates) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.3/Rev.1 as orally revised and amended. In its statement, the representative of Saudi Arabia (also on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the Sudan and the United Arab Emirates) disassociated the member States from the consensus on the eleventh, thirteenth and twentieth preambular paragraphs and paragraph 1. In its statement, the representative of Bangladesh disassociated the member State from the consensus on the third preambular paragraph and paragraph 1. In their statements, the representatives of El Salvador and Panama disassociated the member States from the consensus.

214. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised and amended without a vote (resolution 33/18).

215. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Slovenia made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

### **Human rights and transitional justice**

216. At the 40th meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Switzerland, also on behalf of Argentina and Morocco, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.10, sponsored by Argentina, Morocco and Switzerland, and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Togo and Uruguay. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Angola, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Djibouti, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United States of America and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

217. At the same meeting, the representative of Switzerland orally revised the draft resolution.

218. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Cuba introduced amendments A/HRC/33/L.36 and A/HRC/33/L.37 to the draft resolution as orally revised.

219. Amendment A/HRC/33/L.36 was sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by China and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Egypt and Iran (Islamic Republic

of) joined the sponsors. Amendment A/HRC/33/L.37 was sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by China and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Egypt joined the sponsors.

220. At the same meeting, the representative of Morocco made a statement on the proposed amendments to the draft resolution as orally revised.

221. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Belgium, Morocco, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised and on the proposed amendments.

222. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

223. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Netherlands and Panama made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/33/L.36.

224. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Morocco, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/33/L.36. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Congo, Cuba, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Burundi, Ecuador, Namibia, Nigeria, Philippines

225. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/33/L.36 by 24 votes to 18, with 5 abstentions.

226. At the same meeting, the representatives of Albania and Mexico made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/33/L.37.

227. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Morocco, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/33/L.37. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Congo, Cuba, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Ecuador, Namibia, Nigeria, Philippines

228. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/33/L.37 by 24 votes to 19, with 4 abstentions.

229. At the same meeting, the representatives of Germany, the Russian Federation and Switzerland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote on retaining the nineteenth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution as orally revised.

230. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Russian Federation, a recorded vote was taken on retaining the nineteenth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Against:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Burundi, China, Congo, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)<sup>7</sup>

*Abstaining:*

El Salvador, Indonesia, Namibia, Nigeria, Viet Nam

231. The Human Rights Council retained the nineteenth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution as orally revised by 26 votes to 16, with 5 abstentions.

232. At the same meeting, the representatives of Algeria, Ecuador, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Viet Nam made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised.

233. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Cuba, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Against:*

Congo<sup>8</sup>

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

234. The Human Rights Council adopted draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.10 as orally revised by 29 votes to 1, with 17 abstentions (resolution 33/19).

235. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representatives of the Congo and Mongolia made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

<sup>7</sup> The representative of Mongolia subsequently stated that there had been an error in the delegation's vote and that it had intended to vote in favour of retaining the nineteenth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.10 as orally revised.

<sup>8</sup> The representative of the Congo subsequently stated that there had been an error in the delegation's vote and that it had intended to vote in favour of the draft text.

### Cultural rights and the protection of cultural heritage

236. At the 40th meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Cyprus, also on behalf of Ethiopia, Greece, Iraq, Ireland, Mali, Poland, Serbia and Switzerland, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.21, sponsored by Cyprus, Ethiopia, Greece, Iraq, Ireland, Mali, Poland, Serbia and Switzerland, and co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Germany, Honduras, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Panama, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Thailand. Subsequently, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Benin, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Libya, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United States of America and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

237. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendment A/HRC/33/L.35 to the draft resolution.

238. Amendment A/HRC/33/L.35 was sponsored by the Russian Federation and co-sponsored by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Subsequently, the Islamic Republic of Iran joined the sponsors.

239. At the same meeting, the representative of Switzerland made a statement on the proposed amendment to the draft resolution.

240. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a general comment on the draft resolution and on the proposed amendment.

241. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

242. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Switzerland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/33/L.35. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bangladesh, Burundi, China, Congo, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, Kenya, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa

243. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/33/L.35 by 22 votes to 14, with 10 abstentions.<sup>9</sup>

244. At the same meeting, the representatives of China and the Russian Federation made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

245. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.21 without a vote (resolution 33/20).

<sup>9</sup> The delegation of Cuba did not cast a vote.

### Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

246. At the 40th meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Mexico introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.27/Rev.1, sponsored by Mexico and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Panama, Peru, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America joined the sponsors.

247. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico orally revised the draft resolution.

248. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation presented nine oral amendments to the draft resolution as orally revised.

249. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement on the proposed oral amendments to the draft resolution as orally revised.

250. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Belgium and Slovenia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised and on the proposed oral amendments.

251. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation presented a tenth oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised.

252. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement on the proposed tenth oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised.

253. At the 41st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representatives of Mexico and the Russian Federation made statements on the proposed tenth oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised, which was withdrawn. The representative of the Russian Federation also announced that the second, third, fourth and fifth oral amendments to the draft resolution as orally revised could be considered together.

254. At the same meeting, the representatives of Mexico and Switzerland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the first oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised.

255. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Mexico, a recorded vote was taken on the first oral amendment. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Congo, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Philippines, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Botswana, El Salvador, Mongolia, Namibia, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Togo, United Arab Emirates

256. The Human Rights Council rejected the first oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised by 20 votes to 15, with 10 abstentions.<sup>10</sup>

257. At the same meeting, the representatives of Albania, France, Mexico and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the second, third, fourth and fifth oral amendments to the draft resolution as orally revised.

258. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Mexico, a recorded vote was taken on the second, third, fourth and fifth oral amendments. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Burundi, China, India, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Kenya, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Panama, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Botswana, Congo, El Salvador, Indonesia, Mongolia, Namibia, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Togo, United Arab Emirates

259. The Human Rights Council rejected the second, third, fourth and fifth oral amendments to the draft resolution as orally revised by 25 votes to 8, with 11 abstentions.<sup>11</sup>

260. At the same meeting, the representatives of Mexico and the Netherlands made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the sixth oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised.

261. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Mexico, a recorded vote was taken on the sixth oral amendment. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Kenya, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Botswana, Congo, El Salvador, Namibia, Nigeria, Qatar, Togo, Viet Nam

262. The Human Rights Council rejected the sixth oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised by 22 votes to 15, with 9 abstentions.<sup>12</sup>

263. At the same meeting, the representatives of Mexico and Panama made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the seventh oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised.

<sup>10</sup> The delegations of Cuba and Paraguay did not cast a vote.

<sup>11</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba and Paraguay did not cast a vote.

<sup>12</sup> The delegation of Paraguay did not cast a vote.

264. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Mexico, a recorded vote was taken on the seventh oral amendment. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, France, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Botswana, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ghana, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Togo

265. The Human Rights Council adopted the seventh oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised by 19 votes to 17, with 10 abstentions.<sup>12</sup>

266. At the same meeting, the representatives of Mexico and Switzerland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the eighth oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised and amended.

267. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Mexico, a recorded vote was taken on the eighth oral amendment. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Congo, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, France, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Botswana, El Salvador, Ghana, Indonesia, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Togo

268. The Human Rights Council rejected the eighth oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised and amended by 21 votes to 16, with 8 abstentions.<sup>13</sup>

269. At the same meeting, the representatives of Belgium, Georgia and Mexico made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the ninth oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised and amended.

270. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Mexico, a recorded vote was taken on the ninth oral amendment. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Burundi, Cuba, Ecuador, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Philippines, Portugal,

<sup>13</sup> The delegations of Cuba and Paraguay did not cast a vote.

Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Botswana, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Qatar, Togo

271. The Human Rights Council rejected the ninth oral amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised and amended by 21 votes to 11, with 13 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

272. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cuba, Mexico, Namibia, the Russian Federation, South Africa and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised and amended.

273. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Russian Federation, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised and amended. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Algeria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam

*Abstaining:*

Burundi, China, El Salvador, India, Paraguay, Philippines, Russian Federation, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

274. The Human Rights Council adopted draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.27/Rev.1 as orally revised and amended by 38 votes to none, with 9 abstentions (resolution 33/21).

275. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Switzerland made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

### **Equal participation in political and public affairs**

276. At the 41st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Czechia, also on behalf of Botswana, Indonesia, the Netherlands and Peru, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.28, sponsored by Botswana, Czechia, Indonesia, the Netherlands and Peru, and co-sponsored by Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Panama, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and the United States of America. Subsequently, Argentina, Australia, Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Guatemala, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Serbia, Tunisia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the sponsors.

277. At the same meeting, the representative of Czechia orally revised the draft resolution.

278. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendment A/HRC/33/L.34 to the draft resolution as orally revised.

<sup>14</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Paraguay did not cast a vote.

279. Amendment A/HRC/33/L.34 was sponsored by the Russian Federation and co-sponsored by Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Egypt and Iran (Islamic Republic of) joined the sponsors.

280. At the same meeting, the representative of the Netherlands made a statement on the proposed amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised.

281. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Botswana, Indonesia, Mexico and the Republic of Korea made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised and on the proposed amendment.

282. At the same meeting, a representative of the Programme Support and Management Services of OHCHR made a statement on the budgetary implications of the draft resolution as orally revised and on the proposed amendment.

283. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Albania, Georgia, the Netherlands, Paraguay and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia made statements in explanation of vote before the vote on amendment A/HRC/33/L.34 to the draft resolution as orally revised.

284. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Netherlands, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/33/L.34. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, India, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:*

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Togo

285. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/33/L.34 by 25 votes to 17, with 5 abstentions.

286. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, Cuba, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) and South Africa made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised. In their statements, the representatives of China, Cuba, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) and South Africa disassociated the member States from the consensus on paragraphs 8, 9, 10 and 11.

287. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.28 as orally revised without a vote (resolution 33/22).

### **Arbitrary detention**

288. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of France introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.22, sponsored by France and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Angola, Armenia, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czechia, Germany, Honduras, Hungary, Japan, Lithuania, Morocco, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the sponsors.

289. At the same meeting, the representative of Kyrgyzstan orally amended the draft resolution.

290. Also at the same meeting, the representative of France made a statement on the proposed oral amendment to the draft resolution.

291. At the same meeting, the representatives of Mexico, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland made general comments on the draft resolution and on the proposed oral amendment.

292. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

293. At the same meeting, the representative of Belgium made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the proposed oral amendment to the draft resolution.

294. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of France, a recorded vote was taken on the proposed oral amendment. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, India, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Albania, Algeria, Belgium, Botswana, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cuba, Indonesia, Kenya, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

295. The Human Rights Council rejected the proposed oral amendment by 32 votes to 4, with 11 abstentions.

296. At the same meeting, the representative of Kyrgyzstan made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

297. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Kyrgyzstan, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Algeria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Abstaining:*

Kyrgyzstan

298. The Human Rights Council adopted draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.22 by 46 votes to none, with 1 abstention (resolution 33/30).

## IV. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

### A. Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic

299. At the 13th meeting, on 19 September 2016, the Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 31/17, the report of the Commission (A/HRC/33/55).

300. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

301. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Algeria, Belgium, Botswana, China, Cuba, Ecuador, France, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Slovenia, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Bahrain, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark (also on behalf of Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), Egypt, Estonia, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Union of Arab Jurists, United Nations Watch, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Council of Arameans (Syriacs), World Jewish Congress.

302. At the 14th meeting, on the same day, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made final remarks as the State concerned.

303. At the same meeting, the Chair answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

### B. General debate on agenda item 4

304. At the 14th and 15th meetings, on 19 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 4, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Ecuador, France, Georgia, Germany, India, Maldives, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia<sup>15</sup> (on behalf of the European Union), Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Egypt, Eritrea, Iceland, Iran

<sup>15</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

(Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Japan, Norway, Pakistan, Solomon Islands, Spain, Ukraine, United States of America;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters, African Development Association, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Agence pour les droits de l'homme, Alliance Defending Freedom, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association Dunenyo, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association of World Citizens, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Baha'i International Community, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Canners International Permanent Committee, Center for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conectas Direitos Humanos, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, European Union of Public Relations, France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Pax Christi International), Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, Indian Council of South America, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Commission of Jurists, International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (Switzerland), International Educational Development, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations, International-Lawyers.Org, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (also on behalf of Franciscans International and Human Rights Now), International Muslim Women's Union, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iraqi Development Organization, Kham Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Odhikar: Coalition for Human Rights, Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Prahar, Presse emblème campagne, Reporters sans frontières internationale, Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of the Environment, Palestinian Return Centre, Tournier la page, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, Victorious Youths Movement, VIVAT International (also on behalf of Franciscans International), Women's Human Rights International Association, World Barua Organization, World Council of Arameans (Syriacs), World Environment and Resources Council, World Evangelical Alliance, World Muslim Congress.

305. At the 15th meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brazil, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

306. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

## C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

### The human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic

307. At the 41st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United States of America, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.30, sponsored by France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Australia, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Ukraine. Subsequently, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Georgia, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Maldives, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Arab Emirates joined the sponsors.

308. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland orally revised the draft resolution.

309. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Ecuador, France, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia and Slovenia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

310. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

311. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

312. At the same meeting, the representatives of Algeria, China, Cuba, Switzerland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

313. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Russian Federation, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Against:*

Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Bangladesh, Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Namibia, Nigeria, Philippines, South Africa, Togo, Viet Nam

314. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised by 26 votes to 7, with 14 abstentions (resolution 33/23).

315. At the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a general comment.

### Situation of human rights in Burundi

316. At the 41st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Slovakia, on behalf of States members of the European Union, introduced draft resolution

A/HRC/33/L.31, sponsored by Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and co-sponsored by Andorra, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro and the United States of America. Subsequently, Albania, Argentina, Costa Rica, Georgia, New Zealand, Norway and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

317. At the same meeting, the representative of Slovakia orally revised the draft resolution.

318. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Burundi made a statement as the State concerned.

319. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

320. At the same meeting, the representatives of Albania and the Russian Federation made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

321. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Burundi, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Belgium, El Salvador, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Latvia, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Against:*

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Morocco, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Botswana, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Namibia, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Togo, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam

322. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised by 19 votes to 7, with 21 abstentions (resolution 33/24).

323. At the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a general comment.

324. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Burundi and Saudi Arabia (also on behalf of Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Egypt, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Qatar, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) made statements in explanation of vote after the vote.

## V. Human rights bodies and mechanisms

### A. Complaint procedure

325. At its 12th meeting, on 16 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held a closed meeting of the complaint procedure.

326. At the 26th meeting, on 23 September 2016, the President made a statement on the outcome of the meeting, stating that the Human Rights Council had examined, in a closed meeting, the report of the Working Group on Situations on its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions, under the complaint procedure established pursuant to Council resolution 5/1. The Working Group on Situations had not referred any cases to the Council for action at its thirty-third session.

### B. Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

327. At the 17th meeting, on 20 September 2016, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Albert Kwokwo Barume, presented the reports of the Expert Mechanism (A/HRC/33/56, A/HRC/33/57 and A/HRC/33/58).

328. At the at the 17th and 18th meetings, on the same day, the Human Rights Council held an interactive dialogue on the human rights of indigenous peoples under agenda items 3 and 5 (see chap. III, sect. A).

### C. Interactive dialogue with the Advisory Committee

329. At the 18th meeting, on 20 September 2016, the Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee, Imeru Tamrat Yigezu, presented the reports of the Committee (A/HRC/33/52, A/HRC/33/53 and A/HRC/33/54).

330. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Vice-Chair questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, China, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Argentina, Pakistan;

(c) Observer for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of the Arab Commission for Human Rights, Caritas Internationalis, the Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Edmund Rice International, the Foundation for GAIA, the Global Eco-Village Network, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, the International Catholic Child Bureau, the International Catholic Migration Commission, the International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, Pax Christi International, the Planetary Association for Clean Energy and the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Tourner la page.

331. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

## **D. Open-ended intergovernmental working group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas**

332. At the 20th meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Chair-Rapporteur of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, Nardi Suxo Iturry, presented the report of the working group on its third session, held from 17 to 20 May 2016 (A/HRC/33/59).

## **E. General debate on agenda item 5**

333. At its 20th meeting, on 21 September 2016, and at its 25th and 26th meetings, on 23 September, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 5, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Dominican Republic<sup>16</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Latvia (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay), Nicaragua<sup>16</sup> (also on behalf of Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam), Nigeria, Slovakia<sup>16</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine), South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Switzerland, Turkey<sup>16</sup> (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and Yemen), United States of America<sup>16</sup> (also on behalf of Canada and Mexico), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Egypt, Hungary, Ireland, Jordan, Libya, Nicaragua, Norway;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Africa culture internationale, Alsalam Foundation, American Association of Jurists, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association

<sup>16</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

des étudiants tamouls de France, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association of World Citizens, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Canners International Permanent Committee, Center for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre Europe-tiers monde, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, European Union of Public Relations, FIAN International, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Earthjustice), Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Human Rights Law Centre, Indian Council of Education, Indian Council of South America, Indian Law Resource Centre, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (Switzerland), International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies, International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations, International Muslim Women's Union, International Service for Human Rights, Iraqi Development Organization, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Prahar, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Barua Organization, World Environment and Resources Council, World Muslim Congress.

## **F. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

334. At the 41st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Guatemala, also on behalf of Mexico, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.25, sponsored by Guatemala and Mexico, and co-sponsored by Australia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Spain and the United States of America. Subsequently, Canada, Chile, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Germany, Hungary, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, the Russian Federation, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

335. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

336. At the same meeting, the representative of Indonesia made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution. In its statement, the representative of Indonesia disassociated the member State from the consensus on paragraph 2 (c) of the draft resolution.

337. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/25).

## VI. Universal periodic review

338. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/251, Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, Council decision 17/119 and President's statements PRST/8/1 and PRST/9/2 on modalities and practices for the universal periodic review process, the Council considered the outcome of the reviews conducted during the twenty-fifth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, held from 2 to 13 May 2016.

339. In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the President stated that all recommendations must be part of the final outcome of the universal periodic review and accordingly, the State under review should clearly communicate its position on all of the recommendations by indicating that it either "supported" or "noted" each recommendation.

### A. Consideration of the universal periodic review outcomes

340. In accordance with paragraph 4.3 of President's statement PRST/8/1, the following section contains a summary of the views expressed on the outcome by States under review, member and observer States of the Human Rights Council, as well as general comments made by other stakeholders before the adoption of the outcome by the Council in plenary session.

#### Suriname

341. The review of Suriname was held on 2 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Suriname in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SUR/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SUR/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SUR/3).

342. At its 19th meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Suriname (see sect. C below).

343. The outcome of the review of Suriname comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/4), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/4/Add.1).

#### 1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

344. The delegation of Suriname recalled at the outset the constructive review held during the twenty-fifth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and the commitment of Suriname, expressed by the head of the delegation, the Minister for Justice and Police, Jennifer van Dijk-Silos, to implement the recommendations that the State had supported during its second review, and to work to address the challenges it faced, with the expectation that Suriname would receive the support and assistance of the Human Rights Council.

345. During the review, Suriname had received 148 recommendations, of which 105 had been supported during the session of the Working Group and 43 had been deferred, as they had required further consideration.

346. Of the remaining recommendations requiring further consideration, an additional 11 recommendations had enjoyed the support of Suriname; therefore, over 75 per cent of all of the recommendations, including those already accepted during the session of the Working Group in May, had been accepted.

347. The delegation highlighted the fact that the Government had already started implementing a few recommendations.

348. The delegation clarified the position of Suriname with regard to the recommendation contained in paragraph 135.1, which had been partly noted and partly supported. The part relating to the ratification of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment had already been accepted during the State's review.

349. However, at that stage, Suriname could only note the rest of the recommendation relating to the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).

350. The delegation stressed the fact that the ratification of the conventions and optional protocols required further national consultations and amendments of national legislation and policies to comply with the obligations contained in those instruments.

351. With regard to the recommendation contained in paragraph 135.33, at that stage, Suriname could only note the reference to sexual orientation and gender identity.

352. As a multicultural society, the subject of sexual orientation and gender identity required a broad-based consultation process at the national level, involving all sectors of society, including civil society. On 30 August 2016, a working group on diversity and inclusivity had been established with the mandate to conduct hearings with civil society. Against that backdrop, a workshop was planned for 17 May 2017 to discuss the outcome of those hearings.

353. The delegation reassured the Human Rights Council that an all-inclusive policy would be in accordance with article 8 (2) of the Constitution of Suriname, which underscored the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds of birth, sex, race, language, religious origin, education, political beliefs, economic position or any other status.

354. Other noted recommendations required further broad-based consultations with relevant stakeholders. The Government was therefore not in a position to pre-empt the outcome of those consultations.

355. As stated during the State's review, Suriname remained committed to the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the country. Furthermore, and in keeping with article 8 of the Constitution, Suriname remained committed to doing so based on the principle of equality.

356. The constructive dialogue during the session of the Working Group and the subsequent recommendations, especially those that had enjoyed the support of Suriname, provided an impetus for Suriname to continue the implementation of policies to ensure the enjoyment of all human rights for all. Furthermore, those recommendations constituted a solid framework for the State's human rights agenda.

357. The delegation reiterated the fact that the promotion and protection of human rights was inextricably linked with the achievement of sustainable development. Therefore, in its long-term sustainable development strategy, measures were included to guarantee that a human rights-based approach would be taken.

358. In closing, the delegation assured the Human Rights Council that Suriname was committed to working towards the implementation of the recommendations that it had supported.

## 2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

359. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Suriname, 14 delegations made statements.

360. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the openness and willingness of Suriname during the universal periodic review process. It appreciated the fact that Suriname had given specific responses to the questions raised and had accepted most of the recommendations. Children in Suriname enjoyed free basic health care up to the age of 16 years. The State also provided assistance and facilitated the provision of food to low-income families and persons with disabilities, who received vocational training. Suriname had successfully completed its universal periodic review. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela encouraged Suriname to strengthen its social policies in favour of vulnerable groups.

361. The Bahamas was pleased to note that Suriname had pledged full acceptance of 116 recommendations out of 148, including those that the Bahamas had made to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. The Bahamas congratulated Suriname on its acceptance of a number of recommendations relating to the rights of women, children and young people, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples. It trusted that the full implementation of those and all of the recommendations the State had accepted would serve to further strengthen the existing framework of human rights protection in Suriname. The Bahamas also acknowledged the significant progress made by the State, despite its inherent challenges and vulnerabilities as a small island developing State.

362. China thanked Suriname for having accepted its recommendations, including those to improve the level of public health, social security and public services for persons with disabilities. It praised Suriname for the State's achievements in economic and social development, cultural diversity and harmony between different ethnic groups. China showed support for Suriname in its efforts to fight domestic violence, promote gender equality, safeguard the rights of the child and combat trafficking in persons.

363. Cuba recognized the priority attached by Suriname to the realization of human rights, including through its efforts to combat gender inequality in the home and in society, the training of public officials and awareness-raising campaigns, the progress made to protect the rights of the child, combating trafficking in persons and poverty reduction. Cuba took positive note of the fact that Suriname had accepted the majority of the recommendations, including the two made by Cuba to take measures to eliminate discrimination against women and improve the rights of women and gender equality, and to continue to provide training and implement measures to tackle trafficking in persons by paying particular attention to the promotion and protection of the rights of the child.

364. India took positive note of the receptive and constructive manner in which Suriname had participated in the universal periodic review mechanism. The review reflected the intense participation and engagement of peer countries, with as many as 55 interventions delivered from the floor and 148 recommendations made. India appreciated the fact that Suriname had accepted the large majority of the recommendations, including the one made by India. It trusted that Suriname would further intensify its efforts to implement in the coming years the recommendations it had accepted.

365. Indonesia commended Suriname for the policies it had adopted to narrow the inequality gaps to improve education, health and socioeconomic conditions. It noted with appreciation the acceptance of its recommendations to further improve access to all levels of education, including in rural areas, and to strengthen the national legal framework to combat torture by considering accession to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Indonesia also noted that its recommendation to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families could not be supported due to the need for further national consultation and the modification of legislation and policies. It

encouraged Suriname to continue to take the initial steps towards its ratification in the future.

366. Maldives welcomed the fact that Suriname had supported 116 recommendations, including those made by Maldives, out of the 148 recommendations made by 55 member States. Although it was facing the structural, economic and societal constraints of being a small island developing State, Suriname had made commendable efforts to reduce inequality and to protect women's and children's rights through new efforts relating to maternity, domestic violence, sexual harassment and child protection. Maldives also commended the State for its efforts to strengthen democracy through legislation on elections and to address remaining challenges and constraints. It strongly encouraged Suriname to continue to cooperate with the treaty bodies, the universal periodic review mechanism, and other international and regional bodies.

367. Nicaragua recalled that, during the review of Suriname, Nicaragua had highlighted the progress made in the country, and it welcomed the legislative and political reforms made to improve the human rights of women and children. It had also congratulated Suriname on having abolished the death penalty in the Criminal Code. It recognized the State's efforts to improve the quality of life and the enjoyment of human rights of its citizens. It encouraged Suriname to implement the recommendations and to continue to strengthen the protection of human rights of its people, particularly the most vulnerable groups, with the assistance and cooperation that the country required.

368. Nigeria commended Suriname for its continued engagement and cooperation with the treaty bodies, the universal periodic review mechanism, and other international and regional bodies with the view to ensuring that the rights and freedoms of all the citizens within the territory of Suriname were observed. Nigeria was pleased that Suriname had taken steps to address the issues of trafficking in persons, poverty reduction, and the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights of vulnerable groups. As a demonstration of the State's resolve, Suriname had made a bold effort to establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).

369. Pakistan appreciated the decision of Suriname to accept 116 of the recommendations made during the session of the Working Group, including those made by Pakistan. It also appreciated the continued engagement of Suriname with the human rights mechanisms and the legislation and policies introduced for the advancement of human rights, including the act on nationality and residency, the act on national basic health insurance, the act on stalking, the comprehensive plan for children and adolescents, and the national action plan for the eradication of child labour. Pakistan welcomed the State's accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the establishment of a national human rights institution and its commitment to having the institution be truly independent and in compliance with the Paris Principles.

370. Paraguay expressed its satisfaction for having been selected to serve as a member of the troika for the universal periodic review of Suriname. It welcomed the acceptance by Suriname of its recommendation to promote gender equality in law and in practice in order to enhance the participation of women in political and economic life. The ratification of some international instruments would be a step towards implementing that recommendation, such as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which had been recommended by a number of States. Paraguay understood the need for progress in national consultations and legislative harmonization in order to ensure the proper implementation of international human rights instruments.

371. The Republic of Korea welcomed the acceptance by Suriname of its recommendations to establish a national human rights mechanism in line with the Paris Principles and regular training for law enforcement and judicial officers regarding gender-based violence. It hoped that those recommendations would contribute to the efforts of Suriname to further improve the human rights situation on the ground. It endorsed the adoption of the report of the Working Group.

372. Sierra Leone commended Suriname for its consistent commitment to human rights, as demonstrated by the policies and strategies that had been implemented since its review in 2011, and during the twenty-fifth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. Notable efforts included programmes to combat domestic violence effectively, the enforcement of the mandatory schooling age and the increase in the age of compulsory education to 16 years by 2017. It noted that three of the five recommendations made by Sierra Leone had enjoyed the support of Suriname, and in that respect, it encouraged Suriname to consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It was also pleased to note that Suriname intended, through its draft legislation, to increase the age of marriage to 18 years for both boys and girls, in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

373. Haiti thanked Suriname for having accepted its recommendations to train magistrates and law enforcement officers to fight against trafficking in persons, to create a national human rights institution as provided for by the decree of 1991, modified in March 2015, and to finalize the draft law on persons with disabilities. Haiti wished Suriname every success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

374. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Suriname, one other stakeholder made a statement.

375. Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland applauded the demonstration by Suriname of its commitment to the non-discrimination principle by having passed legislation to prohibit discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. It commended the State for the amendments in 2015 to the Penal Code to specifically include sexual orientation and the alignment of the age of consent for same-sex and opposite-sex sexual conduct. However, significant advances in the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons had not yet been made, especially the inclusion of gender identity and sex characteristics. It therefore welcomed new responses of Suriname, which affirmed the commitment to universal enjoyment of all human rights by all. It strongly encouraged Suriname to remain committed to the principles of equality, dignity and non-discrimination as set forth by the Constitution and within international human rights standards, specifically by establishing the proclaimed institute of human rights to also encompass a watchful eye over the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. It called upon Suriname to act on all recommendations on sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics by exercising an integrated approach involving all relevant levels of government. It also called upon Suriname to sustain and broaden the relationship with constituencies from a “one government” perspective extending beyond a single ministerial level. It commended the Ministry of Justice and Police for having included and recognized lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex activists in the recently established committee for diversity and inclusion. It emphasized and expressed its willingness to cooperate and support any intervention leading to better human rights enjoyment for the Surinamese population as a whole and more specifically for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex population in Suriname.

### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

376. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 148 recommendations received, 116 had enjoyed the support of Suriname, and 30 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on two recommendations, indicating which part of those recommendations had been supported and which part had been noted.

377. The delegation once again thanked member and observer States and representatives of civil society organizations for their support for the universal periodic review of Suriname. The delegation assured the Human Rights Council that the Government and all the relevant stakeholders in the country would work closely on implementing the recommendations that had enjoyed the support of Suriname and on the recommendations that, for now, had been noted. The delegation stated that Suriname looked forward to

receiving support from all and it expressed hope that the State could work in the same constructive way for the future for the full implementation of the recommendations.

### **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

378. The review of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was held on 2 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/VCT/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/VCT/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/VCT/3).

379. At its 19th meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (see sect. C below).

380. The outcome of the review of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/5), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/5/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

381. The High Commissioner of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Cenio Lewis, stated that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was pleased to return to the Human Rights Council for the adoption of the report of the Working Group. The delegation presented the position of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on the recommendations received and indicated that, out of a total of 128 recommendations, the State had accepted 75 and noted 53.

382. With respect to the recommendations on the ratification of international human rights instruments, the delegation clarified that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had already ratified and acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Although the State had noted the recommendations contained in paragraphs 80.1 to 80.22 (excluding the recommendations contained in paragraphs 80.13 and 80.18, which it had accepted), it would continue to work to complete the ratification and/or accession to other major international instruments relating to human rights.

383. The delegation emphasized the fact that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had recently established a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up, which would review and expedite compliance with the country's outstanding treaty obligations and enhance its cooperation with international mechanisms.

384. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had accepted the recommendations to continue to seek the technical assistance necessary to enable the State to meet its various human rights commitments, as well as the recommendations to continue efforts to harmonize its national legislation with international human rights standards. It had accepted the recommendations to take appropriate steps to facilitate the adoption of legislation on gender equality and to amend national legislation to grant women rights equal to those of men with regard to citizenship for foreign spouses.

385. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with OHCHR, was currently engaged in a week-long capacity-building workshop for members of the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up, public sector officials and representatives from civil society to enhance the capacity of the country to prepare reports for the United Nations human rights treaty bodies and to develop a draft human rights implementation plan. The State was pleased that OHCHR had responded to its call for technical assistance made during previous sessions of the Human Rights Council. The delegation reiterated the request for continued capacity-building support.

386. The delegation stated that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had strengthened its national institutional and legislative legal framework and highlighted the adoption of three recent pieces of legislation, namely the Domestic Violence Act of 2015, the Child Care and Adoption Act of 2010 and the Status of Children Act of 2011. The delegation was also pleased to inform the Human Rights Council that, in recognition of the continuing worldwide threats through the Internet to children, in August 2016 the State had passed the Cybercrime Act, which carried severe penalties, particularly for offences relating to child pornography. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had accepted the recommendations on human rights education and training for those responsible for the protection of the rights of women and children and pledged to continue its ongoing efforts in that area.

387. As a small island developing State, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had been ravaged by the impacts of climate change and it therefore had accepted recommendations to promote strategies for the mitigation of climate change and to disseminate such information through schools and other educational means.

388. The delegation concluded by stating that the Constitution of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines expressly guaranteed the protection of the right to life, personal liberty, freedom of conscience, expression, association and movement, and that it further provided protection from slavery, inhuman treatment, deprivation of property, arbitrary arrest or entry, discrimination on the grounds of sex, race, place of origin, political opinions, colour or creed, and that it secured protection of the law, including the right to a fair hearing and the presumption of innocence.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

389. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, 10 delegations made statements.

390. Pakistan appreciated the decision of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to accept many of the recommendations that had been made during the review and to review other recommendations, including those made by Pakistan. It appreciated the efforts of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to progressively improve human rights by strengthening its national and legislative legal framework, including through consideration to establish a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up. It also appreciated the launch of the national child protection policy framework and the commitment of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

391. Sierra Leone commended Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for its national strategies on poverty reduction and its efforts to improve investment, trade and education in the country. In spite of national legislation upholding the death penalty, there had been no executions since 1993. In that regard, Sierra Leone encouraged the State to continue to engage in dialogue with a view to establishing a moratorium on the death penalty. It also encouraged Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to increase the legal age of marriage to 18 years and to submit its overdue reports to the four relevant United Nations treaty bodies. As a small island State, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines should seek the technical support and assistance necessary to be able to meet its human rights commitments.

392. UNICEF, on behalf of the United Nations Subregional Team for Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, welcomed the decision of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to create a national human rights institution, and it commended the State for the launch in 2016 of its national child protection policy framework. It urged Saint Vincent and

the Grenadines to pass and proclaim the Child Justice Bill, which embraced restorative justice and non-punitive approaches. It stated that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines should be commended for having passed the new Domestic Violence Act and for the adoption of the national action plan on gender-based violence, and it urged the Government to ensure the implementation of those important pieces of legislation through appropriate resource allocation. It commended the State for its decision to establish an institutionalized, permanent mechanism to coordinate government engagement with international and regional human rights mechanisms.

393. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela indicated that the humanist policy of social sensitivity of Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves was reflected in the successful programmes aimed at the most vulnerable, and that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had managed to immunize 100 per cent of its children. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela congratulated the State on its excellent results from the second universal periodic review and it encouraged the country to continue to strengthen its social policies, particularly in favour of the most vulnerable.

394. The Bahamas commended Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for having supported 75 of the 128 recommendations, including those made by the Bahamas relating to international technical assistance, opportunities to support national reporting under the international human rights instruments and the promotion of public awareness on provisions under the new Domestic Violence Act. The Bahamas welcomed the State's acceptance of several recommendations relating to institutional measures, including all of the recommendations concerning the establishment of both the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up and the national human rights institution. The Bahamas called upon the international community to support Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

395. Cuba recognized the challenges faced by small island developing States and it called upon the international community to provide whatever assistance Saint Vincent and the Grenadines might request. Cuba committed to providing international cooperation by sharing, in solidarity, its experiences. It welcomed the fact that the State had accepted most of the recommendations, including the two made by Cuba to implement the initiative for the total eradication of hunger and to continue to implement measures to reduce domestic violence and violence against women.

396. Haiti thanked Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for having accepted its recommendations relating to the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up within the framework of international instruments, the continuation of social sector programmes and policies, the strengthening of trainings for those tasked with the protection of the rights of women and children, and the promotion of the dissemination of strategies for climate change mitigation. Haiti wished Saint Vincent and the Grenadines success in the implementation of the recommendations.

397. Maldives welcomed the fact that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had accepted 75 of the 128 recommendations made by 46 States during the review. It appreciated the fact that the State had accepted the recommendations made by Maldives and it was encouraged by the State's commitment to further inclusivity for persons with disabilities within society. Maldives was pleased by the commitment made by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to ratify national legislation on gender equality. It wished the State success in the implementation of the recommendations.

398. Nicaragua congratulated Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on the reforms and improvements made in the institutional and legal framework and the implementation of policies and programmes to improve the human rights of women and children. It welcomed the Domestic Violence Act, the Child Care and Adoption Act, and the Status of Children Act, as well as the elaboration of the national action plan on gender-based violence and the implementation of a training programme for those responsible for protecting the rights of women and children, among other measures. It encouraged the State to implement the recommendations from its universal periodic review, relying on international cooperation and assistance if required.

399. Nigeria noted with appreciation that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had ratified several key international human rights treaties since the previous review, which was an

indication of the State's strong commitment to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights of all of its citizens. Nigeria wished Saint Vincent and the Grenadines success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

### 3. General comments made by other stakeholders

400. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, no other stakeholder made statements.

### 4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

401. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 128 recommendations received, 75 had enjoyed the support of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and 53 had been noted.

402. The delegation welcomed the constructive spirit in which the recommendations had been made throughout the review process, and it stated that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had carefully considered each of them with the level of seriousness it deserved. The fact that not all of the recommendations had been accepted should not be seen as being due to a lack of political will or a lack of commitment to human rights; rather, it was to be understood in the context of what national circumstances currently allowed. The delegation stressed the fact that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was conscious that there was room for improvement.

403. The delegation emphasized the fact that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines addressed human rights issues through consultation, engagement with civil society, a best practice approach, and a frank and open debate, taking into account the views of the various constituents of the society. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was proud of the progress it had made after only 37 years of independence, a short period of time compared to the experience of many other States, and it was fully committed to cooperating with the international community and the international human rights mechanisms in the advancement of the human rights of its people. The delegation stressed the valuable role of the universal periodic review in that regard, and it reassured the Human Rights Council of the continuing engagement of the State.

404. Lastly, the delegation expressed its sincere appreciation to the States that had participated in the review in May 2016 and had provided suggestions and constructive comments. It thanked the staff of the Universal Periodic Review Branch of OHCHR for their hard work and contribution to the universal periodic review of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

### Samoa

405. The review of Samoa was held on 3 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Samoa in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/WSM/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/WSM/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/WSM/3).

406. At its 19th meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Samoa (see sect. C below).

407. The outcome of the review of Samoa comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/6), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and

replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/6/Add.1).

**1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome**

408. On 29 August 2016, Samoa sent a letter stating that, unfortunately, it was not in a position to send a representative to the thirty-third session of the Human Rights Council. Subsequently, Samoa sent a document and a statement indicating its position on all of the pending recommendations. At its 19th meeting, on 21 September, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of Samoa, based on the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of Samoa, as contained in documents A/HRC/33/6 and A/HRC/33/6/Add.1.

**2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

409. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Samoa, nine delegations made statements.

410. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that Samoa was a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and underscored the constitutional reform of 2013 establishing a quota of 10 per cent for female representation. It welcomed the establishment of an inclusive and mandatory education system and it urged the international community to support and cooperate with Samoa in the field of human rights. It recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of Samoa.

411. China appreciated the acceptance by Samoa of recommendations on economic growth, educational opportunities for children, vocational training, the strengthening of women's and children's rights, and social integration. It applauded Samoa for its decision to incorporate the Sustainable Development Goals into its national development strategy, and it called upon the international community to provide technical assistance and support for the State's development path. It supported the adoption by the Human Rights Council of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of Samoa.

412. The Congo underlined the engagement of Samoa in strengthening its collaboration with human rights protection mechanisms. While encouraging Samoa to pursue the reinforcement of its legal and institutional human rights framework, the Congo recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of Samoa.

413. Cuba congratulated Samoa on the effective implementation of the recommendations received in its first review and noted the positive developments with regard to children with disabilities, gender equality and women's participation in the political sphere. It welcomed the acceptance by Samoa of the recommendations made by Cuba, which, in the opinion of Cuba, was taking steps to create an environment conducive to economic growth and improved services, especially for the most marginalized segments of its population. Cuba recommended the adoption of the report on Samoa.

414. Fiji welcomed the commitment of Samoa to ensure the protection of victims of domestic violence under the Family Safety Act and it noted that Samoa had accepted the recommendation made by Fiji on that issue. It encouraged Samoa to continue to take concrete measures to implement the Family Safety Act among law enforcement agencies, with the aim of achieving the substantial protection of all victims of domestic violence and ensuring that they had access to justice. As a fellow Pacific Island country, Fiji remained available to partner with and assist Samoa in the implementation of its recommendation on judicial training.

415. Haiti thanked Samoa for having taken into account its recommendations relating to discrimination against women, sexual and domestic violence, including a registry of the

perpetrators of sexual crimes, and climate change. Haiti supported the adoption of the report of the Working Group.

416. Maldives welcomed the acceptance by Samoa of the recommendations received, including the three recommendations made by Maldives, and it congratulated the State on the progress it had made in the legislative landscape, particularly the constitutional amendment of June 2013 introducing a 10 per cent quota for the representation of women in the national Legislative Assembly.

417. Nigeria acknowledged the commitment of the Government of Samoa to ensure the ratification of all the core human rights conventions to safeguard its citizens and their rights. It commended Samoa for its continued engagement with the universal periodic review process and it supported the adoption of the report on Samoa.

418. Pakistan noted with satisfaction the recent legislative measures taken by Samoa, including the Family Safety Act, the Labour and Employment Relations Act and amendments to the Crimes Act. It commended the State for the steps it had taken to enhance the participation of women in political affairs, including through the establishment of a quota in the Legislative Assembly. Lastly, Pakistan appreciated the commitment of Samoa to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by the end of 2016.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

419. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Samoa, four other stakeholders made statements.

420. Action Canada for Population and Development stated that the response of Samoa to the recommendations on discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and on provisions criminalizing same-sex relations between consenting adults, were unclear and did not specifically address discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity. Moreover, the recommendations calling upon Samoa to repeal all provisions criminalizing same-sex relations between consenting adults had only been noted. The argument of Samoa that the repeal of all provisions criminalizing same-sex relations was not possible due to cultural sensitivities and Christian beliefs, and that the acceptance of such recommendations would go against the spirit of the Constitution of Samoa, was not acceptable. It urged the Government of Samoa to repeal laws that criminalized persons based on their gender or sexual orientation and affirm the rights of persons who identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender.

421. The International Lesbian and Gay Association noted that Samoa had received nine recommendations relating to the full decriminalization of homosexuality, and it welcomed the acceptance by Samoa of the recommendation made by the Netherlands to prohibit discrimination on the grounds of gender identity in employment legislation and to consider the amendment of the Labour and Employment Relations Act of 2013. According to the International Lesbian and Gay Association, the Government of Samoa needed to work to ensure that sexual orientation and gender identity protections were enshrined in the State's legislation. Religion was often used as a convenient means to discriminate, vilify, torture and imprison lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex citizens around the world.

422. The International Humanist and Ethical Union was concerned about the inclusion of Christianity as the official State religion in the new Constitution of Samoa, and it noted that, although not prohibited under international human rights law, such a move could introduce a factor of discrimination in the exercise of freedom of religion and belief. It was indeed alarmed that freedom of religion and belief was at stake on the island, bearing in mind the unavailability of places of worship in the villages. It called upon Samoa to cease any plan to establish an official State religion and it recommended that the State better ensure the implementation of freedom of religion and belief at the local level in villages across the country.

423. The Center for Global Nonkilling renewed its call for the establishment of regional human rights mechanisms in the Pacific region, as everywhere. Those mechanisms alleviated the United Nation's work on human rights and they were more apt to address

local customs in accordance with international standards. The Center commended Samoa for having accepted recommendations on many aspects of violence, and it demanded more work from the Human Rights Council, member States and the secretariat on suicide prevention. In Samoa, as everywhere, the duty to respect the right to life implied a State duty to help people to come to better terms with life, and with the possibility to celebrate life as it deserved to be.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

424. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 129 recommendations received, 92 had enjoyed the support of Samoa, and 35 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on two recommendations, indicating which part of the recommendation had been supported and which part had been noted.

##### **Greece**

425. The review of Greece was held on 3 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Greece in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/GRC/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/GRC/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/GRC/3).

426. At its 21st meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Greece (see sect. C below).

427. The outcome of the review of Greece comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/7), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/7/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

428. The delegation stressed the importance Greece attached to the universal periodic review and outlined the process of drafting the national report for the universal periodic review process, which had involved the close cooperation of all ministries involved in the promotion and protection of human rights, and consultations with the Greek National Commission for Human Rights and civil society organizations. The views of the latter had been taken into account in the finalization of the report.

429. The delegation noted the real interest that had been shown in the situation of human rights in the country through the questions and recommendations Greece had received during the review. Greece believed that the 154 recommendations that it had immediately accepted, with three others already implemented, bore witness to the Government's readiness to adopt a self-critical approach and to consider its achievements not as a cause for complacency, but as a starting point for the further promotion and protection of human rights. It also testified to the Government's political will to acknowledge and address any remaining challenges, shortcomings and impediments to the realization of all human rights for all. Greece had subsequently detailed its position on the pending recommendations; 170 recommendations had been accepted, 3 had already been implemented, 2 had been partially accepted and 32 had been noted.

430. Several delegations had noted the negative impact of the economic crisis on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights. The extreme and horizontal austerity measures had led to sharp increases in the percentage of the population at risk of poverty and in the unemployment rate, in particular the youth unemployment rate. Greece regretted that the international community had not been able to adopt a human rights-based response to debt crises and conduct thorough human rights impact assessments. The line of thinking according to which austerity was the cure for all economic ills had unfortunately prevailed. Greece was, however, encouraged that it was becoming increasingly evident to stakeholders that financial assistance programmes should take into account, and not undermine, a State's obligation to respect, protect and fulfil economic, social and cultural rights. In that spirit, the Government had been striving, while implementing the latest financial agreement, to achieve fair burden sharing and to protect the rights of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable. Laws had been enacted to provide basic goods and services for those living in extreme poverty and health coverage for all uninsured individuals, regardless of nationality or residence status. While recognizing that the financial situation hampered its efforts, Greece also acknowledged that financial constraints could not be an excuse for shortcomings in the protection of human rights.

431. The current migration and refugee crisis was one of the most pressing challenges that the international community was facing and, as the main entry gate to Europe, Greece had received about 1 million refugees and irregular migrants since the beginning of 2015, and more than 160,000 persons since the beginning of 2016. The people of Greece, in particular local communities on the islands, had welcomed them and catered to their immediate needs, despite the limited resources available. Those unprecedented flows had not led to an increase in the number of racist or xenophobic attacks. The incendiary rhetoric targeting them, so prevalent elsewhere, had not found sympathy among the Greek population, but Greece was fully aware of the future danger of rising racism and xenophobia.

432. Greece had adopted the necessary legal framework for the implementation of the European Union-Turkey Statement of March 2016, while fully respecting international human rights and refugee law, and the European Union *acquis*. All asylum requests were being examined on a case-by-case basis; there were no collective expulsions, and the principle of non-refoulement was scrupulously observed. The delegation noted that about 60,000 people were stranded in Greece as a result of the closure of borders along the Western Balkans migration route and it described the State's efforts in the pre-registration of their asylum claims, and the provision of reception facilities and host family programmes in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Greece was striving to address the challenges in the protection of unaccompanied minors and was reviewing legislation so as to create an improved framework in accordance with international standards and to increase the number of places available to house them.

433. Although Greece attached particular importance to the integration of refugees and migrants, the high unemployment level did not facilitate their access to the labour market. Greek legislation guaranteed the right to free education for all children, regardless of their status, including refugees, and the delegation described the emergency action plan for the education of refugee children which had recently been adopted. The delegation emphasized that an international crisis of such magnitude could only be tackled through international cooperation and burden sharing.

434. In relation to the fight against racism and discrimination, the delegation acknowledged that extremist organizations had attempted to exploit the discontent of some segments of the population severely disadvantaged by the economic crisis. The delegation referred to an ongoing trial, which included some Members of Parliament, for related crimes; recent laws to strengthen criminal anti-racism legislation; the appointment of special prosecutors for racist crimes; the establishment of specialized police units; the development of a unified database for registering hate crimes; and the involvement of civil society organizations, the Greek National Commission for Human Rights and UNHCR in Greece in combating racist violence.

435. The delegation referred to the recent draft bill on equal treatment, which further expanded the prohibited grounds of discrimination and designated the bodies responsible for ensuring compliance, and to the draft bill on the investigation of allegations of ill-treatment by law enforcement and detention facility personnel, which was a task also assigned to an independent authority, namely the Greek ombudsman, as recommended by various international bodies and by States during the universal periodic review.

436. Greece would spare no effort to ensure the effective implementation of the recommendations it had accepted. The outcome would be widely disseminated and the recommendations taken into consideration in the preparation of the new national action plans on human rights and on the rights of the child. Civil society and national human rights institutions would be included in the follow-up activities.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

437. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Greece, 17 delegations made statements.<sup>17</sup>

438. Albania noted that Greece had supported most of the recommendations made during the review, in particular its own recommendations to improve the treatment of migrants, asylum seekers, Roma and other marginalized groups by law enforcement officers, and to establish an independent mechanism to investigate allegations of torture by police officers.

439. Armenia thanked Greece for the additional information provided. It appreciated the State's commitment to the universal periodic review. It welcomed the acceptance of a significant number of recommendations, including those made by Armenia and it hoped to continue its close cooperation with Greece in the context of the universal periodic review and the Human Rights Council.

440. Botswana appreciated the additional information on the establishment of the national action plan on human rights and the national council against racism and intolerance. It commended Greece for its efforts to deal with racist violence through the strengthening of legislation, and it encouraged Greece to continue to improve the centres that housed unaccompanied migrant minors and children with disabilities.

441. Bulgaria commended Greece for the measures taken by the National Commission for Human Rights and the Government to protect the most vulnerable in society, particularly because they were carried out in unfavourable conditions. It commended the State for the national action plan on the rights of the child, the acceptance of its recommendation on female unemployment, the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) and the standing invitation issued to the special procedures.

442. China welcomed the constructive approach of Greece to the universal periodic review and the support given to the majority of the recommendations, including its own to combat racist crimes and hate speech, and to adopt a national action plan on the rights of the child and prioritize the protection of the rights of unaccompanied migrant children. It highly appreciated the initiatives to protect economic, social and cultural rights of the most vulnerable while addressing the economic crisis and alleviating the migrant crisis.

443. Côte d'Ivoire commended Greece for the attention given to the recommendations made during the review and the State's efforts to support many of them. It congratulated Greece for having taken measures to ensure equality and the enjoyment of human rights for all those on its territory and it encouraged Greece to continue its good cooperation with international human rights mechanisms.

444. The Council of Europe welcomed the ratification of the revised European Social Charter. It was concerned about, inter alia, shortcomings in the judicial and penal system,

<sup>17</sup> The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/33rdSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

particularly inadequate investigations into allegations of ill-treatment by law enforcement officers and overcrowding in prisons. It highlighted the cooperation it had received from Greece in addressing those issues. It invited Greece to ratify the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

445. Cuba thanked Greece for the additional information and acknowledged the State's commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights, which had been demonstrated through the acceptance of the majority of the recommendations. Despite the deep economic crisis the country was undergoing, Greece had continued its efforts to meet its human rights commitments. It welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations made by Cuba concerning, *inter alia*, increasing the political participation of women.

446. Cyprus congratulated Greece on its steadfast commitment to the universal periodic review process, and it commended the State for having supported 173 recommendations, including its own. It applauded Greece for its humane and principled approach to the refugee and migrant crisis, and it praised ordinary Greeks for the spirit of solidarity shown in the welcome given to them.

447. Egypt appreciated the progress made by Greece in the areas of social protection, combating racist violence, the rights of the child, human rights education, and the integration of refugees and migrants. It was pleased to note the acceptance of 170 recommendations, including those made by Egypt. It appreciated the commitments to promote the protection and promotion of human rights, despite the economic difficulties and the refugee crisis.

448. Iraq commended the efforts of Greece towards the promotion and protection of human rights and compliance with international conventions and the acceptance of the majority of the recommendations, including the recommendations of Iraq on gender equality and providing care for children. It commended the State for its efforts to support refugees and migrants, and to fight racism, discrimination, hatred and intolerance.

449. Israel commended Greece for its efforts to deal with the refugee crisis and for having provided hospitality and assistance to all people arriving at its coast. It reiterated its support for the adoption of many measures to combat racial discrimination, xenophobia and Holocaust denial. It was pleased that its four recommendations had been immediately accepted and it encouraged Greece in the upcoming implementation phase.

450. Italy welcomed the engagement of Greece in striking a very difficult balance between opposite stances, the reforms agreed upon with international creditors and the efforts to mitigate their impact on the Greek social fabric. The reception of more than 1 million refugees and irregular migrants since the beginning of 2015 and the severe economic crisis had not prevented the people of Greece from welcoming migrants and addressing their immediate needs.

451. Maldives was pleased that Greece had accepted most of the recommendations States had made during the State's review, including its own, and it was greatly encouraged by the State's commitment to promote the rights of vulnerable persons, to combat domestic violence and to further human rights education. It urged Greece to reach out to its international partners for technical cooperation and other assistance.

452. Malta commended Greece for its efforts to rescue people at sea and the solidarity and assistance that it had extended to refugees and migrants. Steps were being taken to introduce legal gender recognition, building upon recent initiatives to fight against discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

453. Nigeria appreciated the fact that most of the recommendations made to Greece had been accepted, including the recommendations made by Nigeria. It believed that would go a long way in strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights of all of the State's citizens and it wished Greece success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

454. Pakistan welcomed the steps being taken by Greece to curtail hate speech, strengthen anti-discrimination legislation and formulate strategies to combat hate speech

made in the media and by public officials. It urged Greece to continue to take steps to protect and promote the human rights of the Muslim minority and to enhance the protection of refugees and migrants already in the country, especially unaccompanied minors and women.

### 3. General comments made by other stakeholders

455. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Greece, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

456. The Greek National Human Rights Commission acknowledged the Government's critical self-assessment, but it stressed that the protection of human rights must be proved in practice and that many measures for the protection of human rights in Greece should be adopted as a matter of urgency. It was pleased that the recommendations had included explicit references to social, economic and cultural rights, and it remained concerned about the severe impact on human rights of the prolonged implementation of austerity measures of permanent character, as well as the adoption of further measures restricting the enjoyment and protection of core labour rights. It called upon the Government to address the existing deficiencies in the investigation of, and awareness-raising on, racism and intolerance towards marginalized groups, and it reiterated its call for the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It was concerned that policies on the social inclusion of Roma were inadequate. Greece needed a comprehensive human rights strategy, including a human rights impact assessment mechanism and action plans.

457. The Jssor Youth Organization commended Greece for its global support of human rights, including its sponsorship of the Human Rights Council resolution on youth and human rights. It noted the significant impact of the economic recession and that unemployment was at about 25 per cent, with youth unemployment at 49.8 per cent. It called upon Greece to find new ideas, through regular consultations with youth groups, to address economic development, employment, social inclusion, health, education, civic engagement, the environment and other issues. That should include structured dialogue between the educational authorities and the private sector to enhance training provision. It also noted that the review lacked recommendations dealing with youth issues and it called for the inclusion of youth in the next review.

458. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme appreciated the political will of Greece to promote tolerance and conduct campaigns in the fight against racism and xenophobia in the country. It called upon the European Union to renew its solidarity with and support to the country in that difficult period in order to ensure that the State's commendable efforts in the management of refugees and migrants would be successful. It was concerned by the refusal of Greece to adopt a sustainable strategy relating to a refugee and migrant management policy and to accede to the relevant conventions. It encouraged the international community to support Greece financially in the integration of migrants on its territory, as the budgetary constraints could not justify exclusion and discrimination.

459. The Arab Commission for Human Rights welcomed the acceptance of the recommendation to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It hoped that Greece would also tackle the issue of its financial commitments to its creditors in a balanced way that would safeguard the enjoyment of the economic, social and cultural rights, as well as the right to development, of all citizens. It was, however, gravely concerned that Greece had rejected the recommendations to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, noting that Greece had long been a country with migration flows. It expressed equal concern that Greece had refused to support the second part of the recommendation contained in paragraph 137.9 calling for legislation to provide full protection against forced labour.

460. The British Humanist Association recommended that Greece integrate the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination into the national legal framework. Referring to those recommendations, it urged Greece to recognize that the fundamental right to freedom of expression should not undermine the

principle of dignity, tolerance, equality and non-discrimination; to bring its anti-racism legal framework into full compliance with the requirements of article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination by restoring the criminalization of the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority; to declare illegal organizations that promoted and incited racial discrimination; and to ensure that it followed through with its commitment to ensure religious freedom and tolerance by decriminalizing blasphemy, as recommended by Brazil in the universal periodic review.

461. The Alliance Defending Freedom supported the recommendations urging Greece to ensure freedom of religion and belief for religious minorities; to prevent violence perpetrated on the basis of national, racial, or religious hatred or intolerance; and to protect freedom of expression. While all European countries restricted freedom of speech to some extent, Greece had a number of restrictions that prima facie violated its obligations to protect freedom of expression under international law. It was the sovereign right of States to choose how to define marriage within their own domestic legal systems, but the right to marry and found a family under international law applied only to “men and women of marriageable age” as per the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

462. Amnesty International welcomed the acceptance by Greece of the recommendations relating to refugees and migrants. It regretted that the State’s current response to the refugee crisis, including the European Union-Turkey Statement of March 2016, was not consistent with international human rights and refugee law. It urged Greece to refrain from returning asylum seekers to Turkey under that deal. It had documented appalling conditions in refugee camps and “hotspots”, including incidents of violence and a lack of security, and it called upon Greece to urgently provide asylum seekers with suitable accommodation, with the support of the European Union, including alternatives to camps. It welcomed the State’s support for the recommendation to fully recognize same-sex relationships and adoption by same-sex couples, and it urged the prompt implementation of those reforms.

463. The International Fellowship of Reconciliation was concerned that Greece had not supported recommendations to ensure that its alternative service was of a nature that was neither punitive nor discriminatory and available to all conscientious objectors to military service. It noted that, in October 2015, the Human Rights Committee had found that the nature, cost and duration of the alternative service were currently punitive and discriminatory, and it was disturbed by reports that there was “discrimination on the basis of different grounds of objection to service”. It referred to a recent judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in which it found a violation because the Greek tribunal that had refused an application to perform alternative service had not been impartial.

464. Human Rights Watch noted that numerous delegations had acknowledged the efforts of Greece, given the challenges posed by significant numbers of arrivals of asylum seekers and migrants, but it shared their concerns about detention and reception conditions and the particular situation of unaccompanied migrant children. It was concerned that, since the implementation of the European Union-Turkey Statement, the majority of asylum seekers and migrants arriving on Greek islands had been restricted to the islands and often held in overcrowded, unsafe “hotspots”, where women and children were at risk of sexual harassment, abuse and trafficking. It urged Greece to fulfil its pledge to establish a well-functioning guardianship and care system for unaccompanied children and implement the other recommendations that it had supported.

465. The Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe regretted that most of the recommendations concerning the rights of the Turkish minority in western Thrace had not enjoyed the support of Greece and that the authorities had not consulted any association of that minority in connection with the State’s national report. It urged Greece to allow the Turkish minority in western Thrace to elect its own religious leaders freely and to restore the educational and religious autonomy of the minority, as enshrined in the Lausanne Peace Treaty of 1923, including by repealing Law 4115/2013. It asked Greece to establish bilingual minority kindergartens in the region of western Thrace and to revise its policies concerning minority primary and secondary schools.

#### 4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

466. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 207 recommendations received, 173 had enjoyed the support of Greece and 32 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another two recommendations, indicating which part of the recommendations had been supported and which part had been noted.

467. Greece was pleased that its efforts to mitigate the impact of the economic crisis on human rights and to protect human rights in the immigration crisis had been recognized by the speakers. The delegation assured the Human Rights Council that the State's efforts would continue in cooperation with all international partners, with special attention given to unaccompanied minors and children with disabilities.

468. Greece clarified that only one group of persons, the Muslim minority in Thrace, consisting of three distinct groups whose members were of Turkish, Pomak and Roma origin, qualified as a minority. The status of that minority had been established by the Lausanne Peace Treaty of 1923, which qualified it as a religious and not a national minority. However, members of groups that were not recognized as minorities fully enjoyed their rights under the relevant human rights treaties. Greece also reiterated that freedom of association was fully protected without discrimination.

469. In relation to the fight against hate speech, racism and xenophobia, the delegation restated the resolve of Greece to continue to implement effectively the measures it had described.

470. In conclusion, the delegation reiterated its thanks to member States and observers for their recommendations. Greece would now focus on the implementation of the recommendations and report back to the Human Rights Council.

#### Sudan

471. The review of the Sudan was held on 4 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by the Sudan in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SDN/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SDN/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SDN/3).

472. At its 21st meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Sudan (see sect. C below).

473. The outcome of the review of the Sudan comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/8), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/8/Add.1).

#### 1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

474. The head of the delegation was pleased to introduce the statement of the Sudan. The delegation reaffirmed the full commitment of the Sudan to the outputs of the universal periodic review mechanism and commended the mechanism for its effective role in the promotion and protection of human rights through constructive cooperation, non-

discriminatory exchanges of experiences, expertise and good practices, and the avoidance of double standards, politicization and selectivity.

475. The delegation extended its sincere thanks to the troika, consisting of Albania, Indonesia and Togo, which had supported the review, and to the secretariat, which had greatly contributed to the facilitation of the review. It appreciated the pivotal role of the Working Group and all States that had contributed to the constructive and meaningful dialogue and made recommendations, intending to support the efforts of the State in protecting and promoting human rights, which the Human Rights Council had been established to achieve.

476. The Sudan had received a total of 244 recommendations and had fully supported about 74 per cent of those recommendations. The delegation expressed the full commitment of the State to make use of the recommendations to achieve its work at the national level as part of its ongoing efforts to protect and promote all human rights.

477. The delegation emphasized the fact that the universal periodic review mechanism had been received with great interest by the State at the highest levels. The Sudan had established a high committee to oversee the participation in the review process and to follow up on the outcomes in order to ensure the implementation of the universal periodic review outputs under the chairmanship of the Vice-President, and the Minister for Justice, who served as the alternate President of the Advisory Council for Human Rights. It had also formed a technical committee, headed by the Undersecretary of the Ministry for Justice and composed of deputy ministers and relevant institutions managers, to oversee the implementation of the universal periodic review outputs at the executive level.

478. The Sudan had received a number of recommendations concerning accession to international human rights instruments and, having concluded legal studies reviewing its concerns, the Sudan had announced its commitment to join the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and the Convention against Discrimination in Education. The Sudan had also agreed to consider acceding to additional international conventions and treaties on human rights in a manner commensurate with the legislative and executive measures existing in the country. The Sudan had taken great steps with regard to 34 recommendations relating to accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by having enhanced dialogue on that Convention at various levels, starting at the grass roots and reaching advanced stages, and it expected to see success from those efforts soon.

479. A number recommendations made by States to combat and prevent the phenomenon of sexual violence and to ensure accountability, particularly with regard to the allegations of rape in areas affected by conflict, were of interest to all State institutions, and they were working to address that issue using remedies available in the national legal framework and to address related social challenges. The Minister for Justice had issued Decision No. 49 on 23 July 2016, adding the two crimes of rape and sexual exploitation of children to the jurisdiction of the Attorney General of the Special Court for Darfur, whose mandate had been established under article 59 (322) of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur.

480. Regarding a number of recommendations on legal and legislative reforms, the Sudan had given them great attention and they were compatible with the State's ongoing efforts, particularly with respect to legislative and legal reform initiatives in the framework of the programme of State reform that had been launched under Council of Ministers Decree No. 140 of 2015. The initiatives included a review of 63 laws, some of which had been enacted some decades before, in order to ensure their full compatibility with the contemporary needs and constitutional obligations of the State.

481. The delegation referred to recommendations the Sudan had received regarding issues that did not comply with the legislative system of the State. Nevertheless, in appreciation for the States that had made those recommendations, the Sudan had taken note of them and remained open to dialogue and cooperation in accordance with its convictions, in order to achieve the appropriate climate for the protection and promotion of human rights while taking into consideration the social and cultural specificity of its people.

482. The determination and efforts of the Sudan to promote and protect human rights were often hindered by serious challenges, such as the double standards imposed and political manipulation by some influential parties, the unjustified hold on technical assistance for national plans and programmes in the field of human rights, and unilateral coercive measures that had created permanent obstacles to the enjoyment of human rights in the Sudan for nearly two decades, as reported and underlined by the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights (A/HRC/33/48/Add.1). The Sudan appealed to the Human Rights Council to support the efforts of the State in accordance with the General Assembly resolutions 60/251 and 65/281 in order to achieve the ultimate goal of protecting and promoting human rights.

483. Lastly, the delegation renewed the commitment of the Sudan to cooperate with international human rights mechanisms, based on the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international human rights treaties to develop friendly relations between States and international organizations on the basis of respect for the cultural specificities of the peoples. The Sudan was committed to making the human rights mechanism a platform for meaningful and substantive dialogue and the exchange of experiences and good practices.

484. The head of the delegation called upon the international community to provide technical assistance and capacity-building for the implementation of the recommendations the Sudan had accepted as it sought to protect and promote human rights in the country.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

485. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Sudan, 17 delegations made statements.<sup>18</sup>

486. The United States of America expressed serious concerns over restricted travel by individuals seeking to participate in a pre-session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in March 2016. It welcomed the decision of the Sudan to accept its recommendation to create an environment that supported inclusive dialogue. It urged the Government to take seriously its commitment to create an environment conducive to negotiations and it welcomed the declaration in June 2016 of a cessation of hostilities in the Two Areas and the end of offensive operations in Darfur, encouraging them to sign a permanent ceasefire. It encouraged all parties to address humanitarian needs in conflict-affected areas.

487. Qatar commended the Sudan for its constructive cooperation with the universal periodic review and its acceptance of a large number of recommendations, including those made by Qatar, which showed the strong will of the Government to profit from that mechanism in order to uphold human rights. It was satisfied with the measures taken that might impact positively on human rights, such as the follow-up on the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur, the accession to a number of international instruments, the reform of national laws, and the implementation of the national action plan on human rights for 2013–2023.

488. Yemen commended the Sudan for the progress it had achieved in the area of human rights, despite the challenges that it was facing. It valued the efforts made by the Sudan to improve the human rights situation. The acceptance of a large number of recommendations emphasized the State's commitment and assured its path towards strengthening human rights in different areas of political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights.

489. Afghanistan welcomed the Sudan and commended the State for its adoption and issuance of laws directed at the promotion and protection of human rights, including the law on freedom of information of 2015, which guaranteed freedom to access and handle information. Afghanistan called for the Sudan to end the violence that was directed towards

<sup>18</sup> The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/33rdSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

or had disproportionate impacts on specific ethnic groups and to ensure that armed forces suspended attacks on civilians and civilian objects.

490. Algeria commended the Sudan for its human rights efforts and accomplishments. It appreciated the State's cooperation with the universal periodic review, which it had showed by having accepted more than 180 recommendations, including those to accede to international human rights instruments. It welcomed progress in reforming the legal framework of human rights in different areas, such as combating trafficking in persons, transparency and combating corruption, and holding elections. It appreciated the adoption of several strategies and national human rights plans and the strengthening of the level of development, despite the negative impact of the unilateral economic sanctions.

491. Angola welcomed the additional information and the acceptance by the Sudan of most of the recommendations, including those made by Angola, and it encouraged the State to continue its cooperation with the Human Rights Council mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights. Angola noted the adoption by the Sudan of the national action plan on human rights and the law on combating trafficking in persons, and it encouraged their full application.

492. Bahrain commended the Sudan for its valuable responses, which confirmed that the State had paid great attention to the universal periodic review mechanism, and for its acceptance of the majority of the recommendations and its progress in implementing them. It emphasized the importance of lifting the unilateral coercive measures that negatively affected vulnerable groups in society, particularly in the areas of education, health and transportation, which might impede the successful implementation of the related recommendations, including the recommendation made by Bahrain to reduce infant and maternal mortality.

493. Belgium appreciated the commitment of the Sudan to strengthen public awareness, security services and the administration of justice with regard to domestic violence, sexual violence and female genital mutilation. It was interested to know what concrete measures were envisaged in that respect and the time frame for their implementation. Belgium encouraged the Sudan to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women as soon as possible. It regretted that the Sudan had not committed to putting in place a moratorium on the death penalty, and it invited the State to reconsider its position and to reduce the number of crimes punishable by the death penalty. It called upon the authorities to lift any restriction against human rights activists, including when they cooperated with international human rights mechanisms.

494. Botswana thanked the Sudan for the additional information provided and it commended the State for the adoption of laws and policies aimed at addressing trafficking in persons, corruption, the protection of children and the empowerment of women. Those efforts demonstrated the efforts of the Sudan to promote and protect the human rights of its people. Botswana encouraged the Sudan to step up efforts in the adoption of a constitution, which was fundamental in ensuring the full enjoyment of human rights by the Sudanese people, in particular civil and political rights.

495. Chad noted that, during the second universal periodic review, the Sudan had received more than 230 recommendations, of which it had accepted more than 190, thereby demonstrating that the State attached great importance to the universal periodic review mechanism. It noted with satisfaction that, since its first review, the Sudan had strengthened fundamental freedoms, despite the unilateral coercive measures to which it had been subjected by some States for several years.

496. China thanked the Sudan for having accepted its recommendations, including those to continue to implement a national strategic plan on education and prioritize education for vulnerable groups, and to eliminate female genital mutilation and child marriage. It commended the Sudan for its formulation of the national action plan on the protection of human rights and continued cooperation with United Nations bodies. Despite the progress made in health, education and other fields, China expressed concern that unilateral sanctions negatively impacted economic and social development, and it called for greater technical assistance and constructive support from the international community.

497. The Congo welcomed the delegation of the Sudan and congratulated the State on the significant institutional and legislative progress that it had made towards developing a legal framework to better promote and protect human rights. It welcomed the continued cooperation of the Sudan with international human rights mechanisms and it invited the international community to support the Sudan as it continued to undergo reform.

498. Côte d'Ivoire thanked the Sudan for its responses and the provision of additional information during the session. It noted the attention given to the recommendations by the Sudan and its acceptance of many of them. Côte d'Ivoire was confident that the Sudan would spare no effort in their implementation. It urged the international community to support the efforts of the Sudan to promote and protect human rights.

499. Cuba thanked the Sudan for the information provided on the 54 recommendations on which a position had not been taken during the twenty-fifth session of the Working Group, and for the acceptance of the recommendations made by Cuba. The fact that the Sudan had accepted the majority of the recommendations confirmed the importance that the State attached to the universal periodic review process and its commitment to human rights; however, Cuba reiterated the need to eliminate unilateral coercive measures imposed on the Sudan in order to advance towards the full realization of human rights for all Sudanese.

500. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea was encouraged by the continued commitment of the Sudan to the promotion and protection of human rights. The interactive dialogue with the delegation of the Sudan had provided an opportunity to have a better understanding of the State's experience and its strenuous striving for the better realization of the human rights of its people under difficult circumstances resulting from unilateral sanctions imposed by some foreign countries. The acceptance by the Sudan of many of the recommendations, including those made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, demonstrated the State's wish to make further efforts in the field of human rights.

501. Djibouti noted with satisfaction the willingness of the Government of the Sudan to strengthen and promote human rights, including by working closely with all of the human rights mechanisms. Most of the recommendations had been accepted by the Government of the Sudan, despite obstacles. It encouraged the State to continue its progress in terms of human rights, including the rights of women, children and displaced persons. It wished the Sudan every success in the effective and efficient implementation of the recommendations.

502. Egypt congratulated the Sudan on having accepted a large number of recommendations. It commended the State for its achievements at the legislative level and the steps taken during the first review. It welcomed the national dialogue, and it hoped that the signing of the road map would achieve peace in all of the Sudan. All of those efforts and achievements had occurred despite the adverse impact of unilateral coercive measures and sanctions, the cost of which, if dedicated to development, could have made a real difference. It supported the efforts of the Special Rapporteur to lift the sanctions, which were considered an obstacle to the efforts of the Sudan to promote and protect human rights.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

503. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Sudan, 10 other stakeholders made statements.<sup>19</sup>

504. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme commended the Sudan for its recent adoption of the act on combating trafficking in persons and the national action plan on human rights, but it noted restricted freedoms of the press, the media, human rights defenders and civil society organizations since April 2015. It was concerned about the persistent recruitment of child soldiers to the Sudanese army and the systematic aggravation of human rights in Darfur, Blue Nile State and South Kordofan. It invited the Sudan to

<sup>19</sup> The statements of the stakeholders that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/33rdSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

allow humanitarian personnel to access conflict-affected areas and to increase efforts to fight poverty and violence against women.

505. Action Canada for Population and Development welcomed the consideration by the Sudan to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its acceptance of the recommendations to prohibit early and forced marriage. It expressed concern about the continued gender-based discrimination and marginalization of women and recommended reforming the personal law governing marriage and divorce of 1991, and adopting a specific law prohibiting female genital mutilation. It encouraged the Sudan to implement an HIV/AIDS awareness campaign and to introduce a policy on sexual and health education.

506. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, also on behalf of the African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies, noted with great concern the failure of the Sudan to take concrete steps to align domestic law with international human rights obligations, including the State's decision to note the recommendations to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, to implement a moratorium on executions, and to repeal laws providing for corporal punishment and granting State agents immunity from prosecution. It welcomed the State's commitment to conduct independent inquiries into human rights violations.

507. The Arab Commission for Human Rights applauded the acceptance by the Sudan of the recommendations to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and all of the related recommendations contained in paragraph 138, made by more than 20 countries. It hoped that the Sudan would speed up the process and ratify the Convention without reservations and accept the jurisdiction of the Committee and amend its national legislation accordingly. It called upon the Sudan to clarify the ambiguity in its addendum by supporting the recommendation contained in paragraph 140.13 while taking note of the recommendation contained in paragraph 140.12. It recommended establishing or commissioning a national system for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations.

508. The Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale reiterated its concern regarding the recruitment and deployment of children in armed forces and noted the importance of implementing the recommendations that the Sudan had accepted on that issue. It welcomed the adoption of the national action plan on human rights and the efforts of the Sudan to guarantee women's rights. It recommended that the Sudan take additional measures to cooperate with non-governmental organizations and civil society to further promote and protect human rights throughout the country.

509. The East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project expressed concern that the National Security Act of 2010 had created an unsafe environment for human rights defenders, civil society, the media and members of the opposition, by allowing Sudanese authorities to forcibly raid and close the offices of organizations and to arbitrarily detain their members. Sudanese government forces had continued to inflict violence on civilians and block humanitarian groups from conflict-affected areas.

510. Amnesty International welcomed the acceptance by the Sudan of recommendations to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It noted the rejection of recommendations to remove impunity provisions from the National Security Act of 2010. It urged the State to promptly investigate all allegations of torture, ill-treatment, arbitrary detention and the excessive use of force and to hold those responsible to account. It also urged the Sudan to ensure that human rights defenders, other civil society activists and journalists could carry out their legitimate activities without intimidation, hindrance or harassment. It remained concerned by the indiscriminate bombardments, unlawful killings, abductions, and gender-based and sexual violence in conflict areas and it urged the Sudan to end all violations and bring those responsible to justice.

511. Human Rights Watch noted that the Sudan had failed to implement most of the recommendations that it had accepted during its first universal periodic review. There were

countless abuses committed against civilians in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile State, and the rights to freedom of association and assembly were severely restricted. A number of repressive laws, including the National Security Act of 2010, contravened human rights norms. It noted the Government's widespread violations and the failure to investigate and prosecute those responsible, justifying specific scrutiny by the Human Rights Council of the situation. It called for the appointment of a special rapporteur and the creation of OHCHR inquiry missions to investigate human rights violations in conflict areas.

512. The Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development expressed grave concern about the human rights violations resulting from violent confrontations between Sudanese government forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Army in Jebel Marra from December 2015 to January 2016. Civilians in conflict-affected areas, including South Kordofan and Blue Nile State, were forcibly displaced from their homes and subjected to indiscriminate violence. The failure of a national dialogue to establish peace and a lack of resources available to the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan required the Human Rights Council to take additional measures to address the human rights situation in the Sudan.

513. The Al Zubair Charitable Foundation recognized that the internal turmoil in the Sudan had undermined efforts to promote and protect human rights and it called upon the international community to provide additional support. It noted with concern that unilateral sanctions had detrimentally affected the capacity of the Sudan to guarantee the economic, social and cultural rights set forth in its national Constitution and its international obligations, including the right to health, clean water and education, particularly among vulnerable groups.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

514. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 244 recommendations received, 180 had enjoyed the support of the Sudan, and 64 had been noted.

515. The delegation thanked all the States and non-governmental organizations for their interventions, especially the positive interventions regarding the report of the Sudan. The delegation appreciated the role of the States that had provided support and assistance to the Sudan, particularly Qatar, which had supported the peace process and stability in Darfur.

516. The development of the human rights situation was an ongoing process and the Government was keen to improve legislation and practice, and it was working to cooperate with the international community in order to achieve the desired goals. Despite being a least developed country, the Sudan was hosting hundreds of thousands of refugees from neighbouring countries without receiving any support. In spite of that, it was the subject of severe economic sanctions; nevertheless, it was doing what it could. The delegation recalled the report of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights (A/HRC/33/48/Add.1), which explained the adverse effects on the Sudanese people.

517. Lastly, the delegation commented on some interventions by non-governmental organizations, noting that some information given was incorrect, and it stated that there had been a ceasefire several months before, declared by all parties involved, and there were no military operations at all.

#### **Hungary**

518. The review of Hungary was held on 4 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Right Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by Hungary in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/HUN/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/HUN/2 and Corr.1);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/HUN/3).

519. At its 21st meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Hungary (see sect. C below).

520. The outcome of the review of Hungary comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/9), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/9/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

521. The delegation of Hungary highlighted the Government's strong commitment to the universal periodic review mechanism. More attention needed to be paid to the implementation in the future in order to realize its full potential.

522. The delegation thanked the States for their constructive contributions and the 221 recommendations made during the second review of Hungary, on 4 May 2016. After careful examination by the relevant ministries, Hungary had supported 189 recommendations and parts of another 12 recommendations. In the case of 91 recommendations, the implementation process had already been ongoing. The addendum detailed the views of the Government regarding the recommendations. The delegation announced it would highlight the most important ones.

523. Hungary constantly assessed the compatibility of its laws with its international obligations. It was already a party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and the regulations of the International Criminal Court were part of the Criminal Code. Hungary had ratified the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its Protocol, the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, the Convention on the Nationality of Married Women and the Convention against Discrimination in Education.

524. The delegation also mentioned other treaties whose ratifications were being discussed and examined. Robust reporting mechanisms were ensuring the implementation of the rights enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and several other relevant instruments.

525. Hungary fully cooperated with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms. It had organized all visits requested by Council mandate holders and responded to all allegation letters and it constantly examined the implementation of their recommendations. Hungary had submitted on time its periodic reports to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and it strived to eradicate its backlog before its next universal periodic review.

526. The engagement of civil society was essential to the work of the United Nations human rights system in general and the universal periodic review mechanism in particular. The Government had been working together in a more institutionalized manner since its first review, and during the preparations for the present review, it had involved more actively the relevant non-governmental organizations.

527. Regarding the institutional framework, the enjoyment of human rights was ensured by the new Fundamental Law of Hungary. The Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights, which had A status, was a central element of the Hungarian protection system. The interministerial human rights working group monitored human rights in

Hungary, advised the Government and observed the implementation of the recommendations from the universal periodic review. Its round table was composed of 11 thematic sub-working groups, with the participation of ministries, the Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights and non-governmental organizations. The recommendations received in May had already been deliberated on, and the relevant civil sub-working groups would discuss them in detail in the near future. Civil society was involved in general consultations on proposals for bills and decrees.

528. The act on equal treatment and the promotion of equal opportunities had created the Equal Treatment Authority.

529. Family policies were developed in accordance with gender equality and non-discrimination requirements, and the family support system provided a broad scope of benefits.

530. Current legislation ensured the participation of women in political life and in decision-making. The current comprehensive strategy was aimed at combating remaining gender stereotypes. Hungary continued to prevent violence against women through national strategies and policy actions. It also maintained its commitment to combat trafficking in persons.

531. The Fundamental Law obliged the State to introduce specific measures to protect persons with disabilities.

532. Fundamental rights were guaranteed at the constitutional level without discrimination on any ground, thus on gender identity and sexual orientation, and anti-discrimination provisions were found in the act on equal treatment in line with international norms.

533. Hungary was taking comprehensive measures against racial discrimination and segregation. The National Social Inclusion Strategy and its multisectoral action plan contained inclusion policies on child well-being, education, employment, health and housing. The second action plan (2015–2017) took steps for broader social inclusion.

534. The delegation underscored the fact that Hungary guaranteed the protection of national minorities at the constitutional level. Regarding Hungarian minorities living under the jurisdiction of another State, the Government acted as a responsible member of the international community, in line with the Bolzano/Bozen Recommendations on National Minorities in Inter-State Relations.

535. The Government took stern action against hate acts. The new Criminal Code contained enhanced provisions against anti-Semitism and hate speech, and action against violations of freedom of conscience and religion. Training was provided for judges and prosecutors to enhance measures against hate crimes. The working group against hate crimes served as a forum for cooperation between the Government and relevant non-governmental organizations. The national victim service provided assistance for victims of crimes, including hate crimes.

536. The delegation asserted that Hungary granted asylum and established procedures in line with international and regional standards, including the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. Hungary firmly believed that international protection should be provided to those who were in real need, with special attention given to women and children. The Government was striving to improve the living conditions of refugees and asylum seekers. Care and support provided were in line with relevant international regulations. Countries neighbouring conflict zones should receive enhanced support from the international community. Accordingly, the contribution to multilateral initiatives, and the bilateral and regional financial support offered by Hungary amounted to 25 million euros.

537. Lastly, the delegation reiterated that Hungary was willing to contribute to the effectiveness of the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms by respecting and protecting the independence and integrity of the Council and OHCHR, by sharing best examples of full cooperation with its mechanisms, and by disseminating knowledge about the Council and its mechanisms, as it had been doing for eight years through the

organization of the annual Budapest Human Rights Forum, which would take place on 17 and 18 November 2016.

538. Hungary was deeply committed to continuing to participate in the universal periodic review mechanism and it believed that its achievements in the field of the protection and promotion of human rights served as a solid basis for its second candidature to the Human Rights Council.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

539. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Hungary, 16 delegations made statements.

540. Egypt commended Hungary for the positive developments since the first review. It welcomed the fact that Hungary had accepted the five recommendations made by Egypt, including those to address the issues relating to migration and asylum seekers in accordance with international law, to consider the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, to take specific measures to prevent and eliminate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance against migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

541. Maldives welcomed the acceptance by Hungary of recommendations, including three made by Maldives to raise the legal age of marriage for women and men to 18 years, to take measures to protect child victims of sexual exploitation and prostitution, and to ensure that persons with disabilities could participate in political and public life. It encouraged Hungary to take a human rights-based approach in dealing with refugees.

542. Nigeria applauded Hungary for its continued engagement with and commitment to the universal periodic review mechanism and it appreciated the decision of the Government to accept recommendations that were made during the session of the Working Group, including those made by Nigeria.

543. Pakistan congratulated Hungary on its national human rights institution having been awarded A status by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions. It took note of the measures taken by Hungary to ameliorate the condition of migrants and asylum seekers and it urged the State to continue to enhance the protection of asylum seekers and migrants. It also appreciated the steps taken to curtail hate speech and protect the rights of national minorities.

544. The Republic of Moldova took positive note of the actions relating to domestic violence, especially the inclusion of other forms of violence against women in the new Criminal Code, and it encouraged Hungary to ensure the proper implementation of the new legislation so that victims of domestic violence could fully benefit from support services and access to justice. It also encouraged Hungary to place greater importance on the reintegration of child offenders.

545. Romania was pleased about the support of the Government of Hungary for the overwhelming majority of the recommendations, including one made by Romania regarding self-government, while another one relating to standards of education in national minority languages was already in the course of implementation.

546. The Russian Federation commended Hungary for its acceptance of more than 200 of the recommendations made, including its own recommendation regarding the need to increase efforts to prevent and eliminate all kinds of ethnic intolerance, to condemn ethnic and religious hate, and to curb unacceptable attitudes towards the Roma. It was satisfied with the positive developments, which demonstrated the State's willingness to enhance its legal system pursuant to its international human rights commitments.

547. Sierra Leone acknowledged the willingness of Hungary to engage in dialogue to find solutions compatible with its international human rights obligations, noting, *inter alia*, the establishment of a new Criminal Code, which incorporated a wider range of definitions of violence against women. It encouraged Hungary to continue efforts to promote greater

tolerance for its vulnerable groups, including through the implementation of its National Social Inclusion Strategy.

548. Tajikistan stated that the universal periodic review was a mechanism for cooperation and consolidated efforts with civil society to improve the national human rights system and implement international commitments. It noted measures on a policy of intolerance towards racism and xenophobia, an improvement in the national human rights legal basis, the assistance being provided for victims of violence and the efforts being made to improve people's living standards.

549. Togo welcomed the full cooperation of Hungary with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms. It welcomed the State's decision to include in its legislation provisions that criminalized anti-Semitism, hate speech, and violations against freedom of conscience and religion, as well as the right guaranteed to the victims of those acts to access justice.

550. The United States of America called upon the Government to address the assessment and recommendations of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe election observation mission report of 2014.<sup>20</sup> It urged the Government to recognize the vital need for a level electoral playing field and to take the steps necessary to create a free, fair, transparent and competitive electoral process. It highlighted the fact that Hungary had yet to expand access to public information, and that no action had been taken to strengthen judicial independence, improve the administration of the court system or to buttress the rule of law.

551. Afghanistan noted the strong commitment of Hungary to reregulating the most important instruments and mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights with a view to strengthening them. It commended the Constitutional Court of Hungary for its efforts in having nullified domestic laws if they seemed to be in contravention with the human rights obligations of the State.

552. Albania welcomed the acceptance by Hungary of its recommendation on the intensification of national efforts to prevent and eliminate all manifestations of anti-Semitism and to take resolute measures to condemn hate speech, including against Roma. It was pleased to note the positive steps towards the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and it encouraged Hungary to take further measures on the promotion and protection of human rights.

553. Botswana noted with appreciation the adoption of the new and progressive Constitution. Regarding the juvenile justice system, the mandatory presence of a defence counsel for children was commendable. It encouraged Hungary to raise the age of criminal responsibility to 14 years, as set by international law.

554. China thanked Hungary for the acceptance of its recommendations, including those to fulfil its international obligations regarding refugees and migrants, to continue to improve living conditions for refugees and asylum seekers, and to effectively crack down on racism and hate speech and implement policies and laws in that regard. China noted that Hungary had made efforts to protect minorities, promote social inclusion and provide families with financial and social support, and it hoped the State would continue to take measures to improve gender equality and combat domestic violence.

555. The Council of Europe highlighted areas in which recommendations had been made by various monitoring bodies of the Council of Europe, such as: threats to the rule of law that had resulted from legal and policy changes, in particular the limitations on the Constitutional Court that had weakened the checks on the executive and reduced the independence of judiciary; asylum procedures, as Hungary had responded inadequately to the asylum and migrant crisis by having hampered international protection; and the discrimination and social exclusion of Roma. It welcomed the measures already taken by Hungary to address those issues.

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<sup>20</sup> See [www.osce.org/odihr/elections/hungary/121098?download=true](http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/hungary/121098?download=true).

### 3. General comments made by other stakeholders

556. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Hungary, nine other stakeholders made statements.

557. The Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights of Hungary, a national human rights institution with A status, highlighted issues in which it called for further progress. Regarding children's rights, it underscored the need for a better regulated system for juvenile justice. Professionals in the field should be trained to enable them to provide children in need of special welfare services. The rights of people with disabilities should include access to more efficient community-based services, and proper support would be required in order to enable them to have the opportunity to decide on independent living. Regarding environmental rights, public participation should be fully ensured, legislative steps should be more focused on long-term solutions, and environmental rights should be integrated in decision-making processes.

558. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation urged Hungary to draw particular attention to the recommendations relating to the recent erosion of respect for the fundamental freedoms of association, peaceful assembly and expression. It disputed the Government's assertion that civil society had room for criticizing the Government, as not all organizations had that room. It was seriously concerned by the current Government's attempts to target certain organizations. It was also concerned about waning respect for media freedoms and free speech, as the introduction of restrictive laws, the application of targeted tax and interference with editorial independence had severely damaged the media's ability to share a variety of opinions. It expressed concern about the treatment of refugees. Those issues merited continued scrutiny by the Human Rights Council.

559. The Arab Commission for Human Rights encouraged Hungary to accede to relevant instruments and it welcomed the efforts that Hungary was making and the adoption of relevant measures. It encouraged efforts to be made for migrants and members of their families. In paragraph 6 of its report, Hungary saw no need to accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. The Arab Commission for Human Rights wished to express its surprise at such a position; it considered that to be against the State's commitments and the need to provide greater safeguards for the protection of human rights. It called upon Hungary to give asylum seekers and refugees better protection, especially Syrians, who were fleeing from a situation of war and who were victims of violence. It recommended that Hungary increase its efforts to monitor the implementation of the recommendations it had accepted.

560. The British Humanist Association shared the concerns of several States that had noted numerous human rights violations committed against migrants and refugees attempting to enter Hungary. In 2015, a razor wire fence had been built to keep migrants and refugees from entering Hungary and two "transit zones" had been constructed on the Hungarian border with Serbia, where a minimal daily cap on admissions was employed. In June, Parliament had adopted a law allowing Hungarian border officials to summarily return asylum seekers and, instead of reviewing that law, the Prime Minister had said that Hungary would build a new "more massive" fence. The British Humanist Association considered the response by Hungary to the refugee crisis as unacceptable and illegal, and it deemed it imperative that Hungary implement a proper asylum application process that met international requirements.

561. Alliance Defending Freedom was concerned about the recommendations to impose limitations on freedom of opinion and expression with regard to so-called hate speech. It recognized the need to regulate forms of communication that could credibly and reasonably be said to constitute incitement to violence. It was concerned, however, that so-called hate speech laws were on the whole vaguely worded and largely subjective, did not necessarily require falsehood, rarely required a victim, often only protected certain people, were arbitrarily enforced and were often criminal rather than civil in nature. It was on those grounds that laws extensively protecting specific vulnerable classes could be used to silence legitimate speech involving no incitement to violence.

562. Amnesty International regretted the rejection by Hungary of the recommendations to end the criminalization of irregular entry, the use of "transit zones", the detention of asylum

seekers and the revision of the national list of “safe countries”. It expressed concern that legal and policy measures in Hungary continued to contradict international refugee standards. Hundreds of asylum seekers remained in detention for months without having committed any crime, while recent legal amendments authorizing summary expulsion by police had enabled the unlawful pushback of thousands of people to Serbia. It welcomed the State’s acceptance of a recommendation to strengthen the special police network for hate crimes and the partial acceptance of a recommendation to adopt a hate crime investigation protocol to ensure that victims had effective access to remedy.

563. Human Rights Watch stated that the universal periodic review of Hungary had rightly reflected a large number of human rights concerns, including hostility towards the media and civil society, the government actions that compromised the independence of the judiciary and the Government’s record on investigating domestic violence. It deeply regretted that Hungary had rejected recommendations to repeal the law that had introduced “transit zones” at the border and a list of “safe countries”, and that it had dismissed concerns about the credible allegations of the use of excessive force against migrants and refugees, despite a sharp increase in the cases of excessive force and brutal beatings of migrants and asylum seekers during pushbacks to the Serbian border. It considered it disgraceful to see the Government of Hungary having accepted recommendations to combat hate speech, while the Government and high-ranking officials had openly fuelled anti-migrant rhetoric.

564. The International Bar Association welcomed the efforts of Hungary to tackle inefficiencies in the ordinary courts, but at the same time it urged the Government to review the procedure for the selection, appointment and promotion of judges to ensure that both the independence and the appearance of independence were guaranteed. It called upon Hungary to respect judicial security of tenure and freedom of expression. It noted the Government’s measures to reduce and implement alternative measures to pretrial detention, but it urged a reinstatement of a *de jure* limit on pretrial detention. It was encouraged by the acceptance of the recommendation to improve dialogue and public consultation with civil society, including on human rights legislation, and it urged that such consultation be broad and inclusive and that the Government ensure a safe and enabling environment for organizations.

565. Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland highlighted the reform of the Criminal Code, which included sexual orientation and gender identity in its hate speech and hate crime provisions. The Government of Hungary had not consulted the thematic working group on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex rights, which made up part of the round table of the interministerial human rights working group, on its decision on the universal periodic review recommendations. It urged the Government to work to implement a comprehensive strategy and action plan against discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, formulate a quick, transparent and accessible legal procedure on legal gender recognition based on self-determination, forward equality in the field of employment, and eliminate discrimination against same-sex couples and their children.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

566. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 221 recommendations received, 189 had enjoyed the support of Hungary and 20 had been noted. Additional clarification was provided on another 12 recommendations, indicating which part of the recommendations had been supported and which part had been noted.

567. In its closing statement, the delegation of Hungary thanked States and non-governmental organizations for the open universal periodic review dialogue. Hungary remained committed to the promotion and protection of human rights. It had paid full attention to the recommendations made and it was grateful for the encouragement to enhance its efforts relating to several issues. It reiterated its policy of zero tolerance for xenophobia and racism, and anti-Semitic and anti-Roma statements had been officially denounced by the Government and had triggered legislative revisions. It reiterated that Hungary remained committed to protecting the rights of refugees and that the Hungarian

procedure to identify persons entitled to international protection was in compliance with international human rights standards.

568. Lastly, the delegation stated that the work of the Human Rights Council had to shift from declaration to implementation at the national level. Special procedures and mechanisms needed to be given access to all countries. Hungary aimed to lead by example in that respect.

### **Papua New Guinea**

569. The review of Papua New Guinea was held on 6 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Papua New Guinea in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/PNG/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/PNG/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/PNG/3).

570. At its 22nd meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Papua New Guinea (see sect. C below).

571. The outcome of the review of Papua New Guinea comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/10), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/10/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

572. The delegation of Papua New Guinea recalled that, at the twenty-fifth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, held in May 2016, Papua New Guinea had presented its report. It was the second time in its young history that it had submitted a universal periodic review report, thus demonstrating the value that the State placed on the universal periodic review as a monitoring and balancing mechanism for the progress of the realization of human rights.

573. The report outlined the human rights situation in Papua New Guinea, including what the country has achieved in terms of key enabling policies and legislation and best practices, as well as the challenges facing Papua New Guinea in its endeavour to improve human rights conditions.

574. The interactive dialogue that followed the presentation shaped the 161 recommendations that had been made for the consideration of Papua New Guinea.

575. The delegation was pleased to report that the recommendations had been considered very seriously and had framed the basis on which national consultations had been conducted. The national consultations involved relevant Government agencies and stakeholders, which had provided the information to formulate the positions of Papua New Guinea, as explained in the addendum for members of the Human Rights Council to consider and approve.

576. According to the delegation, the members of the Human Rights Council could note that the response of Papua New Guinea to the recommendations was very positive; it had supported the majority of the recommendations it had received and had taken good note of some that required further work on the part of Papua New Guinea.

577. The Government of Papua New Guinea remained committed to promoting human rights and upholding its international obligations as a State Member of the United Nations. Papua New Guinea had made steady progress by way of policy and legislation to address human rights issues. It was, however, very much aware of the challenges that remained in the enforcement of related policies and laws. Approving the position taken by Papua New Guinea on the 161 recommendations would encourage, support and indeed re-energize efforts by key stakeholders and the country as a whole to continue to strive to improve human rights conditions in the State.

578. The delegation of Papua New Guinea thanked the President and the members of the Human Rights Council, as well as the secretariat, for their work and support.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

579. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Papua New Guinea, 12 delegations made statements.

580. Nigeria commended Papua New Guinea for its continued commitment to engage constructively with the universal periodic review mechanism and the special procedure mandate holders. It acknowledged the commitment of Papua New Guinea to combat violence against women and girls and gender violence at all levels. It commended the State for its willingness to consider the ratification of human rights treaties within the context of its resources and priorities. It was optimistic that the continued engagement of Papua New Guinea with the universal periodic review process would yield more successful results in the future.

581. Pakistan appreciated the decision of Papua New Guinea to accept the majority of the recommendations received and it wished the State success in their implementation. It welcomed the process undertaken by Papua New Guinea to ratify various human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its implementation through the national policy on disability for 2015–2025, and for considering the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Pakistan appreciated various legislative, policy and institutional measures taken by Papua New Guinea to ensure the realization of the rights of women and girls and children, and it noted that the action plan on trafficking in persons, pending Cabinet approval, would be a positive development.

582. Sierra Leone noted the key national priorities of Papua New Guinea. It considered that the initiatives to provide free primary health care, as well as human rights training to its law enforcement officers, were positive developments that should be applauded. It encouraged the efforts of Papua New Guinea to establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles. It also encouraged the State to continue to cooperate with its regional partners and to seek technical assistance from OHCHR in order to meet its human rights obligations and commitments.

583. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) congratulated Papua New Guinea on its efforts to address human rights abuses, and in particular gender-based violence, through the adoption and implementation of various policies and legislation. It noted, however, that the establishment of a national human rights commission was still pending, and it encouraged countries to consider establishing one as a matter of priority. It referred to the findings of three special rapporteurs, and it encouraged the country to submit its report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. It confirmed its commitment to continue to provide support for initiatives to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women.

584. UNICEF appreciated the adoption and gazetting of the act on child protection (2015) and the act on juvenile justice (2014). It called for the speedy establishment of the child and family services council and the allocation of resources to provide services to prevent and respond to violence against, and the abuse and exploitation of, children. It recognized the efforts to improve health services across the country. However, it reiterated its concern about the low level of birth registration, and it urged the Government to invest adequate funds and human resources into eliminating maternal and neonatal tetanus. While

welcoming positive measures, it called upon Papua New Guinea to establish a decentralized registration system through close collaboration with health and faith-based organizations.

585. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela acknowledged the efforts made by Papua New Guinea to implement the recommendations supported. It noted the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It underscored the free registration policy, introduced in 2012, to achieve universal access to compulsory education and the progress made in the equal access of students to free primary education. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela invited the Human Rights Council to recognize the efforts of Papua New Guinea to comply with the recommendations supported and the State's will and determination to attain that goal.

586. Algeria commended Papua New Guinea for its efforts to promote human rights in the country, in particular those to ensure free education and to promote the rights of persons with disabilities. It noted that the country had also created centres for victims of sexual violence and for family support. It welcomed the cooperation of Papua New Guinea with the universal periodic review mechanism and its acceptance of the vast majority of the recommendations made. It wished the State every success in the implementation of the recommendations supported.

587. China welcomed the constructive engagement of Papua New Guinea with the universal periodic review and it appreciated the State's commitment to implement the recommendations accepted. It thanked Papua New Guinea for having accepted recommendations to implement a national strategy to prevent and respond to gender violence, to improve medical and health services, and to reduce the child mortality rate. It acknowledged the progress made in protecting children's rights, gender equality, combating domestic violence, maternal care and combating trafficking in persons. It called upon the international community to continue its financial and technical support and capacity-building to help Papua New Guinea to tackle human rights challenges.

588. Cuba acknowledged the progress made by Papua New Guinea in the field of human rights, such as the law on the protection of the family, the law on juvenile justice, the law amending the Penal Code (2014), the national policy on disability, the establishment of the independent commission to fight corruption and its leadership in the sphere of climate change. It thanked the State for having supported its two recommendations to improve the protection of the environment in relation to Vision 2050 and other development plans. It invited Papua New Guinea to continue to adopt measures to improve gender equality in the country.

589. Fiji commended the Supreme Court for its decision on the closure of the Manus Regional Processing Centre and it encouraged Papua New Guinea to continue to take concrete and effective measures to implement the decision. Fiji applauded Papua New Guinea for its efforts to ensure the protection of the rights of victims of domestic violence under the act on the protection of the family of 2013, as well as the steps taken to establish the family and sexual violence units to ensure equal and substantive access to justice for all victims, especially women and girls. It encouraged Papua New Guinea to continue to provide training to its law enforcement agencies on the provision of the act on the protection of the family in order to guarantee its effective implementation, and it remained ready to partner with and assist the county on such matters.

590. Indonesia welcomed the continued commitment of Papua New Guinea to advance the promotion and protection of human rights. It noted the implementation of national priorities to ensure access to health, education and infrastructure, as well as economic growth and the rule of law, as fundamental rights of citizens. Indonesia noted with appreciation the State's support of the recommendations to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, and to establish a victim and witness protection agency and an agency to address cross-border issues.

591. Maldives welcomed the fact that Papua New Guinea had begun to implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other global agreements, strategies and policies, taking into account the inherent vulnerabilities and challenges of being a small island developing State. It commended Papua New Guinea for its commitment to ensure that the fundamental

and inherent rights of citizens were protected. It was encouraged by the country's commitment to finalize the establishment of a national human rights institution that was independent and empowered to provide national leadership and to monitor the domestic human rights situation. It welcomed the State's cooperation with international and regional human rights mechanisms.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

592. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Papua New Guinea, three other stakeholders made statements.

593. Franciscans International commended Papua New Guinea for its efforts to protect and promote the human rights of its citizens. It welcomed the Supreme Court's decision to close the Manus Regional Processing Centre for asylum seekers. It recommended that Papua New Guinea ensure that all primary and secondary schools develop child protection policies and implement them, including for children with disabilities; arrest and convict all persons involved in making accusations of sorcery, especially those that led to violence against those accused; monitor, review regularly and report publicly on the operations of extractive industries, to ensure that the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights were being followed.

594. Amnesty International welcomed the acceptance by Papua New Guinea of recommendations to implement the act on the protection of the family. It was concerned that, despite the legislation adopted, very little had been done to address the substantial level of gender-based violence and gender inequality faced by women and girls in the country. Some sectors of the population were particularly at risk of discrimination and human rights abuses. It called upon the State to address all cultural practices that discriminated against women and girls and to implement protection laws. It noted the persistence of police abuses, such as torture and ill-treatment and the unlawful use of force and firearms, and that accountability mechanisms were weak. It was encouraged by the fact that Papua New Guinea had supported the recommendations to end the excessive use of force by security officials.

595. Human Rights Watch, while welcoming positive developments, noted few genuine improvements for victims of human rights violations in Papua New Guinea. Despite the commitments made by the State in 2011, police abuses remained rampant. Of particular concern was the use of unlawful force by police during arrest, interrogation and pretrial detention, sometimes resulting in death. Human Rights Watch noted the alarming rates of gender-based violence despite the adoption of the law on the protection of the family. Survivors of gender-based violence faced barriers in obtaining protection, and there had been little improvement in justice for women victims of violence. Impunity continued for perpetrators involving cases of sorcery accusations. Despite the Supreme Court's decision, Papua New Guinea had not taken significant steps to close the Manus Regional Processing Centre.

### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

596. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 161 recommendations received, 108 had enjoyed the support of Papua New Guinea and 53 had been noted.

597. The delegation of Papua New Guinea thanked the members of the Human Rights Council for their support during the universal periodic review process and in protecting and promoting human rights. Indeed, Papua New Guinea faced challenges in its attempts to ensure the implementation of inspiring human rights ideals. The delegation noted in particular the support of member States in the Asia-Pacific region and the State's development partners. They would work together in many ways to support each other and to address the challenges that they faced.

## Tajikistan

598. The review of Tajikistan was held on 6 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Tajikistan in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TJK/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TJK/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TJK/3).

599. At its 22nd meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Tajikistan (see sect. C below).

600. The outcome of the review of Tajikistan comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/11), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/11/Add.1).

### 1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

601. The delegation of Tajikistan stated that the Government had supported the majority of the recommendations made during the review held in May 2016. The position of the Government on those recommendations had been discussed with representatives of civil society.

602. The Government had paid special attention to the rights of persons with disabilities. A law on the social protection of persons with disabilities had been adopted in 2010. The Government had been taking measures to bring its legislation into line with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to develop a mechanism for the implementation of the Convention. The Government had also been planning to develop minimum standards for the provision of various services to persons with disabilities. Therefore, the Government had supported those recommendations to ratify the Convention. After the completion of that process, the Government would consider the possibility of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention.

603. While referring to several measures that had been taken towards the abolition of the death penalty, including the reforms of the Criminal Code and the establishment of a moratorium on the death penalty, the Government had supported recommendations to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

604. The Government had supported the recommendations to eliminate discrimination against persons belonging to religious minorities and to bring the law on freedom of conscience and religious organizations into conformity with international human rights standards. The Constitution guaranteed everyone the right to freely choose and manifest his or her religion or belief. The newly adopted law on freedom of conscience and religious organizations was in conformity with international human rights law and it provided more simplified registration procedures for religious organizations than the previous law, and it provided the right to religious education.

605. The Government put emphasis on the development and implementation of national action plans in order to ensure a comprehensive approach towards the protection and promotion of human rights. Since its first review, Tajikistan had submitted periodic reports to six treaty bodies in order to fulfil its international human rights obligations. To that end,

the Government had thoroughly reviewed all the recommendations made by those human rights mechanisms, in close cooperation with representatives of civil society. Various national action plans had been developed for their implementation. Having taken the above-mentioned plans into account, the Government had supported the recommendations to develop and implement a comprehensive national action plan for human rights.

606. Domestic legislation prohibited all forms of discrimination. Equality between women and men had been guaranteed. The Criminal Code included criminal liability for direct and indirect discrimination based on sex, race, ethnicity or nationality, residence, language, social origin, religion, political affiliation and opinion, and property. The Government had therefore supported the recommendation to adopt a comprehensive law to combat discrimination.

607. Tajikistan had paid special attention to the promotion of the role of women in society and to ensuring a gender balance. In 2014, it had adopted a domestic violence prevention programme for 2014–2023 and had ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Taking into account the above-mentioned facts, the Government had supported the recommendations to prevent discrimination and violence against women. The criminalization of domestic violence would be considered in the framework of the forthcoming reform of the Criminal Code.

608. Tajikistan had taken measures to combat trafficking in persons. A comprehensive programme to combat trafficking in persons for 2014–2016 had been developed and implemented. The act on combating trafficking in persons and providing assistance to victims had been adopted in 2014. The Government had therefore supported the recommendation to allocate adequate resources for the identification of victims of trafficking in persons and the provision of appropriate services for them.

609. The Constitution provided guarantees for effective judicial protection and everyone was entitled to a fair trial by a competent, independent and impartial court established by law. No one could be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. The trial of the members of the Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan had been conducted in line with domestic legislation and the international treaties that Tajikistan had ratified. At the pretrial stage, members of the Party had been provided with access to lawyers and with other rights and guarantees that were envisaged in international law. None of the defenders had been subjected to torture or other illegal treatment by law enforcement officers.

610. The Government had supported the recommendations to ensure fundamental legal and procedural safeguards for detainees from the outset of their deprivation of liberty and to prevent the use of torture and the ill-treatment of detainees.

611. Domestic legislation provided a comprehensive definition of torture in line with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. At the same time, the Government had not supported the recommendations to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention at the present stage, as it considered it important to bring its legislation on access to prisons and detention centres for interdependent monitoring in line with the Optional Protocol prior to its ratification.

612. The Government had supported the recommendation to ensure that lawyers had freedom to exercise their professional duties freely, had unhindered access to their clients and had freedom to represent their clients without threats from State or other actors. It considered that the recommendation had already been implemented.

613. Regarding the recommendation to grant the International Committee of the Red Cross access to prisons and detention centres, the delegation explained that detention conditions met the minimum international legal standards for the protection of persons deprived of their liberty. Special complaints boxes, telephones and meeting rooms had been installed in the penitentiary system.

614. The right to freedom of expression and press had been guaranteed in Tajikistan and it had therefore supported the recommendations to ensure that right, and Tajikistan considered them implemented. The Government had also supported those recommendations on the rights to freedom of assembly and association.

615. Tajikistan had ratified the optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. At the same time, the Government had not supported the recommendation to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure because, prior to its ratification, Tajikistan preferred to bring its legislation into conformity with the Optional Protocol and to study the experiences of other countries that had been applying the provision of the Optional Protocol.

616. Regarding the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, domestic legislation did not include the term “enforced disappearance”, but it provided rights and guarantees to protect individuals from enforced disappearance.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

617. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Tajikistan, 16 delegations made statements.<sup>21</sup>

618. The United States of America called upon Tajikistan to repeal the legislation facilitating the blockage of Internet content and telecommunications, to cease the harassment of human rights defenders and members of civil society organizations, and to ensure that the implementation of the law on public associations was not used to harass non-governmental organizations through surprise inspections and burdensome information requests. It called upon the Government to provide human rights defenders, including defence attorneys and other individuals detained as a result of their political activities, with fair and transparent trials.

619. India thanked Tajikistan for its responses to 203 recommendations from 71 States, including its acceptance of one recommendation made by India, and it commended the State for its receptive and constructive participation in the universal periodic review. It believed that Tajikistan had benefited from its participation in the process and that it would continue its efforts to implement the recommendations that it had accepted.

620. Kyrgyzstan noted with appreciation that Tajikistan had supported the recommendations made by Kyrgyzstan to improve its national legislation and the working conditions of women, young people and persons with disabilities, and to carry out awareness-raising programmes to combat torture. It considered that the implementation of those recommendations would contribute to the strengthening of the promotion and protection of human rights in Tajikistan.

621. Maldives commended Tajikistan for its acceptance of the majority of the recommendations made by 71 States, including three recommendations made by Maldives to end child marriage, to improve health-care services and to ensure universal access to clean drinking water. It urged Tajikistan to seek technical cooperation from international partners in order to expedite the implementation of the recommendations and to protect and promote human rights.

622. Nigeria noted that the implementation of the recommendations accepted during the first universal periodic review and the steps taken by Tajikistan to achieve a successful outcome had demonstrated the willingness of the Government to prioritize the promotion and protection of human rights.

623. Pakistan commended Tajikistan for having accepted the majority of the recommendations, including those made by Pakistan. It appreciated the State’s commitment to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its efforts to strengthen the legislative and institutional framework for the protection of human rights.

<sup>21</sup> The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/33rdSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

Constructive engagement and continued cooperation with human rights mechanisms, and the expanded mandate of the Commissioner for Human Rights, would likely ensure the realization of human rights for all citizens of Tajikistan.

624. Paraguay commended Tajikistan for having accepted its recommendation to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which was a key step towards compliance with international human rights standards. Paraguay noted that, in having implemented previous recommendations, Tajikistan had established procedures and allocated resources to identify and provide appropriate services to victims of human trafficking, and had criminalized domestic violence and facilitated access to legal remedies for its victims. Paraguay offered Tajikistan technical cooperation for the implementation of the recommendations it had accepted.

625. The Russian Federation noted that Tajikistan had supported the majority of the recommendations made during the review. It noted with satisfaction the Government's efforts to strengthen human rights institutions and mechanisms to ensure the realization of human rights and freedoms. The experience of the Government from the first review would be used to further improve the legal framework.

626. Sierra Leone noted that Tajikistan had accepted two of its recommendations, including the recommendation to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the accession to which was the subject of ongoing legislative discussion. The formulation of the new national development strategy and the State's approval of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for 2016–2020 were positive developments; however, Sierra Leone encouraged Tajikistan to implement a comprehensive national strategy to end child marriage and eliminate child labour.

627. The Sudan noted with appreciation the adoption of the judicial reform programme for 2015–2017, which was aimed at strengthening the judiciary and increasing the role of courts to protect human rights and to ensure the rule of law and access to justice, as well as the implementation of a programme to combat trafficking in persons for 2014–2016. It noted with satisfaction that Tajikistan had supported the majority of the recommendations made during the review.

628. Togo commended Tajikistan for its cooperation with the United Nations human rights treaty bodies and with special procedure mandate holders. The development of various national action plans to implement the recommendations stemming from various human rights mechanisms demonstrated the willingness of Tajikistan to promote and protect human rights. Togo noted with appreciation the new national development strategy, which was aimed at guaranteeing economic prosperity, sociopolitical stability and the well-being of the population of Tajikistan.

629. UN-Women encouraged the Government to ensure effective mechanisms for the implementation of laws and policies on the rights of women and on gender equality, and to develop services to fully meet the needs of victims of domestic violence. The number of State-run crisis centres could be increased and shelters for the victims of domestic violence established and adequately funded. It encouraged the Government to adopt a comprehensive strategy on changing the patriarchal views and stereotypes that discriminated against women and to boost its efforts to achieve gender equality.

630. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland expressed concern about restrictions on political opposition and civil society. It encouraged Tajikistan to uphold freedoms of expression, association and assembly and to ensure that all legislation adopted was in line with its international human rights obligations. It noted with regret that Tajikistan had not supported several recommendations calling for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

631. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the efforts of the Government to implement the recommendations from the previous review. It noted with appreciation that the Government had allocated over 70 per cent of the State budget to address social issues and had maintained the use of electricity and natural gas free of charge for its population. It commended Tajikistan for its progress in that respect and it encouraged the Government to

continue its progress by strengthening its social policies and directing them to its most needy sector of the population.

632. Afghanistan noted with appreciation the commitment of Tajikistan to the promotion and protection of human rights and that Tajikistan had ratified the main human rights instruments. It noted the implementation of the national policy for inclusive education for children with special needs for 2011–2015.

633. Belarus noted with appreciation that Tajikistan had supported a large number of recommendations from the universal periodic review, including those that had been made by Belarus. It welcomed the constructive approach of Tajikistan to the universal period review in order to strengthen its national capacity and expand its cooperation with the international community.

### 3. General comments made by other stakeholders

634. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Tajikistan, eight other stakeholders made statements.<sup>22</sup>

635. The Jssor Youth Organization commended Tajikistan for its acceptance of over 20 recommendations on the rights of women. However, violence against women remained largely unrecorded and unreported. It expressed concern about the sexual abuse of women and the lack of recognition about the existence of the problem in society. The Government should expand the implementation of its programme on the prevention of domestic violence in rural areas.

636. Action Canada for Population and Development noted the acceptance by Tajikistan of recommendations to conduct human rights training for law enforcement agencies. Despite the efforts of the Government to prevent domestic violence, legislation was not in conformity with international human rights standards. The absence of data collection by the police on cases of domestic violence had resulted in a lack of information on the scale of the problem. Action Canada for Population and Development was concerned by the lack of attention given to the rights of sex workers during the review and about widespread violence and discrimination against people because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. It urged the Government to develop and implement programmes to prevent hate crimes, discrimination and violence, especially against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and sex workers.

637. The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence remained concerned about the ongoing human rights abuses against opposition activists in Tajikistan. The authorities had widened their crackdown on the opposition and had banned the Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan, declaring it a terrorist organization. Hundreds of people were imprisoned for no reason other than for their peaceful political activities. Advocates representing political opponents were being arrested, imprisoned and harassed. The authorities had adopted a new law requiring all lawyers to renew their legal licences with the Ministry of Justice, with the possible intention to disbar lawyers who took on politically sensitive cases. The Organization urged the Government to end restrictions on freedom of expression and association and on the use of torture and ill-treatment. There should be no discrimination based on an individual's belief or political orientation.

638. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues noted that Tajikistan had not supported the recommendations to ratify the optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child or to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law, to create an independent national preventive mechanism or to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. The efforts of the Government to combat gender-based violence remained largely ineffective. It urged the Government to take concrete and immediate measures to guarantee the development of an independent

<sup>22</sup> The statements of the stakeholders that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/33rdSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

civil society and to strengthen legislation with regard to domestic and gender-based violence, and to facilitate the access of victims of such violence to legal remedies.

639. Article 19: International Centre against Censorship stated that the engagement of Tajikistan with the universal periodic review had taken place at a time when there was an ongoing assault on the right to freedom of expression and democratic freedoms. It expressed its regret that the recommendations most relevant to those rights had been either rejected or accepted, with the heavy qualifier that they had already been implemented. The crackdown on peaceful opposition had accelerated. Freedom of expression had not been protected online, nor in the print and broadcast media. Tajikistan continued to block access to independent news websites and social media sites. Though defamation had been decriminalized, “insult” of the President and State officials remained a criminal offence. Civil defamation lawsuits had been used to stifle independent media reporting.

640. Human Rights Watch stated that the political crackdown on the Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan and other critics had intensified. Authorities had arrested, imprisoned and tortured members of the political opposition. It had subjected them to an unfair trial, behind closed doors, marred by serious violations of due process and credible allegations of torture or ill-treatment in pretrial detention. At the same time, Tajikistan had accepted the recommendation to respect the right to a fair trial. Human Rights Watch noted the acceptance of many recommendations by Tajikistan to combat domestic violence against women and children. It urged Tajikistan to commit to the full implementation of the law on the prevention of family violence of 2013, and to ensure that victims of domestic violence received adequate protection and services and that those responsible for abuses were held accountable.

641. Lawyers for Lawyers welcomed the acceptance by Tajikistan of some of the recommendations made at the universal periodic review relating to the administration of justice and the independence of the legal profession. It called upon the Government to implement the recommendations to refrain from and prevent any executive interference with lawyers’ conduct of their professional duties. It called upon the Government to guarantee the unhindered access of lawyers to their clients and the freedom to represent their clients without threats from State or other actors, and that such threats were promptly investigated not only on paper and in legislation but in practice. Lawyers for Lawyers encouraged Tajikistan to provide the Union of Lawyers with exclusive control over lawyers’ admission to and removal from practice. It urged the Government to release the lawyers who had been prosecuted in relation to their professional activities as attorneys, and to respect the right to a fair trial for the lawyers who were currently subjected to criminal offences.

642. Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik noted with appreciation that Tajikistan had supported the recommendation to remove the reservation on articles 8 and 9 of the Optional Protocol to Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It noted an increase in the practice of temporary marriage in Tajikistan. Although early child marriage was forbidden in law, it appeared that the penalty was not enough to stop it. Unregistered early marriages, with the possibility of a quick religious divorce procedure, left girls with no rights. It recommended that Tajikistan prevent divorce without court decisions.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

643. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 203 recommendations received, 153 had enjoyed the support of Tajikistan and 45 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another five recommendations, indicating which part of the recommendations had been supported and which part had been noted.

644. In conclusion, the delegation of Tajikistan stated that the acceptance of the majority of the recommendations made during the review had demonstrated the readiness and willingness of the Government to further promote and protect human rights in the country. The implementation of those recommendations would require considerable efforts of the Government, which would continue its cooperation with the international community in

that process. The delegation expressed its appreciation to all the participants in the review for their valuable contribution and assistance.

### **United Republic of Tanzania**

645. The review of the United Republic of Tanzania was held on 9 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by the United Republic of Tanzania in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TZA/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TZA/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TZA/3).

646. At its 22nd meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the United Republic of Tanzania (see sect. C below).

647. The outcome of the review of the United Republic of Tanzania comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/12), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/12/Add.1).

### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

648. The delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania, headed by Sifuni Ernest Mchome, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, stated that the second universal periodic review had been approached with an open mind and spirit during the constructive dialogue with States. The delegation once again thanked those States for their active contribution to that dialogue.

649. Following the review, consultations had been held with both State and non-State actors from both sides of the Union on all the recommendations that had been received, in accordance with the principle of broad-based consultations, which guided the universal periodic review. The outcome of those consultations had led to the positions taken on the recommendations made.

650. The recommendations accepted were in line with areas identified in the national report and in compliance with the Constitution, policies and laws of the land, and were reflective of ongoing Government initiatives. The thematic areas of the recommendations were related to international human rights instruments, the Constitution-making process, violence against women and children, the national human rights institution, rights of persons with disabilities, rights of older persons, free and fair elections, environmental protection, land rights, access to water, health and education, freedom of association and expression, anti-corruption measures, access to justice, prison conditions, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, international cooperation, human rights training for law enforcement officers, anti-discrimination, the National Human Rights Action Plan, and the adherence of national laws to international human rights standards.

651. Four recommendations relating to gender discrimination, with regard to the minimum age for marriage and early and forced marriages, had initially been accepted during the review, but they had since been rejected. Those recommendations could not be accepted in light of the fact that a constitutional petition on those issues was under consideration by the Court of Appeal. The Law of Marriage Act of 1971, which governed

those issues, had been the subject of protracted debate touching on religious, cultural and traditional practices. The delegation emphasized the fact that the United Republic of Tanzania did not condone or sanction forced marriage.

652. A recommendation relating to persons with albinism, which had initially been accepted in its entirety during the review had since been accepted in part. All aspects of the recommendation had been accepted, save for the element of reparations to victims of attacks.

653. The national human rights institution would continue to be strengthened through the allocation of financial, human and logistical resources based on national capacity and the national budget.

654. Poverty reduction and development would continue to be addressed through a human rights-based approach to development, as the Sustainable Development Goals were being incorporated into the national five-year development plan. Anti-corruption measures continued to be implemented with a view to accelerating development. In that regard, a division of the High Court had been established in July 2016 to try cases of corruption and economic crimes.

655. The recommendations that had been rejected pertained to issues that were contrary to the Constitution, policies and laws of the land, and religious and cultural beliefs. They were related to the abolition of the death penalty; same-sex relations; a single piece of anti-discrimination legislation on inheritance, succession and land rights issues; marital rape; rights of indigenous peoples; the issuance of a standing invitation for special procedures; and access to work and the freedom of movement for asylum seekers and refugees. In addition, recommendations with several issues, some being acceptable and others not, had not been accepted by the State.

656. There were no indigenous people in the United Republic of Tanzania, as defined by the United Nations and by the African Union. The country's position was that all Tanzanians of African descent were indigenous.

657. Refugees and asylum seekers were regulated by the refugee policy and the Refugee Act of 1998, both of which complied with international law. There was no need to readdress those matters. Further, refugee issues required a global solution and cooperation between States.

658. The recommendations calling for a single piece of anti-discrimination legislation encompassing a range of such issues as inheritance, succession, land rights and economic empowerment in one piece of legislation had also been rejected. There were various pieces of legislation on those issues, which promoted the rights and welfare of women, and there was no imminent need to articulate the various issues in a single piece of legislation.

659. The recommendations relating to same-sex relations had been rejected as they were contrary to the laws, morals, and religious and traditional norms. In addition, the concept of marital rape required further analysis, as Tanzanian communities did not believe that there could be marital rape.

660. Three recommendations that had initially been rejected during the review had since been accepted. The first recommendation was to widen the social welfare domain and make it available to its beneficiaries. The second recommendation was to increase measures to counter homelessness and the lack of adequate and affordable housing, especially for vulnerable people, including those living in poverty and single mothers, subject to resource availability. There were ongoing initiatives in the country, such as the Tanzania Social Action Fund, that sought to enhance the livelihoods of single mothers in poverty-stricken areas. In addition, the social welfare system offered assistance to vulnerable people, who were defined by the State as women, older persons, children, persons with disabilities and people living with HIV/AIDS. The third recommendation was to strengthen efforts to protect the rights of people with albinism, and other vulnerable and minority groups, as defined by the State.

661. The recommendations to amend the Cybercrimes Act and the Statistics Act, both of 2015, had been rejected. The Cybercrimes Act was considered a good piece of legislation.

Furthermore, there were two ongoing constitutional petitions before the courts challenging various provisions of the legislation. Any amendment to that legislation would be guided by court judgments that would be issued in those cases. The Statistics Act was also considered a good law.

662. The recommendation to facilitate the work of the independent and pluralistic media, including citizen journalists, had been rejected. The media and citizens continued to enjoy their rights to access information and to freedom of expression, which was guaranteed by article 18 of the Constitution and relevant laws. However, the media continued to be regulated for the benefit of the institution and the citizens as part of good governance.

663. The recommendation to adopt, through an inclusive process, a revised Access to Information Act and the Media Services Bill had been rejected. The Access to Information Act of 2016 had just been passed in the parliamentary session in September 2016, while the Media Services Bill of 2016 had also just undergone a first reading in that session. Both the Act and the Bill had already undergone rigorous scrutiny by a wide spectrum of State and non-State stakeholders.

664. Also rejected was the recommendation to incorporate provisions from the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa into national legislation, including women's right to medical abortion in cases of sexual assault, rape or incest or where the life of the mother or fetus was in danger. The Penal Code (Cap. 16 of the laws) provided for lawful abortion only when the life of the mother was in danger. The issue of abortion carried cultural and religious sentiments, and a national debate on the issue could not be committed to at the present juncture.

665. Two recommendations on birth registration had been accepted. In 2013, in cooperation with UNICEF, a birth registration programme for children under 5 years of age had commenced. The programme was being implemented in two regions in the country and would soon be extended to other regions. Efforts would be made to expand the programme, as its resources permitted.

666. The recommendation to amend the Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act of 2002 had been rejected. The recommendation to receive the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism had been accepted, as long as her mandate was exercised in accordance with the laws of the land. The recommendation to provide institutional and financial funding for civil society organizations had been accepted in part. The recommendation on corporal punishment had been rejected.

667. The delegation confirmed that 131 recommendations had been accepted, 2 recommendations had been accepted in part and 94 recommendations had been rejected.

668. The delegation reiterated the Government's key national priorities and commitments, which were described in the national report.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

669. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the United Republic of Tanzania, 18 delegations made statements.<sup>23</sup>

670. The Congo stated that the United Republic of Tanzania was committed to implementing the recommendations from the first review, and it noted the will demonstrated by the Government in having established some institutions associated with the promotion and protection of human rights. It called for technical assistance from the international community to assist the State in implementing the recommendations from the second review.

<sup>23</sup> The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/33rdSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

671. Côte d'Ivoire commended the United Republic of Tanzania for the interest demonstrated in the recommendations received, and it was convinced that they would be effective in making a strong contribution to the protection of human rights. It took positive note of the efforts to strengthen the rule of law and it encouraged full cooperation with the international community.

672. Cuba acknowledged the progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the significant increase in the number of women in management positions, as well as the success of the constitutional reform and the adoption of the National Human Rights Action Plan. It was grateful that the United Republic of Tanzania had accepted two of the recommendations made by Cuba.

673. Djibouti highly appreciated the efforts made to promote and protect human rights, particularly the measures taken to protect the rights of persons with albinism. It encouraged the United Republic of Tanzania to continue to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women, particularly female genital mutilation.

674. Egypt recalled with interest the positive steps taken by the Government to improve human rights in all areas, including the adoption of a new Constitution and of legislation promoting human rights. It noted the acceptance of the two recommendations made by Egypt to continue efforts to provide human rights training for law enforcement officers, and to strengthen the penitentiary system.

675. Ethiopia noted with satisfaction the acceptance of a considerable number of recommendations, including those made by Ethiopia. It commended the United Republic of Tanzania for its Development Vision 2025.

676. Haiti regretted that the addendum to the report of the Working Group, with comments on the recommendations, voluntary commitments and responses by the United Republic of Tanzania had been submitted late, making it impossible to offer any analysis. It hoped that the Government had favourably received the majority of the recommendations, including the six recommendations made by Haiti.

677. India commended the United Republic of Tanzania for its receptive and constructive participation in the universal periodic review. The review had reflected the intense participation and engagement by peer countries, having resulted in 227 recommendations covering a range of human rights issues. The majority of the recommendations had been accepted. India expressed the belief that the United Republic of Tanzania would continue its efforts to implement the recommendations accepted.

678. Kenya stated that the United Republic of Tanzania had accepted 131 recommendations, in addition to the 107 recommendations it had accepted in its review in 2011. It noted the development of the National Human Rights Action Plan, which would organize and structure the State's efforts to fulfil its human rights and fundamental freedoms obligations. Kenya encouraged the State to ratify and fully implement the remaining core international instruments to which it was not yet a party.

679. Latvia was pleased to note the renewed commitment of the United Republic of Tanzania to allow all journalists and media workers to carry out their work unhindered and free from violence. It noted the acceptance of many recommendations relating to the issue of domestic violence but it regretted that marital rape was not qualified as criminal behaviour, and it encouraged the State to ensure that victims of such behaviour obtained redress. Latvia regretted that the recommendation to extend a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council had not been accepted.

680. Libya commended the United Republic of Tanzania for its outstanding efforts to promulgate legislation, review existing legislation, increase minimum wages and establish an HIV/AIDS fund, all of which reflected positive interaction with the universal periodic review process and the Government's clear commitment to improve the human rights situation.

681. Maldives appreciated the fact that the United Republic of Tanzania had supported the three recommendations made by Maldives and it was greatly encouraged by the country's commitment to continue improvements in access to safe drinking water, and in

the areas of early and forced marriages and albinism. It welcomed the adoption of policies on education, social protection and trafficking in persons. It urged the State to allocate adequate resources to tackle the effects of climate change, especially on food security.

682. Mali was pleased to note the efforts made by the United Republic of Tanzania to implement the recommendations accepted during the first review, despite the difficult economic context. It highlighted the progress made in terms of equality and non-discrimination in all its forms, combating witchcraft and ratifying international human rights conventions. It encouraged the international community to continue its support for the United Republic of Tanzania.

683. Nigeria acknowledged the acceptance of the majority of the recommendations, which it considered to be a bold commitment and demonstrated the readiness of the Government to make the promotion and protection of human rights paramount. It acknowledged the efforts of the Government to promote human rights, especially the programmes to combat poverty.

684. Pakistan appreciated the fact that the United Republic of Tanzania had accepted many of the recommendations and had reviewed other recommendations, including those made by Pakistan. It noted the positive legislative and institutional measures that had been introduced in recent years, and it appreciated the steps taken to empower women, to ensure the rights of children and to promote labour rights.

685. The Republic of Korea stated that, although the United Republic of Tanzania had not supported the recommendation made by the Republic of Korea to extend a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, the State saw that mechanism as an important tool for the promotion and protection of human rights. The recommendations would contribute to the improvement of human rights, even those that had not been supported.

686. Senegal welcomed the acceptance by the United Republic of Tanzania of most of the recommendations. It noted that the implementation of some of those recommendations had already commenced. Public policy in the area of social inclusion, and the adoption and implementation of national plans focused on health care, combating corruption, and the prevention and elimination of violence against women and children were praiseworthy, particularly because they covered the concerns that had been raised.

687. Sierra Leone noted that the United Republic of Tanzania had accepted the two recommendations it had made. It noted with interest the anti-corruption action plans, as well as other action plans, including one on the elimination of violence against women. It encouraged the State to take legislative measures to establish a minimum age of marriage and to abolish child marriage, and to accede to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

688. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the United Republic of Tanzania, seven other stakeholders made statements.

689. *Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme* highlighted the measures taken to empower women and to address gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation. It expressed concern about early and forced marriage practices and the persistent persecution and massacre of persons with albinism. It encouraged the Government to prosecute all cases of harmful traditional practices, to fully guarantee the rights to freedom of association and to provide the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance with additional resources.

690. Article 19: International Centre against Censorship urged the United Republic of Tanzania to end the harassment of journalists reporting on malpractice and maladministration in public offices. It called upon the State to amend the Cybercrimes Act in order to ensure the right to free expression and privacy, to adopt the revised Access to Information Act, to abolish sedition offences, and to decriminalize defamation and introduce civil remedies in its place.

691. The East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project welcomed the efforts by the United Republic of Tanzania to ensure the human rights of women and people with albinism, but it highlighted the failures to guarantee freedoms of expression and association for journalists, political opponents, and human rights defenders challenging violations of land rights, civil and political rights, health-related rights, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex rights. Media outlets faced censorship and intimidation, and organizations were threatened with deregistration for working on sexual orientation and gender identity issues.

692. Human Rights Watch encouraged the United Republic of Tanzania to ban corporal punishment in schools and to continue efforts to guarantee the right to education by eliminating policies that excluded pregnant and married girls and young mothers from secondary schools. It recommended that the State adopt a minimum marriage age of 18 years and decriminalize consensual sex between young people. It urged the United Republic of Tanzania to reconsider its rejection of the recommendation to protect vulnerable and minority groups, specifically lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people, from discrimination.

693. The Center for Reproductive Rights expressed regret that the United Republic of Tanzania had failed to accept the recommendation to integrate into its national legislation comprehensive reproductive rights, including access to safe medical abortion in cases of sexual assault, rape, incest and where the life of the mother or fetus was in danger. It noted that the inadequate access to safe abortion and post-abortion services contributed to 25 per cent of maternal deaths, and over 66,640 patients were treated for complications from unsafe abortions each year.

694. Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland, also on behalf of the International Lesbian and Gay Association, expressed concern about the criminalization and continuous violence against key populations, and it called for the respect, protection, promotion and fulfilment of their rights to health and to freedom of association, opinion and expression. It also called for the Government to implement the national multisectoral strategic framework on HIV/AIDS for mainland United Republic of Tanzania and the guidelines for the comprehensive package for HIV interventions for key populations of 2014.

695. The Jubilee Campaign, also on behalf of Christian Solidarity Worldwide, expressed concern about restrictions on the right to freedom of religion and the lack of related recommendations in the second cycle of the universal periodic review. It noted increased discrimination and religious-motivated violence against Christian and Muslim communities throughout the United Republic of Tanzania, including the destruction of 19 churches in the north-western region of Kagera in 2015, the looting, burning and destruction of at least 20 churches in Zanzibar, and an attack on the Masjid Rahmani mosque in Mwanza in May 2016.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

696. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 227 recommendations received, 131 had enjoyed the support of the United Republic of Tanzania and 94 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another two recommendations, indicating which part of the recommendations had been supported and which part had been noted.

697. The delegation expressed its appreciation for the comments, encouragement and support from States. The Government would continue to address the remaining challenges in collaboration with all stakeholders. The universal periodic review process was a continuous process and dialogue would therefore continue to be conducted on the recommendations that had been rejected.

#### **Antigua and Barbuda**

698. The review of Antigua and Barbuda was held on 9 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Antigua and Barbuda in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/ATG/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/ATG/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/ATG/3).

699. At its 24th meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Antigua and Barbuda (see sect. C below).

700. The outcome of the review of Antigua and Barbuda comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/13), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group.

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

701. The delegation of Antigua and Barbuda recalled that the Government was committed to empowering its citizens and to promoting and protecting human rights. Even though Antigua and Barbuda was a small independent developing country, the Government did its best, with the limited resources at its disposal, to improve the quality of life of its citizens.

702. Antigua and Barbuda valued the recommendations it had received. Regarding the many recommendations relating to buggery laws, the delegation indicated that, even though males that indulged in sexual relations were not prosecuted, the universal periodic review process had triggered attention to the issue and it had become a topic for public discussion and awareness in the islands. The delegation believed that the public dialogue that had been initiated was positive because it was a way of opening peoples' minds and shaping their views. However, it believed that, once a topic such as that one was in the public domain, it would take some time for things to change.

703. The delegation noted that another issue that had come to light during the universal periodic review was the need to establish a human rights infrastructure in Antigua and Barbuda. The islands did not have a human rights board, policy or team, so that was something that the Government would have to look at, and it would require technical assistance to set up a human rights body within the country.

704. In conclusion, the delegation pointed out that the Government had to find a balance between its international obligations and its political and local needs. At the same time, it reassured the Human Rights Council that the Government's commitment to its human rights obligations was strong.

#### **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

705. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Antigua and Barbuda, nine delegations made statements.

706. China welcomed the spirit of cooperation of Antigua and Barbuda in its work with the universal periodic review mechanism. It acknowledged the Government's attempts to implement the recommendations it had accepted during the second review, including the recommendations to fight domestic violence and to promote gender equality. It appreciated the success achieved by the country in guaranteeing the rights of persons with disabilities and the rights of children. China was ready to support the country as it continued to spread economic and social development and to work to eradicate poverty. It invited the

international community to continue to provide the country with technical and other assistance and to help it to promote human rights.

707. Cuba recognized the efforts of Antigua and Barbuda to follow up on the recommendations from the universal periodic review and it considered that as a sign of the political will of the authorities in the promotion and protection of human rights. Cuba welcomed the amendments to the laws on the prevention of trafficking in persons and on the prevention of the smuggling of migrants, the adoption of laws relating to children and families, and the programmes on economic, social and cultural rights. It invited the international community to provide the necessary resources and technical assistance on human rights that might be requested by Antigua and Barbuda.

708. Maldives was pleased that, out of 115 recommendations, Antigua and Barbuda had accepted 37, including 2 it had made to take steps to ensure the implementation of the law against domestic violence and to dedicate more resources to advance health-care services. Maldives commended Antigua and Barbuda for the legislative measures it had taken to protect children and families, and it urged the Government to reach out to its international partners, including OHCHR, for assistance with the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.

709. Nicaragua praised the institutional enhancements and legal reforms adopted by Antigua and Barbuda to improve the human rights situation of its people, particularly children, adolescents and persons with disabilities. It highlighted the adoption of the law on juvenile justice, the reform of the law on child adoptions and the strengthening of legislation in the area of the prevention of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. It encouraged the Government to implement the recommendations from the universal periodic review and, when necessary, to rely on international assistance and cooperation.

710. Pakistan appreciated the engagement of Antigua and Barbuda with the human rights machinery, including the universal periodic review mechanism. It also appreciated the efforts of the State to improve human rights by having strengthened the legislative and institutional framework, including its accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Pakistan emphasized the fact that small island developing States such as Antigua and Barbuda faced several capacity constraints, which could be overcome through technical assistance from the United Nations and the international community as requested.

711. Sierra Leone noted the ongoing efforts made by Antigua and Barbuda to combat violence against women and children. Similarly, it noted the commitment of the Government to address trafficking in persons through its laws of 2015 on trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants. It appreciated the fact that, as a small island State, Antigua and Barbuda was faced with various implementation and technical expertise constraints, and in that regard, it commended the State for its efforts to find viable solutions through regional partnerships that would better enable it to meet its long-term socioeconomic commitments and its human rights obligations.

712. UNICEF, on behalf of the United Nations Subregional Team for Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, noted that, after having accepted the recommendations from the first cycle of the universal periodic review to establish a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles, Antigua and Barbuda had chosen not to accept similar recommendations from the second cycle. UNICEF urged the Government to continue to move towards the establishment of a national human rights institution, consistent with its earlier position. It noted that violence against women was a serious human rights concern, and it commended the Government for having adopted an action plan to end gender-based violence and it encouraged the State to continue to work towards its implementation with the support of UN-Women. It urged the Government to submit its overdue report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, to establish an institutionalized, permanent mechanism to coordinate the implementation of human rights recommendations and to ensure the timely submission of reports to the treaty bodies.

713. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that Antigua and Barbuda had showed its commitment to human rights through the constructive approach it had taken during its second universal periodic review. It welcomed the fact that Antigua and Barbuda had

acceded to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and it praised the Government for its plans and social programmes to reduce poverty. It encouraged the Government to work further in favour of the most vulnerable sectors of the population and in particular to strengthen its social policies.

714. The Bahamas noted that Antigua and Barbuda had supported 37 of the 115 recommendations received, including a number of recommendations relating to technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen human rights monitoring and reporting. The Bahamas welcomed the fact that the Government had also accepted recommendations relating to poverty alleviation, the promotion of universal access to education, the fight against domestic violence and the empowerment of women. It trusted that the full implementation of all the recommendations accepted would serve to further strengthen the human rights architecture in the country. It encouraged the State to continue its positive trajectory, despite the inherent challenges, constraints and vulnerabilities it faced. It concluded by calling upon the international community to lend support to the country in those efforts.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

715. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Antigua and Barbuda, one other stakeholder made a statement.

716. Action Canada for Population and Development acknowledged the stated commitment of the Government to combat violence and discrimination against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community, but it indicated that there was not yet any concrete evidence of that commitment. For instance, 13 recommendations relating to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons had not been supported by Antigua and Barbuda. Action Canada for Population and Development urged the Government to accept technical assistance to fulfil the aforementioned commitment and to issue a standing invitation to all special procedures. It noted that other Caribbean States had advanced in amending legislation to respect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. It mentioned that the Bahamas had decriminalized sexual relations between persons of the same sex 25 years ago; in 2006, Saint Lucia had incorporated into its Labour Code a protection from dismissal based on sexual orientation; and, in January 2016, Barbados had updated its domestic violence legislation, extending protection to same-sex partners. It therefore considered that the legal protection of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community was feasible for small Caribbean States, and it offered its technical support to the Government in that endeavour.

### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

717. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 115 recommendations received, 37 had enjoyed the support of Antigua and Barbuda, and 78 had been noted.

718. The delegation of Antigua and Barbuda thanked the intervening delegations for their constructive suggestions and comments, which were most appreciated because they served as a guide and focus in the Government's endeavours to improve the human rights situation. The recommendations were also highly appreciated because they had contributed to opening a public dialogue on important human rights issues.

719. The delegation welcomed the fact that some intervening Governments had mentioned the positive steps taken to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The delegation announced that a resolution had passed in the House of Representatives in the period between the universal periodic review of Antigua and Barbuda and the adoption of the report by the Human Rights Council.

720. In acknowledging the comments by Action Canada for Population and Development on the need to protect the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community, the delegation pointed out that every person living in Antigua and Barbuda was entitled to the protection established by the Constitution, and it regretted that that issue of violence and discrimination against specific vulnerable groups unfortunately affected all countries, not

only those in the Caribbean. The Government was ready and open to receive any assistance and proposals the intervening organization would be able to provide relating to that issue.

721. The delegation welcomed the remarks by UNICEF concerning the need for a national human rights institution, and it reiterated that the Government was open to taking them into consideration. The delegation had been in a dialogue with Caribbean colleagues who were assisting with regard to that issue. The Government was also ready to welcome the assistance of the United Nations team in the Caribbean and OHCHR.

722. On the subject of childcare legislation, the delegation indicated that the legislation had already been adopted and had entered into force on 1 September 2016. In particular, the Government had undertaken to raise the age of criminal responsibility for children from 8 to 12 years.

723. The delegation concluded by reiterating its appreciation for the opportunity to hear what delegations had to share on how the human rights situation in Antigua and Barbuda could improve.

### **Swaziland**

724. The review of Swaziland was held on 10 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Swaziland in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SWZ/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SWZ/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/SWZ/3).

725. At its 24th meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Swaziland (see sect. C below).

726. The outcome of the review of Swaziland comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/14), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/14/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

727. The delegation, led by the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Edgar Hillary, presented to the Human Rights Council the position of Swaziland on the recommendations received during the State's second review. It recalled that, during the review in May 2016, Swaziland had received 181 recommendations, of which 88 had been supported, 7 had been considered to be already implemented or in the process of implementation, and 14 had been noted. Another 72 were to be examined and the responses to those recommendations were to be provided during the adoption of the outcome of the review by the Human Rights Council. Following extensive in-country consultations, Swaziland had accepted 36 recommendations and noted 36 so that, in total, 131 out of 181 recommendations had been accepted.

728. The delegation provided additional information on prison conditions, noting that the State was rehabilitating dilapidated correctional facilities and constructing new ones. All correctional facilities had clinics, manned with matrons and nutritionists, and all offenders were provided with three meals per day. Furthermore, the Department of Correctional Services had medical doctors on permanent staff. All such centres were administered in

accordance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules).

729. Additional information was provided on the recommendations that had been noted. With regard to the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, the delegation highlighted the fact that, even though that recommendation had not enjoyed the State's support, Swaziland did not carry out capital punishment and would not do so in the foreseeable future. Furthermore, although the recommendation to abolish or adopt a moratorium on the death penalty had been noted by Swaziland and the death penalty was lawful, no one had been executed since 1983.

730. Although the recommendation to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Member of Their Families had not enjoyed the support of Swaziland, the country's Constitution and labour laws adequately protected the rights of migrants and their families.

731. With regard to the recommendation to allow women to transmit their nationality to their children, the delegation indicated that, although the State appreciated the spirit in which they had been made, those recommendations had been noted, as their implementation would require amendments to the Constitution and further consultations with the public would be required.

732. With regard to the recommendation to prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, the educational policies already prohibited corporal punishment in schools, and with regard to children in conflict with the law, the Children's Protection and Welfare Act of 2012 had abolished whipping as a sentence.

733. The delegation then provided further observations with regard to the recommendations accepted. Swaziland would adopt without further delay the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill and take measures to abolish practices that were harmful to women. Consultations with all stakeholders were ongoing. With regard to early marriage, the Marriage Act was being amended and the draft bill provided 21 years as the marriageable age for both boys and girls. With regard to forced labour, the delegation recalled that section 17 (2) of the Constitution provided that persons would not be required to perform forced labour, and that the provision was being implemented and observed.

734. The delegation recalled that the State had accepted recommendations on freedom of expression, association and assembly, noting that the Constitution of Swaziland guaranteed those rights. Since the State's review in May 2016, the Public Order Bill had been approved by Cabinet and tabled before the House of Assembly by the Prime Minister. The parliamentary portfolio committee of the Prime Minister's Office had invited members of the public to participate in the law-making process by making submissions on the contents of the Bill.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

735. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Swaziland, 18 delegations made statements.<sup>24</sup>

736. The Sudan commended Swaziland for its efforts to promote and protect the human rights of its citizens. It appreciated the enactment in 2012 of comprehensive legislation to protect children, which would provide children with protection from abuse and promote their best interests, as well as the Free Primary Education Act. It noted with satisfaction that Swaziland had accepted the majority of the recommendations received during the review, including the recommendations made by the Sudan.

<sup>24</sup> The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/33rdSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

737. Togo commended Swaziland for the measures it had taken to improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable sectors of its population, notably by having facilitated their access to safe drinking water and electricity. It encouraged Swaziland to take additional measures to provide care for children orphaned by HIV/AIDS. It welcomed amendments to the Deeds Registry Act to allow women access to land. Togo invited the international community to intensify its support for Swaziland, particularly regarding its sustainable development programme.

738. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed the recent steps taken by the Government to amend the Suppression of Terrorism Act of 2008. It urged Swaziland to take urgent steps to ensure that the Swazi legal system met the requirements of the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary, and to make amendments to legislation to ensure that those Principles were adhered to and that the judiciary was effectively independent and impartial. Swaziland should enact legislation to protect equality of rights for women.

739. The United States of America welcomed the acceptance by Swaziland of its recommendations relating to freedoms of association and peaceful assembly, an independent judiciary and the rights of women and children, and it urged the Government to take seriously its commitment to implement them fully. It remained concerned that the most recent reforms of the Suppression of Terrorism Act continued to suppress individuals' exercise of their freedoms of association and peaceful assembly, and it urged the Government to take seriously its commitment to implement that recommendation, recognizing the role of a robust civil society.

740. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the open cooperation of Swaziland with the universal periodic review mechanism. It noted the country's praiseworthy efforts to implement the recommendations it had received, including the recommendation to accede to the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol. Swaziland had adopted policies to improve the quality of life of its people, in particular efforts to expand access to primary education. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela encouraged the Government to continue its efforts for the most vulnerable sectors of the population.

741. Algeria welcomed the measures taken by Swaziland to promote human rights, particularly with regard to the fight against torture, the independence of the judiciary and the protection of children. It congratulated Swaziland on its acceptance of 131 recommendations, including those made by Algeria to strengthen the freedoms of expression and peaceful assembly and to combat gender-based violence and inequality between the sexes, motivated by discriminatory traditional practices.

742. Angola congratulated Swaziland on its acceptance of the majority of the recommendations received during the review, including those made by Angola, and it encouraged the country to continue to cooperate with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council. It encouraged Swaziland to continue its efforts to improve prison conditions and access to health care for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and malaria.

743. Botswana commended Swaziland for the legislative measures taken for the protection of human rights, the enactment of the Children's Protection and Welfare Act, and the policy measures taken to address gender-based violence. It encouraged Swaziland to finalize the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill, as that would go a long way in addressing cases of sexual violence and ensuring that perpetrators were brought to justice.

744. Chad welcomed the improvement of the human rights situation in Swaziland, resulting from the institutional framework put into place with the Constitution of 2005 and the country's ratification of regional and international human rights instruments. It expressed the hope that its recommendations would be among those accepted. It recommended the adoption of the report by the Human Rights Council.

745. The Congo congratulated Swaziland on the implementation of the recommendations accepted during its first universal periodic review. It commended the State for the ratification of key international human rights instruments and its commitment to submit its reports to the treaty bodies. It encouraged Swaziland to strengthen its efforts in the

promotion of human rights by making the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights a reality for the population.

746. Cuba stated that, despite the challenges mentioned in its report, Swaziland had made progress thanks to the measures taken in various areas of society. It noted in particular the measures taken to improve gender equality and training in human rights for judicial officials. It urged the international community to support Swaziland with regard to technical assistance and increasing capacity, as identified in its report. Swaziland had accepted the majority of the recommendations it had received, including those made by Cuba.

747. Egypt commended Swaziland for the considerable progress it had achieved in the field of human rights relating to a number of issues, including legislative elections, the ratification of international human rights instruments such as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and capacity-building seminars for judicial officials and the police. It noted with great satisfaction the acceptance of recommendations, in particular those made by Egypt. It urged Swaziland to continue its efforts to promote human rights.

748. Ethiopia noted with satisfaction the acceptance by Swaziland of a considerable number of recommendations from the second universal periodic review, including the recommendations made by Ethiopia to allocate adequate national funding to the response to HIV/AIDS, and to continue to remove all barriers to accessing primary education. It recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report.

749. Haiti congratulated Swaziland on having taken into consideration the recommendations to cooperate with civil society in the implementation of the recommendations accepted, to guarantee freedom of peaceful assembly and association by implementing the new Public Order Bill, and to take measures to put an end to cultural practices that discriminated against children with disabilities, women and all persons living with HIV/AIDS. It encouraged Swaziland to request the support of United Nations specialized agencies, as well as regional organizations, in the implementation of the recommendations.

750. Kenya welcomed the acceptance by Swaziland of most of the recommendations it had received during the second review, including those made by Kenya. It encouraged Swaziland to continue to implement the recommendations and to fully implement the remaining core international human rights treaties. It encouraged the Government and the Commission on Human Rights and Public Administration to work closely with stakeholders on fulfilling their human rights obligations.

751. Libya welcomed the determination of Swaziland to protect human rights in the country and to address existing challenges. It congratulated Swaziland on its acceptance of the majority of the recommendations it had received. It wished Swaziland success in the implementation of recommendations accepted and recommended the adoption of the report.

752. Maldives noted with appreciation that Swaziland had accepted 131 of the 181 recommendations it had received, noting in particular the acceptance of the recommendation of Maldives to expedite the implementation of the Disaster Management Act. It was encouraged by the strides taken in policy and legislative reforms to address the challenges of gender-based violence. It further appreciated improvements in the health-care sector and progress in ensuring access to safe drinking water for its people.

753. Nigeria expressed appreciation for the measures already taken by Swaziland to improve the promotion and protection of human rights, including the measures introduced to safeguard the lives and livelihoods of the less privileged and of vulnerable groups, while having kept intact the mechanisms to accelerate economic growth and recovery.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

754. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Swaziland, six other stakeholders made statements.

755. The International Commission of Jurists expressed concern about the lack of implementation of the recommendations accepted by Swaziland during the first universal periodic review, noting the continuing issues relating to the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, the lack of the ratification of key international instruments, and the lack of freedom of expression, association and assembly. It called upon Swaziland to accept and fully and promptly implement the recommendations from the second review relevant to: ensuring the independence and impartiality of the judiciary; ratifying and domesticating the international instruments accepted during the previous review; aligning national laws with international standards to guarantee freedom of expression, association and assembly; enacting into law the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill.

756. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme commended Swaziland for its efforts to combat sexual violence and to promote gender equality, its efforts in health care, particularly relating to HIV/AIDS, and its efforts to improve access to safe drinking water. It called upon the Government to take further steps to promote the independence of the Commission on Human Rights and Public Administration, so that it could come into full compliance with the Paris Principles, to continue to strengthen gender equality legislation, and to accelerate the elimination of sexual violence through the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill. More should also be done to prevent torture and other human rights violations by law enforcement, and to guarantee the impartiality and independence of the judiciary.

757. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation was concerned that there had been no consultation by the Government with civil society on the 72 pending recommendations. It called upon the Government to implement the recommendations to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights, in particular those on cross-cutting issues such as the lifting of the ban on, and allowing the full participation of, political parties; the immediate enactment of the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill; allowing women to transmit their nationality to their children and their spouses; and the decriminalization of same-sex relations. Swaziland was also urged to ensure the full implementation of the Children's Protection and Welfare Act of 2012.

758. Amnesty International welcomed the commitment of Swaziland to enact the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill and to bring existing legislation into conformity with obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and it urged the State to commit to a time frame within which that would be accomplished. It called upon Swaziland to urgently enact legislation that defined and criminalized torture and stipulated effective measures to prevent and punish incidents of torture, as it had committed to do in its first review. It appreciated the State's commitment to amend the Suppression of Terrorism Act and the Sedition and Subversive Activities Act, noting that similar commitments had been made during the review of Swaziland in 2011 and they remained unimplemented.

759. Human Rights Watch stated that the Government had made little progress in implementing the recommendations it had accepted during its first universal periodic review and that there had been no progress on essential rights reforms that Swaziland had rejected during that review. It urged the Government to: guarantee rights to freedom of association, peaceful assembly, and expression; revoke the King's Decree of 1973 on political parties; repeal or amend repressive laws, including the Suppression of Terrorism Act and the Sedition and Subversive Activities Act; enact reforms to ensure equality for women and prevent their discrimination in law and in practice; and fully enforce the constitutional provision that no woman shall be forced to take part in a custom to which she objected.

760. The International Bar Association, also on behalf of Lawyers for Lawyers, noted that recent calls by the Law Society of Swaziland to boycott the Supreme Court until permanent judges were appointed raised concerns about yet another judicial crisis. Although Swaziland had accepted five recommendations to strengthen the independence of the judiciary, it had not accepted a recommendation to amend legislation governing the Judicial Service Commission. It called upon Swaziland to ensure that lawyers were not subjected to prosecution, sanctions or threats for any action taken in accordance with

recognized professional duties, and to seek technical assistance from the international community on methods for strengthening the independence of lawyers and the judiciary.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

761. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 181 recommendations received, 131 had enjoyed the support of Swaziland and 50 had been noted.

762. The delegation expressed its profound gratitude to the Working Group and to the members of the troika and of the Human Rights Council for their positive spirit of engagement. Swaziland would continue to work towards the implementation of the recommendations it had accepted.

763. The delegation expressed appreciation for the constructive recommendations and the encouragement received from both member States and civil society organizations. It acknowledged the technical assistance the country was receiving from OHCHR relating to capacity-building on human rights treaty reporting, and Swaziland looked forward to continued cooperation with OHCHR.

#### **Trinidad and Tobago**

764. The review of Trinidad and Tobago was held on 10 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Trinidad and Tobago in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TTO/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TTO/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TTO/3).

765. At its 24th meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Trinidad and Tobago (see sect. C below).

766. The outcome of the review of Trinidad and Tobago comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/15), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/15 /Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

767. The delegation of Trinidad and Tobago highlighted the fact that the scrutiny process of the universal periodic review had served the country in many useful ways, primarily by having helped it to refine the way in which vulnerable groups were protected.

768. Trinidad and Tobago remained committed to taking all the steps necessary to better the standard of living of its people, with continued efforts to enhance human rights protection mechanisms through legislation and policy development, along with the implementation of strong social protection mechanisms.

769. Trinidad and Tobago had received 157 recommendations from the Working Group. Of that number, 70 had enjoyed the support of Trinidad and Tobago, 1 was deemed to have already been implemented and 19 had not enjoyed the support of Trinidad and Tobago. Of the remaining 67 recommendations, the State had provided a detailed written response on

each issue, indicating its position on the recommendations that it had agreed to examine further.

770. Trinidad and Tobago was thoroughly committed to improving the rights of all vulnerable groups. As such, it had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on 25 June 2015. The ratification of the Convention had further propelled legislation, policies and programmes aimed at providing opportunities for persons with disabilities to realize their fullest potential.

771. Trinidad and Tobago had recently concluded the review of the State's combined fourth to seventh periodic reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW/C/TTO/4-7). From the successful completion of the review, the Government, through the Gender Affairs Division of the Office of the Prime Minister, was designing a plan to implement the recommendations from the review.

772. The Children's Act of 2012 was proclaimed on 18 May 2015 and, in that law, the definition of "child" was "a person under the age of 18 years", bringing the definition of a child into line with international standards.

773. Trinidad and Tobago was fully committed to the future of its children and thus recognized that child marriage was an issue that the State needed to deal with. The inconsistencies in various pieces of domestic legislation in relation to the age of consent to marriage and the age of a child were being addressed. The State had embarked on a nationwide public consultation process on the matter, taking into consideration the views of various stakeholders and even the specific views of younger citizens. Once completed, national policies would be developed and used to amend existing legislation.

774. Trafficking in persons was also recognized as a serious crime in Trinidad and Tobago. The Government had developed a national policy on trafficking in persons and had worked with civil society to create legislation that criminalized all forms of trafficking in persons, and that provided victims with extensive protection. A counter-trafficking unit had been established in January 2013 under the Trafficking in Persons Act of 2011 to give effect to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. The Government had increased funding for the counter-trafficking unit and had established a national task force against trafficking of persons and a task force steering committee, which was mandated with preparing a draft national plan of action on trafficking in persons.

775. With regard to capital punishment, the position of Trinidad and Tobago stood unchanged. As a sovereign nation that observed the rule of law, the death penalty was part of its legislation as a penalty for specific criminal activity within the strict bounds of due process and all the afforded safeguards.

776. On the use of corporal punishment to discipline children, Trinidad and Tobago was changing systematically and institutionally to veer away from such a practice. The Children's Act of 2012 made it illegal to administer corporal punishment in schools, while for parents and legal guardians the position was maintained. An ongoing national debate was taking place to change the view on the use of corporal punishment in the home.

777. The issue of discrimination on the basis of HIV/AIDS and/or sexual orientation continued to be of paramount consideration. Attitudes towards those issues were drastically changing. The Government continued to work to strengthen the rights of all individuals.

778. No State had a perfect record on human rights and governance, and Trinidad and Tobago was no different. It was a work in progress. Trinidad and Tobago would continue to work to improve, cultivate values and build resilience to the many challenges the country faced on a daily basis. The Government intended to maintain a high level of ambition regarding the protection of human rights on the national level, and the universal periodic review process continued to be a vital part of that work.

## 2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

779. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Trinidad and Tobago, 13 delegations made statements.

780. Pakistan appreciated the acceptance of many recommendations, including those made by Pakistan. It praised the commitment of Trinidad and Tobago to promote and protect the rights of its citizens, and it referred to the enactment of legislation such as the Trafficking in Persons Act, the Anti-Terrorism (Amended) Act and the Interception of Communications Act. It noted the measures taken to enhance the quality of life of persons with disabilities with the commissioning of the National Enrichment Centre for Persons with Disabilities.

781. Paraguay praised Trinidad and Tobago for the measures it had taken to strengthen the plans and policies to eradicate violence against women, highlighting the fact that the promotion and protection of women's rights must always remain a priority for all States. It referred to the progress made by Trinidad and Tobago in the ratification of international human rights instruments to advance the State's national commitment to promote and protect human dignity. Paraguay encouraged the Government to follow up on and implement all of the recommendations accepted, and it offered its technical cooperation.

782. Sierra Leone thanked Trinidad and Tobago for the information provided on the recommendations to be implemented and the comprehensive explanation on the technical capacity constraints and resource limitations in the context of the ratification of some of the international conventions. It praised the State for having ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to consider unifying its national legislation regarding raising the age of marriage to 18 years.

783. Singapore commended Trinidad and Tobago for its efforts to build a nation that drew strength from its diversity. It noted the efforts to strengthen protection for victims of human trafficking and to ensure the full implementation of the Trafficking in Persons Act. It praised the State for the progress it had made to improve employment and education for persons with disabilities. Singapore encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to continue to implement its priorities and commitments under the seven interconnected pillars for sustainable development.

784. UNICEF, on behalf of the United Nations Country Team, commended the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for its programmes and initiatives to promote and protect the rights of children, including by having strengthened the capacity of the Children's Authority and civil society organizations. It urged the State to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and to submit periodic reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. It encouraged the Government to adopt and strengthen legislation aimed at the elimination of gender-based violence.

785. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela highlighted the measures taken by the Government to guarantee its people access to health services, housing, food and education, and the enactment of important laws to strengthen the institutional framework on human rights. It congratulated Trinidad and Tobago on its progress towards eradicating poverty and its success in the implementation of its social policies to improve the lives of its citizens, in particular the most vulnerable.

786. The Bahamas applauded Trinidad and Tobago for its ongoing efforts to promote and protect human rights. It referred to the recommendations on the legislative review and reform to address discrimination against women in national law, the development of a coordinated inter-agency approach to respond to gender-based violence and the acceleration of efforts to incorporate the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into national law. It welcomed the efforts made in the areas of trafficking in persons, the development of a national plan of action for human rights and the establishment of a national human rights institution.

787. China welcomed the efforts of Trinidad and Tobago to reduce unemployment and eradicate poverty, giving priority to promote and protect economic, social and cultural

rights. It applauded the State for its efforts to strengthen the national human rights institution and human rights education and for its progress in combating trafficking in persons and domestic violence. It praised the Government for its protection of the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities.

788. Cuba highlighted the success achieved by Trinidad and Tobago in having granted universal education for primary school children, and the measures taken to end the cycle of detention and recidivism of drug users. It mentioned the State's acceptance of the majority of the recommendations, including those made by Cuba to improve the situation of young people and to develop more equitable strategies to achieve gender equality based on an assessment of the different constraints and opportunities for men and women.

789. India thanked Trinidad and Tobago for the update on the recommendations. It noted the active participation and engagement of peer countries, with a large number of recommendations accepted.

790. Kenya praised the long-standing commitment of Trinidad and Tobago to implement human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, despite the resource constraints the State faced. It encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to implement all of the recommendations, in particular the recommendation to reform the Constitution as an important legal framework, which would anchor most of the human rights treaties in its domestic legislation.

791. Maldives encouraged the Government to develop and implement a national awareness-raising campaign on human rights and to implement the updated national policy on persons with disabilities. It noted the commitments of Trinidad and Tobago to fulfil its human rights obligations, to protect the rights of women and children, to reduce poverty, to improve the administration of justice and to reduce the incidence of violent crimes.

792. Nicaragua congratulated Trinidad and Tobago on the progress made since its first universal periodic review. It referred to the legislative, institutional and structural reforms and efforts to improve the rights of children and persons with disabilities, the efforts made to combat trafficking in persons, to promote gender equality and to eliminate all forms of discrimination. It commended the State for the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the establishment of an interministerial committee to supervise its implementation. It urged Trinidad and Tobago to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

793. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Trinidad and Tobago, no other stakeholder made statements.

### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

794. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 157 recommendations received, 79 had enjoyed the support of Trinidad and Tobago and 78 had been noted.

795. The delegation reiterated the commitment of Trinidad and Tobago for its citizens to live in an environment of non-discrimination and protection. It thanked all the delegations and stakeholders that had assisted them through the second cycle of the universal periodic review.

### **Thailand**

796. The review of Thailand was held on 11 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by Thailand in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/THA/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/THA/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/THA/3).

797. At its 25th meeting, on 23 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Thailand (see sect. C below).

798. The outcome of the review of Thailand comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/16), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/16/Add.1).

### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

799. The delegation of Thailand stated that, after the review, the Government had convened a meeting of the national committee on the universal periodic review and two focus group discussions, with the involvement of the agencies concerned and civil society, to consider those remaining recommendations.

800. Thailand had received a total of 249 recommendations during its review in May 2016. It had immediately supported 181 recommendations and deferred the decision on the remaining 68 recommendations.

801. Thailand had supported six more recommendations in line with the Government's policies and the readiness of the line agencies, including the recommendation contained in paragraph 159.10 to consider ratifying the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), the recommendation contained in paragraph 159.17 to investigate all torture allegations by an independent body, the recommendation contained in paragraph 159.30 to take steps towards the abolition of the death penalty, the recommendation contained in paragraph 159.31 to implement the Nelson Mandela Rules, the recommendation contained in paragraph 159.35 to revise laws to further address gender-based violence, and the recommendation contained in paragraph 159.49 to revise laws relating to marriageable age.

802. Regarding the remaining recommendations that had been noted, Thailand would continue to reflect upon and keep them for further deliberations.

803. The Government had already started to implement some of the recommendations accepted and the voluntary pledges; for example, it had acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities earlier that month. Thailand was preparing to deposit the instrument of withdrawal of its reservation to article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

804. Thailand was also working on a draft act on the prevention and suppression of torture and enforced disappearance. The Council of State was currently finalizing its consideration of that draft, which would soon be submitted to the National Legislative Assembly for approval. Once promulgated, the act would enable Thailand to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and strengthen its compliance with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

805. On 7 August 2016, the draft Constitution was approved in the referendum, which had been held in a free, fair, transparent and orderly manner. That Constitution, which would enter into force in a few months, continued to guarantee the rights and liberties of the people. It also incorporated new commitments, such as the development of gender-responsive budgeting to bring about greater equality in society and the strengthening of the National Human Rights Commission.

806. The delegation highlighted the fact that, the previous week, the Prime Minister had issued an order terminating the use of the Military Court to try civilians for offences relating to internal security, among others. Such offences committed henceforth would be tried before the Court of Justice.

807. The delegation reaffirmed that Thailand was doing its best to move the country forward with a view to achieving a more sustainable democracy.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

808. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Thailand, 17 delegations made statements.<sup>25</sup>

809. Togo welcomed the steps taken by Thailand to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It also welcomed the decision that conferred the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand with the power to receive complaints and to investigate all allegations of torture, as well as the measures taken that were aimed at the abolition of the death penalty.

810. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed Order No. 55 of the National Council for Peace and Order, which stopped the trial of civilians in military courts for acts committed after it had been issued. It noted the Government's efforts to deliver several pieces of legislation, including on criminalizing torture and enforced disappearances. It also welcomed the creation of a body to investigate torture allegations in the Deep South. It expressed concern that restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly remained, and that human rights defenders were not able to operate freely, were frequently denied access to justice, and faced legal cases aimed at preventing their public participation. It called for the further easing of restrictions on rights and freedoms to create conditions for credible elections the following year and to ensure the implementation of the road map to reform.

811. The United States of America welcomed the Government's decision to return civilian trials to civilian courts and it encouraged the Government to expand that order to include the nearly 500 civilian cases currently pending in military courts. It urged Thailand to give additional consideration to: lifting undue restrictions on the exercise of fundamental freedoms, particularly Order No. 7/2557 of the National Council for Peace and Order, and allowing all Thai people to participate fully in the political reform process; rescinding Order Nos. 3/2558 and 13/2559 of the National Council for Peace and Order; and eliminating mandatory minimum sentences for *lèse-majesté* violations.

812. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that the national economic and social development plan for 2012–2016 had enabled Thailand to advance in poverty reduction, with policies aimed at building a more just society and at providing equal access to resources and the benefits of development. It encouraged the Government to further strengthen its successful social programmes in order to increase the quality of life of its people, in particular vulnerable populations.

813. Albania was pleased to note that Thailand had supported its recommendations to strengthen government measures to eradicate forced child labour, to bring national legislation on freedom of expression into compliance with international law and to repeal the clause expanding the use of the death penalty for economic crimes.

814. Bahrain noted with satisfaction that Thailand had supported its recommendations to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates and to continue with the national plan for the development of children and young people. It also welcomed the further legal measures

<sup>25</sup> The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/33rdSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

taken by the State to prevent violence against children and young people. It encouraged Thailand to intensify efforts to address child labour.

815. Belgium regretted the decision not to support the recommendations to repeal Order No. 3/2015 of the National Council for Peace and Order and to ensure that all civilians were tried before civilian courts and granted the right to a fair trial. Belgium reiterated its call to amend article 112 of the Criminal Code in order to remove prison terms for offences stemming from the legitimate exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

816. Botswana welcomed the Gender Equality Act of 2015, the amendment to the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2008, and the amendment to the Criminal Code to criminalize child pornography. It also welcomed the measures to eliminate violence against women and children, as well as the commitment to the reforms aimed at promoting good governance, reducing inequality and increasing the efficiency of the justice system.

817. Brunei Darussalam was pleased to note that Thailand had supported its recommendations to ensure better protection for its vulnerable people and access to education for children. It wished Thailand success in implementing the Third National Human Rights Plan (2014–2018) and the recommendations accepted.

818. Singapore welcomed the fact that Thailand had supported the recommendations it had made to strengthen the prevention of and response to violence against children and young people, and to take measures to eradicate trafficking rings and to prosecute perpetrators of trafficking in persons. It encouraged Thailand to do its utmost to translate the recommendations the State had supported into concrete policies and programmes, and to continue its efforts to implement the recommendations it had supported through initiatives such as the Third National Human Rights Plan (2014–2018).

819. China appreciated the fact that Thailand had supported its recommendations to continue to strengthen the protection of the rights of children and to eliminate child labour. It welcomed the adoption of the Third National Human Rights Plan. It also appreciated the State's efforts to promote comprehensive socioeconomic development and the development of health and education, and to guarantee the rights of the most vulnerable populations. Further, China welcomed the adoption of the Gender Equality Act, the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and other laws.

820. Cuba noted that Thailand was one of the leading promoters of technical assistance and capacity-building in the Human Rights Council, which demonstrated the interest and commitment of the country to work with international human rights mechanisms such as the universal periodic review in order to contribute to the efforts of countries to improve the promotion and protection of human rights. Cuba appreciated the fact that Thailand had supported the two recommendations made by Cuba to implement the national plan for economic development and human rights education.

821. Malaysia welcomed the voluntary pledges of Thailand to enhance gender equality, empower persons with disabilities, and promote human rights education and awareness.

822. Fiji welcomed the acceptance by Thailand of its recommendation to continue to implement, and to train officials on, aspects of the Third National Human Rights Plan. It also welcomed the attention paid by the Government to combating violence against women and children through the development of a manual on a non-violent approach to child rearing and caring in various settings.

823. Germany welcomed the decision to end the Military Court's jurisdiction over *lèse-majesté* cases and internal security offences for civilians and to transfer those cases to civilian jurisdiction. Germany considered that to be a first positive step towards a return to democracy and respect for the rule of law and human rights in the country. It called upon Thailand to allow all pending civil cases to be transferred to civilian courts and it encouraged the State to lift further restrictions on freedoms of assembly and expression in order to allow for a free, open and inclusive dialogue in the run-up to the elections.

824. Kyrgyzstan welcomed the acceptance by Thailand of its recommendations to further address all forms of gender-based violence and abuse, and to take concrete measures to eliminate child labour and child sex tourism. It believed that their implementation would

increase the effectiveness of the protection of the rights and well-being of women and children.

825. The Lao People's Democratic Republic commended Thailand for the efforts made to create favourable conditions and platforms for people to exercise their fundamental rights and freedoms through the adoption of a new Constitution, the enactment and amendment of a number of domestic laws and regulations, and the ratification of international human rights treaties. It appreciated the progress made in protecting and promoting the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities by having enhanced the right to work, improved educational quality and health-care services, and having combated poverty.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

826. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Thailand, eight other stakeholders made statements.

827. The International Commission of Jurists stated that the military Government had issued orders criminalizing political gatherings and allowing arbitrary detention. It expressed concern that three human rights defenders had been charged with criminal defamation for making allegations of torture in the Deep South. It urged Thailand to revoke the interim Constitution and all orders of the National Council for Peace and Order contrary to human rights, transfer all pending civilian cases to civilian courts, set aside the convictions of all civilians prosecuted in military courts since the coup d'état in 2014, and end the harassment of human rights defenders.

828. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme deplored the bloody repression of demonstrators and the unlawful searches of homes of opponents and human rights defenders. It invited Thailand to respect the right to freedom of expression, demonstration and assembly. It expressed concern about discrimination against and ill-treatment of refugees and migrants. It encouraged Thailand to combat torture and prison overcrowding, and to increase investments in the regions of Pattani, Narathiwat, Yala and Songkhla.

829. Action Canada for Population and Development urged Thailand to increase the number and funding of HIV programmes provided to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and it expressed concern about the lack of a comprehensive anti-discrimination law. It encouraged Thailand to increase education on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons; to eliminate the bullying and harassment of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex students; to review all school textbooks; to combat discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons; and to enact legislation to allow individuals to change their gender on official documentation.

830. The International Federation of Human Rights noted that Thailand had failed to make a commitment to implement key recommendations, including those calling for the repeal or amendment of article 112 of the Criminal Code and an end to its use to limit freedom of expression, and the repeal of the orders of the National Council for Peace and Order that were inconsistent with the State's international human rights obligations. It reiterated its call for Thailand to lift all restrictions on the enjoyment of fundamental civil and political rights.

831. The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development was concerned that Thailand had shown no intention of easing restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly and on human rights defenders. It called upon Thailand to release political activists and human rights defenders, amend repressive provisions and repeal all military decrees that restricted fundamental freedoms. It urged Thailand to transfer all pending civilian cases since the coup d'état of 2014 to civilian courts and ensure that the new national human rights institution law fully complied with the Paris Principles.

832. Amnesty International urged Thailand to promptly implement the recommendations to criminalize torture and enforced disappearances, ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and create independent bodies to inspect all places of detention. It called upon the Government to release individuals detained for the peaceful exercise of their rights to

freedom of expression and assembly, and to amend or repeal laws restricting those rights. It regretted the State's rejection of all recommendations calling for an end to the use of military courts for civilians.

833. The International Lesbian and Gay Association stated that Thailand should ensure that safeguards against discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation were applied in the implementation of the new Constitution, and the State should allow lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex individuals to participate in the development of legislation and policies to protect their rights. It encouraged the Government to recognize sexual orientation and gender identity under the new Constitution, enact legislation on family rights for all, amend discriminatory laws and create gender sensitivity in society.

834. Human Rights Watch stated that Thailand continued to ban political activities and public gatherings, subjecting those peacefully expressing dissenting views to criminal prosecution and conducting hundreds of arbitrary arrests. It noted that Thailand had not fulfilled its pledges to criminalize enforced disappearance and torture, and that the new Constitution would protect the military Government from being held accountable for human rights abuses. It urged Thailand to lift restrictions on freedom of expression, protect human rights defenders and ensure accountability for human rights violations.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

835. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 249 recommendations received, 187 had enjoyed the support of Thailand and 62 had been noted.

836. In response to the question raised on the timeline for the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the delegation stated that the draft act on the prevention and suppression of torture and enforced disappearance was under the consideration of the Council of State, which was expected to be concluded by the end of the month.

837. Regarding the concerns raised about civil and political rights, during the past two years, there had been a gradual removal and relaxation of restrictions on rights and liberty in the country. As Thailand was still in a transitional period working towards reconciliation and reform to overcome political conflicts and social divisiveness, there was a need to maintain certain laws and orders to ensure social harmony and a peaceful environment. They were not meant to intimidate dissenting voices or to go against the principles of the rights to freedom of expression and assembly.

838. On the death penalty, a step-by-step approach had been taken towards the final abolition of the death penalty, taking into consideration public sentiment. In practice, the death penalty had not been used in Thailand for almost a decade, with the last execution having taken place in 2009.

839. Regarding refugees and asylum seekers, although Thailand was not party to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, it had demonstrated its humanitarian tradition for almost four decades. Thailand continued to work to improve and increase the efficiency of migrant management in the country. Relevant agencies had studied the possibility of establishing a screening mechanism to distinguish those with genuine protection needs from economic migrants. Thailand also planned to expand and improve the condition of detention facilities. Bail options were also available in urban cases.

840. On the question of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, the Ministry of Justice expected to finish drafting civil partnership legislation by the end of the month. On 9 September of the previous year, the Gender Equality Act had come into effect. The Act protected everyone, including persons with sexual expression that was different from their biological sex, from gender-based discrimination. The Act also established a committee to receive complaints and order sanctions or compensation for victims of discrimination, with the gender equality fund available for redress.

841. Human rights defenders were protected under Thai law in the same way as all persons in Thailand without discrimination. The Government was aware of its duty to ensure that human rights defenders could carry out their work in a safe and enabling

environment. The Ministry of Justice was preparing a mechanism for the protection of human rights defenders, and guidelines for implementing agencies were being developed in line with relevant international standards.

842. The delegation stressed the importance of the implementation of the recommendations, which would yield concrete results and bring about positive change on the ground. Thailand had embarked on the implementation of new and emerging issues, such as business and human rights. The Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Human Rights Commission had been working together to promote respect for human rights among businesses through activities to increase public awareness and strengthen the enforcement of existing laws. Thailand was also considering the development of a national action plan on business and human rights.

843. In that connection, the delegation emphasized the sincere belief of Thailand that effective implementation could not be achieved by the Government alone. It needed the participation of all stakeholders. Hence, Thailand worked hard to strengthen implementation by engaging even more with civil society as its partners.

844. The delegation reiterated that the Government would do its best to translate the commitments made into reality by ensuring that civil society was engaged at all stages, from planning to implementation and monitoring. Currently, the Government was working with civil society to develop a plan of action to implement all of the recommendations accepted.

845. The delegation reiterated the State's pledge to submit a midterm update to report on progress on the implementation of the recommendations.

### **Ireland**

846. The review of Ireland was held on 11 May 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Ireland in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/IRL/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/IRL/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/25/IRL/3).

847. At its 25th meeting, on 23 September 2016, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Ireland (see sect. C below).

848. The outcome of the review of Ireland comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/33/17), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/33/17/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

849. The delegation reaffirmed the commitment of Ireland to the universal periodic review process and thanked all those who had contributed to the process. The delegation expressed its gratitude to each of the Irish civil society organizations, including the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, which had engaged so diligently and effectively with the Government throughout the process, having ensured that the universal periodic review remained both visible and credible in the Irish context. Ireland would continue that

dialogue during the follow-up to, and implementation of, its commitments under the universal periodic review.

850. While the Government and civil society pursued different approaches, it was with the common objective of achieving a safe, fair, tolerant and more equal Ireland for all inhabitants.

851. For Ireland, consultation was central to the universal periodic review process. During the second review, particular focus had been placed on listening to the voices of young people. Ireland had engaged in a child-led consultation with 8–17-year-olds to find out which human rights were most important in Ireland. The answers were access to education, the right to a home, or homelessness, the right to food and water, and the right to be treated equally without discrimination.

852. During the review in May, 262 recommendations had been made by member States. Ireland had immediately accepted 152 of those recommendations. It had been unable to support 13 and had undertaken to further examine 97. Of those 97 recommendations, Ireland had accepted 24 and partially accepted a further 45. In the addendum to the report, Ireland had provided concise explanations as to its position on them. Of the 262 recommendations made, Ireland had therefore supported 176 and had partially accepted 45.

853. The delegation responded to some of the issues raised in the Working Group session and outlined actions taken to address them. A number of member States had called upon Ireland to proceed with the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the delegation reported on the significant progress made towards ratification.

854. The Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) Act of 2015 had been signed into law in December 2015. Careful planning and groundwork, and not just funding, had to be put in place to ensure that the commencement of the Act was correctly, appropriately and effectively handled. That was currently underway across a number of government departments.

855. The criminal law (sexual offences) bill of 2015 was passed by the Senate in January 2016. When enacted, the bill would reform section 5 of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act of 1993 to facilitate the full participation in family life of persons with intellectual disabilities and the full expression of their human rights.

856. Work was also underway on drawing up an equality/disability (miscellaneous provisions) bill to address issues such as the Convention's requirements relating to reasonable accommodation and deprivation of liberty, as well as removing archaic references in existing legislation relating to mental health. Enactment was expected by the end of the year.

857. The Government was also undertaking a comprehensive consultation process with a view to putting in place a revised national disability inclusion strategy by the end of 2016.

858. In relation to promoting and enhancing gender equality, Ireland had just introduced two weeks of statutory paternity leave to give a clear signal to employers that they should expect men, as well as women, to take on family responsibilities relating to the birth of a child. Later that year, Ireland would publish an update to the National Women's Strategy.

859. Ireland continued to tackle the related issues of prison overcrowding and slopping out. Mountjoy Prison had been completely refurbished, and in February 2016, a completely new replacement prison, with in-cell sanitation, had been opened in Cork. Construction on a new facility in Limerick would begin in 2017, while planning was underway for a development at Portlaoise Prison. Those upgrades would result in a total end to the practice of slopping out and would create additional capacity to deal with overcrowding, particularly for female prisoners.

860. Ireland was a signatory to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and would ratify it once the necessary legislation was in place to provide for national preventive mechanisms to inspect places of detention for the purposes of the protocol. A process of consultation with

civil society, including a wide range of statutory bodies and agencies, non-governmental organizations and academics with an interest in the topic, had commenced.

861. The issue of housing and homelessness in Ireland continued to receive considerable attention domestically; the serious economic crisis that Ireland had suffered in recent years had created legacy issues in terms of homelessness, which the Government had focused on resolving. In July 2016, the Minister for Housing announced an ambitious housing action plan, through which a commitment of €5.5 billion had been made to build social housing and infrastructure, alongside plans to help to increase the supply of private housing infrastructure to improve the private rental market. Taking into account the needs of individuals and families, the plan also included short-term actions such as nutrition and dietary initiatives for homeless families in short-term accommodation and health supports for the sector.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome**

862. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Ireland, 16 delegations made statements.<sup>26</sup>

863. Kyrgyzstan commended Ireland for having accepted its recommendation to conduct a more active policy against racial discrimination. It regretted that a number of recommendations, particularly those on the availability of safe abortion, had not been accepted and it hoped that Ireland would revise the relevant legislation.

864. Maldives appreciated the acceptance by Ireland of two recommendations it had made to adopt the Domestic Violence Act and to increase renewable energy production in line with climate action pledges. It commended Ireland for having developed a national plan against trafficking.

865. Pakistan urged Ireland to continue to make efforts to ensure women's participation in political life and decision-making. It expressed appreciation for the Irish Refugee Protection Programme and encouraged Ireland to continue to improve the living conditions in the reception centres for asylum seekers. It encouraged the State to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and it wished to see further steps taken to curtail hate speech and to protect the rights of national minorities.

866. The Republic of Korea welcomed the acceptance by Ireland of its recommendation to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. While noting that Ireland had not accepted its recommendation to revise legislation on abortion in line with international standards on sexual and reproductive rights, it believed that Ireland continued to actively tackle the issue. It hoped that the recommendations made, whether accepted or not, would contribute to the State's efforts to further improve the human rights situation on the ground.

867. The Republic of Moldova noted in particular the State's novel national consultative process involving children and young people. It positively noted the acceptance by Ireland of its recommendations to adopt the Domestic Violence Act and to improve protection for victims, including through the provision of shelters and legal aid. It inquired about developments relating to the creation of the national preventive mechanism under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

868. The Russian Federation was pleased to note that Ireland had accepted most of the recommendations made, including its recommendation to investigate abuse of authority in prisons and to strengthen the provision of services to victims of domestic violence. It remained concerned about overcrowding in prisons and growing violence against detainees, and it regretted the continuing reports of racism and racial discrimination in Ireland.

<sup>26</sup> The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/33rdSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

869. Sierra Leone noted that all of the recommendations it had made had enjoyed the support of Ireland, and notably the intention to ratify the optional protocols to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It hoped that Ireland would still consider increasing the age of criminal responsibility and continue to actively engage in dialogue, including through the National Youth Justice Action Plan. Sierra Leone commended the State for its continuing efforts to tackle violence against women.

870. The Sudan commended Ireland for the constitutional amendment strengthening the rights of the child, the establishment of the Child and Family Agency and the action plan to combat trafficking in persons and it encouraged its implementation.

871. Togo welcomed the creation of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission. It also welcomed the development of the second strategy against domestic violence, including the planned ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention).

872. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the ratification by Ireland of the optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and on the involvement of children in armed conflict. It noted the commitment of Ireland to reinforce social policies on improving the quality of life of its people, especially vulnerable groups, and minorities in particular.

873. Afghanistan commended Ireland for the establishment in January 2016 of an independent policing authority aimed at the approval of an overall Garda strategy for 2016–2018 and the development of a code of ethics for Garda members and civilian staff. Afghanistan appreciated the introduction of universal health-care reform in Ireland.

874. Albania welcomed the progress made towards the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the establishment of a national preventive mechanism.

875. Armenia appreciated the leading role of Ireland in fighting impunity, opposing reprisals against human rights defenders and promoting civil space domestically and internationally. It appreciated the acceptance by Ireland of its recommendations, particularly regarding the promotion of human rights education programmes relating to the prevention of genocide and crimes against humanity, including through the study of past crimes.

876. Botswana commended Ireland for its commitment to children's rights, including through the enactment of the Children and Family Relationships Act 2015. Botswana encouraged Ireland to finalize and implement legislation to criminalize underage marriages.

877. China took note of the acceptance by Ireland of the recommendations it had made on the early ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, on improving the living conditions and treatment of persons in detention, and on eliminating racial discrimination and combating hate crimes, and it urged Ireland to take measures to implement them. China expressed serious concern that women's rights had not been effectively guaranteed, that asylum seekers had been living in private reception centres without proper regulation for long periods of time, and that there were serious cases of discrimination and hate crimes. It urged Ireland to take effective measures so as to deliver satisfactory results.

878. The Council of Europe welcomed the measures taken by Ireland to address issues of concern to its monitoring bodies. They were concerned about discrimination against vulnerable groups, particularly persons with disabilities and children at risk of falling victim to austerity measures. Those bodies had also expressed concern about the lack of transparent safeguards for the rights of migrants and asylum seekers when processing their case files. The Traveller community faced difficulties in the fields of education, employment and housing. Other issues had been raised about poor prison conditions, especially the high level of inter-prisoner violence, the conditions of juvenile detention and deficiencies in prison health care. The Council of Europe invited Ireland to ratify

conventions on protecting children against sexual exploitation, combating violence against women and domestic violence, and preventing terrorism.

### 3. General comments made by other stakeholders

879. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Ireland, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

880. The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission welcomed the two significant referendums to amend the Constitution with regard to the rights of the child and marriage equality, and it reiterated its calls for further constitutional reform with regard to the role of women in Irish society, blasphemy and the guarantee of equality. While welcoming the State's commitments, the Commission remained concerned about the length of time between signature and ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It welcomed the acceptance by Ireland of the recommendations on prison conditions and on racial discrimination, but it regretted the lack of progress on the recognition of the Traveller ethnicity since the first review. With regard to asylum seekers and refugees, it recommended priority reform of the "direct provision" system. The Commission was concerned about delays in fulfilling the commitment to identify potential victims of trafficking. It remained concerned that the current legal position on abortion put in place barriers impeding a woman's right to bodily autonomy and had a disproportionate negative impact on certain groups of women, particularly women from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, and women who were seeking asylum or migrant women where their immigration status prevented them from travelling. The Commission requested comprehensive information on the Government's plans for the implementation of the recommendations it had accepted.

881. Action Canada for Population and Development expressed deep concern that the Government had rejected 16 recommendations relating to reproductive rights. The recommendations reflected similar criticism from treaty monitoring bodies and the experiences of women and girls who had participated in the universal periodic review process in order to shed light on the cruel and inhuman treatment endured when they needed to access safe abortion. While noting the partially accepted recommendations relating to comprehensive sexuality education, it stated that the National Sexual Health Strategy did not provide adequate policy guidance within the context of an education system largely dominated by faith-based schools, and it reminded the Government of its obligation to ensure that every young person in Ireland had access to fact-based rather than faith-based sexuality education. It expressed disappointment that Ireland continued to support the criminalization of sex work and it urged Ireland to acknowledge current sex workers' expertise in their lives and to develop policies that reflected that and that were in line with human rights standards.

882. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues remained concerned that Ireland had not accepted 41 recommendations, including those on the continued existence of Special Criminal Courts and the failure to recognize the negative impacts of budget cuts on economic and social rights. It noted that the Citizens' Assembly had been established to consider reforming the Constitution, which criminalized access to and the provision of abortion services in nearly all circumstances. It fully urged Ireland to protect the reproductive rights of women and girls, including to safe and legal abortion, through constitutional and legislative reform. It asked Ireland to take additional steps to tackle the growing housing and homelessness crisis, including implementing the proposals to alleviate conditions in emergency accommodation, particularly for children, and the 2014 recommendation of the Constitutional Convention to strengthen the constitutional protection of economic and social rights. It urged Ireland to acknowledge Travellers as an ethnic group without delay. It urged the full operationalization of the International Protection Act 2015, the ratification of outstanding treaties and the implementation of treaty body recommendations. It particularly urged the State to establish independent mechanisms for truth finding and redress regarding the Magdalene Laundries and the practice of symphysiotomy, and it should set out concretely how and when the recommendations would be implemented. It looked forward to engaging with the State in that regard.

883. The British Humanist Association welcomed the strategies to combat sexual, domestic and gender-based violence. It remained concerned about the continued refusal of Ireland to hold a referendum to amend the Constitution in relation to abortion, which constituted a defence of a legal system that systematically abused the human rights of Irish women and girls. The Constitution limited abortion even in cases of rape, incest and fatal fetal abnormality, but it did not prohibit travelling abroad to have an abortion or to obtain information on abortion services available in other States. The British Humanist Association referred to reports of the dreadful experiences of women having to travel to access safe and legal abortion services and to the conclusion of the Human Rights Committee that the State's abortion law violated women's right to freedom from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. It urged Ireland to hold a referendum as soon as possible and to fund a campaign encouraging the public to vote in favour of removing article 40 (3) from the Constitution.

884. The Alliance Defending Freedom took issue with the recommendations made to Ireland with respect to repealing the eighth amendment of its Constitution. While same-sex marriage might well have become a statutory or constitutional right in a handful of countries, to refer to it specifically as a human right necessarily meant that about 170 States Members of the United Nations were currently in violation of that supposed fundamental right simply by defining marriage as being the union of a man and a woman.

885. Amnesty International regretted the rejection by Ireland of 16 out of 17 recommendations relating to the State's harsh abortion law. It noted the reason given was that the Irish Constitution could only be amended by a popular referendum. Under the Constitution, abortion was lawful only in life-threatening situations, with a potential prison term of 14 years for women who had had, or health professionals who had performed, abortions outside the narrow ground, which was in direct contravention of international human rights standards. The proposed Citizens' Assembly mandated to make recommendations to Parliament on abortion must be a meaningful step towards a constitutional referendum and legal reform. Regarding refugees and asylum seekers, Amnesty International urged Ireland to expedite the reform of its direct provision accommodation, which was unsuitable for long-stay residence, especially for families, children and victims of torture. It was disappointed that Ireland considered the report of its McAleese inquiry as comprehensive of all alleged past abuses in its Magdalene Laundries, as that was contrary to the findings of several United Nations human rights treaty bodies. It noted that the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance had been signed, and its ratification had been among the State's pledges when it sought election to the Human Rights Council in 2012. Amnesty International encouraged Ireland to set time frames and to establish a monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the recommendations. It welcomed the commitment of Ireland to submit a midterm report.

886. Atheist Alliance International reported that Ireland had been strongly criticized for its lack of separation of church and State and that Ireland claimed that it was constitutionally obliged to allow religious discrimination to buttress religion, including in publicly funded schools. Ireland needed a religious equality referendum to meet its United Nations human rights obligations. Atheist Alliance International referred to reports on the international damage caused by the Irish blasphemy law and it called upon Ireland to hold a referendum to remove the offence of blasphemy. It reported that nine different sets of United Nations and Council of Europe committees had concluded that schools in Ireland breached the human rights of atheist and minority faith children. Ireland should oblige publicly funded schools to deliver educational services, including employment, curriculum and enrolment with no religious discrimination of any kind. It supported the many recommendations to strengthen women's right to abortion in Ireland and it supported the campaign to repeal the eighth amendment to the Constitution.

887. Edmund Rice International reported that, despite a range of interventions, approximately 14 per cent of students continued to leave school every year without having completed their education. The capacity of the current child and adolescent mental health system to cater to the needs of children was also a source of serious concern. Edmund Rice International recommended raising the minimum school-leaving age, providing entry into

trades through apprenticeship schemes and offering alternatives to the present model of education. It also recommended that Ireland undertake a national review of the mental health needs of young people and provide greater support for the services attempting to meet those needs.

888. The International Service for Human Rights welcomed the State's international support for and leadership in protecting human rights defenders, expanding civil society space, and preventing and ensuring accountability for reprisals. It was concerned about the situation and about the challenges faced by human rights defenders working nationally on sexual and reproductive rights, and it called upon Ireland to ensure defenders were safe from stigmatization of any kind, including from non-State actors. It commended Ireland for its recognition of the vital role of civil society and defenders in assessing the impact of business on human rights, and it called upon Ireland to develop its national action plan on business and human rights. It urged Ireland to take steps to adopt and implement a national law for the protection of defenders.

889. The International Planned Parenthood Federation remained concerned about the decision by Ireland to reject 16 out of 17 recommendations relating to abortion. Those recommendations were consistent with those of human rights treaty bodies, four of which, since 2011, had recommended that Ireland bring its laws into conformity with international human rights standards by decriminalizing abortion and ensuring access to abortion on wider grounds. Irish abortion laws harmed women's health and could not be reconciled with women's right to reproductive health. Each woman who travelled abroad to access abortion carried the entire financial, practical and emotional burdens of doing so. Those burdens fell most heavily on minors, women on low incomes and those unable to travel freely to another State, and those women disproportionately experienced unacceptable delays in accessing services. It urged Ireland to take steps to reform the Constitution and legislation, including the calling of a referendum, to fully protect the reproductive rights of women and girls in Ireland, including access to safe and legal abortion services.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

890. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 262 recommendations received, 176 had enjoyed the support of Ireland and 74 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another 12 recommendations, indicating which part of the recommendations had been noted and which part had been supported.

891. In conclusion, the delegation reiterated the commitment of Ireland to implement its universal periodic review commitments and to provide an update on their implementation through a national voluntary midterm report.

892. Ireland would continue its commitment to protect the most vulnerable and to provide a fair and just society for all. Human rights would remain a central focus of domestic and foreign policies. Ireland looked forward to working with all stakeholders to realize common goals.

### **B. General debate on agenda item 6**

893. At its 26th meeting, on 23 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 6, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of states Members of the Human Rights Council: China, Cuba, Georgia, India (also on behalf of Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, the Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe), Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan<sup>27</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay (also on behalf of Brazil), Slovakia<sup>27</sup> (on

<sup>27</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Serbia, the Republic of Moldova, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine), Sudan<sup>27</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Viet Nam (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Brazil, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libya, Sudan;

(c) Observer for a United Nations entity, specialized agency and related organization: UNHCR;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Alliance Defending Freedom, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Canners International Permanent Committee, Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, European Union of Public Relations, Human Rights Law Centre, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Bar Association (also on behalf of the International Lesbian and Gay Association), International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (Switzerland) (also on behalf of the Indian Council of South America), Iraqi Development Organization, Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, UPR Info, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Environment and Resources Council.

## C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

### Suriname

894. At its 19th meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/101 without a vote.

### Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

895. At its 19th meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/102 without a vote.

### Samoa

896. At its 19th meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/103 without a vote.

### Greece

897. At its 21st meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/104 without a vote.

### Sudan

898. At its 21st meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/105 without a vote.

### Hungary

899. At its 21st meeting, on 21 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/106 without a vote.

### Papua New Guinea

900. At its 22nd meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/107 without a vote.

**Tajikistan**

901. At its 22nd meeting, on 22 September 2016, Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/108 without a vote.

**United Republic of Tanzania**

902. At its 22nd meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/109 without a vote.

**Antigua and Barbuda**

903. At its 24th meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/110 without a vote.

**Swaziland**

904. At its 24th meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/111 without a vote.

**Trinidad and Tobago**

905. At its 24th meeting, on 22 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/112 without a vote.

**Thailand**

906. At its 25th meeting, on 23 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/113 without a vote.

**Ireland**

907. At its 25th meeting, on 23 September 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 33/114 without a vote.

## VII. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

### A. General debate on agenda item 7

908. At its 27th meeting, on 23 September 2016, and at its 29th meeting, on 26 September, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 7, during which the following made statements:

(a) The representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine, as the States concerned;

(b) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Ecuador, Indonesia, Maldives, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua<sup>27</sup> (also on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe), Nigeria, Pakistan<sup>27</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), South Africa (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Sudan<sup>27</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries);

(c) Representatives of observer States: Bahrain, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Yemen;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-Haq (also on behalf of the Al Mezan Center for Human Rights and the Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights), Al Mezan Center for Human Rights (also on behalf of Adalah: Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel), Amuta for NGO Responsibility, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of the Al Mezan Center for Human Rights and the Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights), Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations (also on behalf of B'nai B'rith), Defence for Children International, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International-Lawyers.Org, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (also on behalf of the American Association of Jurists), Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Palestinian Return Centre, Presse emblème campagne, Tourner la page, Union of Arab Jurists, United Nations Watch, World Jewish Congress.

## VIII. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

### A. Panel discussion

#### Annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective

909. At its 28th meeting, on 26 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 6/30, an annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective, with a focus on the theme of gender integration in the resolutions and recommendations of the Council and its mechanisms.

910. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel discussion. The Senior Research Associate at the University of Oxford Centre for International Studies and Co-Founder of Rising Women Rising World, Rama Mani, moderated the discussion.

911. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Boudjemâa Delmi; Director of the Intergovernmental Support Division of UN-Women; Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Juan Ernesto Méndez; Programme Manager at UPR Info, Aoife Hegarty.

912. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria<sup>27</sup> (also on behalf of Liechtenstein, Slovenia and Switzerland), Dominican Republic<sup>27</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ecuador, Pakistan<sup>27</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Qatar, Republic of Korea, Sweden<sup>27</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Ireland, Palau;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Franciscans International, the International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, the International Service for Human Rights and the World Organization against Torture), Plan International (also on behalf of Defence for Children International and Terre des hommes fédération internationale), United Nations Watch.

913. At the end of the first speaking slot, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

914. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Georgia, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Brazil, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Libya, Pakistan, Spain, Thailand, Turkey;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Kham Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Maarif Foundation for Peace and Development, World Young Women's Christian Association.

915. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

## B. General debate on agenda item 8

916. At its 29th and 30th meetings, on 26 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 8, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China, Cuba, Finland<sup>27</sup> (also on behalf of Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Namibia, Portugal and Uruguay), Japan<sup>27</sup> (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Chile, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay), Maldives, Netherlands, Pakistan<sup>27</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Russian Federation (also on behalf of Algeria, Belarus, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Slovakia<sup>27</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Serbia, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine), Slovenia, South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Sudan<sup>27</sup> (on behalf of the Group of African States, the Group of Arab States, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Libya, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Spain, United States of America;

(c) Observer for a United Nations entity, specialized agency and related organization: United Nations Development Programme;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (by video message);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Alliance Defending Freedom, Alsalam Foundation, American Association of Jurists, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association Dunenyo, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, British Humanist Association, Canners International Permanent Committee, Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Centro Regional de Derechos Humanos y Justicia de Género (also on behalf of Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales and Conectas Derechos Humanos), Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, European Union of Public Relations, Federación de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Indian Council of South America, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations, International-Lawyers.Org, International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Centro de Estudios

Legales y Sociales, Conectas Direitos Humanos and the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project), Iraqi Development Organization, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Prahar, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Barua Organization, World Environment and Resources Council, World Muslim Congress.

917. At the 30th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of India, Nicaragua and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

### **C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

#### **National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights**

918. At the 39th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of Australia introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.17/Rev.1, sponsored by Australia and co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Libya, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, the United States of America, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Haiti, Israel, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Maldives, Mongolia, Namibia, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Togo, Tunisia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the sponsors.

919. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a general comment on the draft resolution.

920. Also at the same meeting, the representative of India made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

921. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/15).

## **IX. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

### **A. Interactive dialogue with a special procedure mandate holder**

#### **Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent**

922. At the 30th meeting, on 26 September 2016, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, Ricardo Sunga III, presented the reports of the Working Group (A/HRC/33/61 and Add.1-2).

923. At the same meeting, the representatives of Italy and the United States of America made statements as the States concerned.

924. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair-Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Botswana, China, Cuba, Dominican Republic<sup>28</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, South Africa, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bahamas, Brazil, Costa Rica, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libya, Peru, Sierra Leone, Spain, Uruguay;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters, Arab Commission for Human Rights, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (also on behalf of Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, the African Canadian Legal Clinic, the Arab Commission for Human Rights, Association Dunenyo, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples, December Twelfth Movement International Secretariat, Indian Council of South America, the International Association against Torture, International-Lawyers.Org, the International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism and the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination), Iraqi Development Organization, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, United Nations Watch.

925. At the same meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

### **B. General debate on agenda item 9**

926. At its 30th meeting, on 26 September 2016, and at its 31st meeting, on 27 September, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 9, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Ecuador, Namibia, Pakistan<sup>28</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Russian Federation, Slovakia<sup>2827</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine), South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Sudan<sup>28</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

<sup>28</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

(b) Representatives of observer States: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Egypt, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Libya, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Turkey;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, British Humanist Association, Canners International Permanent Committee, Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, European Union of Public Relations, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (also on behalf of the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination), Iraqi Development Organization, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Prahar, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Sikh Human Rights Group, Tourner la page, Union of Arab Jurists, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Barua Organization, World Environment and Resources Council, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress.

927. At the 31st meeting, on 27 September 2016, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Estonia and Iran (Islamic Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

928. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

## **X. Technical assistance and capacity-building**

### **A. Interactive dialogue on cooperation and assistance to Ukraine in the field of human rights**

929. At the 31st meeting, on 27 September 2016, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 32/29, an oral update on the situation of human rights in Ukraine.

930. At the same meeting, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Sergiy Kyslytsya, made a statement as the State concerned.

931. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 31st and 32nd meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Deputy High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Belgium, France, Georgia, Germany, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Switzerland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Austria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States of America;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Human Rights House Foundation, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Minority Rights Group, United Nations Watch, World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations.

932. At the 32nd meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

933. At the 33rd meeting, on the same day, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

### **B. Interactive dialogue on technical assistance and capacity-building for human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

934. At the 32nd meeting, on 27 September 2016, the Deputy High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 30/26, the report of the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights and the activities of the United Nations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/HRC/33/36). In accordance with Council resolution 30/26, the presentation was followed by an interactive dialogue, including a discussion on strengthening the role of women in the electoral process.

935. At the same meeting, the Minister for Justice and Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Alexis Thambwe Mwamba, made a statement as the State concerned.

936. During the ensuing discussion, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Deputy High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Belgium, China, France, Germany, Ghana, Portugal, Switzerland, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Czechia, Egypt, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Mozambique, New Zealand, Spain, Sudan, United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, International Catholic Child Bureau (also on behalf of Association points-cœur, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and Pax Christi International), International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, United Nations Watch.

937. At the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

### **C. Enhanced interactive dialogue on technical cooperation and capacity-building for Burundi in the field of human rights**

938. At the 33rd meeting, on 27 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolutions 30/27 and S-24/1, an enhanced interactive dialogue on technical cooperation and capacity-building for Burundi in the field of human rights.

939. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, Pablo de Greiff, the former Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Christof Heyns, and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons, Maya Sahli-Fadel, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-24/1, the report on the independent investigation on Burundi (A/HRC/33/37).

940. Also at the same meeting, the Minister for Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender of Burundi, Martin Nivyabandi, made a statement as the State concerned.

941. At the same meeting, the Director of SOS-Torture Burundi, Armel Niyongere, made a statement.

942. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Commission nationale indépendante des droits de l'homme du Burundi made a statement by video message.

943. During the ensuing enhanced interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the independent experts questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Austria<sup>28</sup> (also on behalf of Croatia and Slovenia), Belgium, China, France, Germany, Ghana, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Canada, Czechia, Egypt, Estonia, Greece, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Rwanda, Spain, Sudan, Ukraine, United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers (also on behalf of Franciscans International), East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Human Rights Watch, International Service for Human Rights, World Evangelical Alliance.

944. At the same meeting, the independent experts answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

945. Also at the same meeting, the Minister for Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender of Burundi made final remarks as the State concerned.

946. At the same meeting, the Director of SOS-Torture Burundi answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

## **D. Interactive dialogue on technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Libya**

947. At the 33rd meeting, on 27 September 2016, the Deputy High Commissioner provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 31/27, an oral update on the situation of human rights in Libya, including steps taken by the Government of Libya towards ensuring accountability for human rights violations and abuses, and the contribution and effectiveness of technical assistance to that end. In accordance with Council resolution 31/27, the oral update was followed by an interactive dialogue, with the participation of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya.

948. At the same meeting, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya made a statement.

949. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Libya made a statement as the State concerned.

950. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 34th meeting, on 28 September 2016, the following made statements and asked the Deputy High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, China, Germany, Morocco, Netherlands, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Sudan<sup>28</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bahrain, Czechia, Egypt, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, New Zealand, Poland, Spain, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Arab Commission for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Human Rights Watch, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

951. At the 34th meeting, on 28 September 2016, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

## **E. Interactive dialogue with special procedure mandate holders**

### **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia**

952. At the 34th meeting, on 28 September 2016, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, Rhona Smith, presented her report (A/HRC/33/62).

953. At the same meeting, the representative of Cambodia made a statement as the State concerned.

954. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China, France, Indonesia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Czechia, Ireland, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, New Zealand, Thailand, United States of America;

(c) Observer for a United Nations entity, specialized agency and related organization: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Human Rights Watch, International Catholic Child Bureau (also on behalf of Association points-

cœur, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development and Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco), International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, World Organization against Torture (also on behalf of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation).

955. At the same meeting, the representative of Cambodia made final remarks as the State concerned.

956. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

#### **Independent expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan**

957. At the 35th meeting, on 28 September 2016, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, Aristide Nononsi, presented his report (A/HRC/33/65).

958. At the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.

959. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Algeria, Belgium, Botswana, China, France, Germany, Ghana, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Switzerland, Togo, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bahrain, Belarus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Eritrea, Kuwait, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, South Sudan, Spain, Ukraine, United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Arab Commission for Human Rights, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Eastern Sudan Women Development Organization, Human Rights Watch, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Jubilee Campaign, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

960. At the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan made final remarks as the State concerned.

961. Also at the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

#### **Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic**

962. At the 35th meeting, on 28 September 2016, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic, Marie-Thérèse Keita Bocoum, presented her report (A/HRC/33/63).

963. At the same meeting, the representative of the Central African Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

964. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 35th and 36th meetings, on 28 September 2016, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Belgium, China, Congo, France, Georgia, Ghana, Morocco, Russian Federation, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola, Benin, Croatia, Egypt, Mali, Mozambique, New Zealand, Spain, Sudan, Ukraine, United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Jubilee Campaign, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Save the Children International, World Evangelical Alliance (also on behalf of Caritas Internationalis).

965. At the 36th meeting, on the same day, the representative of the Central African Republic made final remarks as the State concerned.

966. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

#### **Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia**

967. At the 36th meeting, on 28 September 2016, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, Bahame Nyanduga, presented his report (A/HRC/33/64).

968. At the same meeting, the representative of Somalia made a statement as the State concerned.

969. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Botswana, China, Ethiopia, France, Qatar, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Bahrain, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Mozambique, New Zealand, Spain, Sudan, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Arab Commission for Human Rights, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (also on behalf of the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project), Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, International Educational Development, International Federation of Journalists, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

970. At the same meeting, the representative of Somalia made final remarks as the State concerned.

971. Also at the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

## **F. Intersessional panel discussion**

### **Intersessional panel discussion on promoting international cooperation to support national human rights follow-up systems and processes**

972. At an intersessional meeting, on 9 November 2016, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 30/25, an intersessional panel discussion on promoting international cooperation to support national human rights follow-up systems and processes.

973. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel discussion. The Chief of the Universal Periodic Review Branch of OHCHR moderated the discussion.

974. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Minister for Justice and Human Rights of Ecuador, Ledy Zúñiga; Minister and Director General for Human Rights at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay, Juan Miguel Gonzalez Bibolini; Head of Section at the Human Rights Department of the Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of Belgium, Véronique Joosten; Deputy Permanent Representative at the Prime Minister's Office of Mauritius, Devendre Gopaul; President of UPR Info, Miloon Kothari.

975. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Georgia, Germany, Kenya, Pakistan<sup>29</sup> (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Canada, Greece, Montenegro, Thailand, Tunisia, United States of America, Uruguay;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Lesbian and Gay Association (also on behalf of the International Bar Association).

976. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Indonesia, Portugal, Republic of Korea, South Africa;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Haiti, Libya, Norway;

(c) Observer for a non-governmental organization: International Service for Human Rights.

977. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

## G. General debate on agenda item 10

978. At the 36th meeting, on 28 September 2016, the Deputy High Commissioner presented the country reports of OHCHR and the Secretary-General submitted under agenda items 2 and 10 (A/HRC/33/38 and A/HRC/33/39).

979. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cambodia and Yemen made statements as the States concerned.

980. At the 37th and 38th meetings, on 29 September 2016, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 10, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Cuba (also on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, China, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, the Sudan, Swaziland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine), Ecuador, France, Georgia (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey,

<sup>29</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America), Germany, Maldives, Netherlands, Netherlands (also on behalf of the European Union, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay), Nicaragua<sup>29</sup> (also on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Pakistan<sup>29</sup> (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay, Paraguay (also on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America), Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Singapore<sup>29</sup> (also on behalf of Algeria, Belarus, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe), Slovakia<sup>29</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine), South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Sudan<sup>29</sup> (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey and the United States of America), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), State of Palestine;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Fiji, Honduras, Ireland, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America;

(c) Observer for a United Nations entity, specialized agency and related organization: UNICEF;

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, International Organization of la Francophonie;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alsalam Foundation, Al Zubair Charity Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, Arab Commission for Human Rights, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association of World Citizens, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Eastern Sudan Women Development Organization, Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, Indian Council of South America, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Catholic Child Bureau (also on behalf of Association points-cœur, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development and Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco), International-Lawyers.Org, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Iraqi Development

Organization, Jssor Youth Organization, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Liberation, Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Prahar, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Save the Children International, Sudanese Women General Union, Tourner la page, Transparency International, United Nations Watch, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Association for the School as an Instrument of Peace, World Barua Organization.

981. At the 38th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representatives of Cambodia, Maldives, Paraguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

## **H. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights**

982. At the 39th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of Arab States, with the exception of Iraq) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.5, sponsored by the Sudan on behalf of the Group of Arab States. Iraq withdrew its original co-sponsorship. Subsequently, Maldives, Senegal, Thailand and Turkey joined the sponsors.

983. At the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan orally revised the draft resolution.

984. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Yemen made a statement as the State concerned.

985. At the same meeting, the representative of Slovenia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution as orally revised.

986. The Chief of the Programme Support and Management Services of OHCHR made a statement on the budgetary implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

987. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

988. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 33/16).

989. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Qatar made a general comment.

### **Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights**

990. At the 39th meeting, on 29 September 2016, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of Australia, Italy, Turkey and the United States of America, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.11/Rev.1, sponsored by Australia, Italy, South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States), Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and co-sponsored by Croatia. Subsequently, Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Sweden and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

991. At the same meeting, the representative of Somalia made a statement as the State concerned.

992. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

993. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/17).

#### **Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in the Sudan**

994. At the 41st meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.4, sponsored by South Africa on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by the Sudan on behalf of States members of the Group of Arab States. Subsequently, Japan, Spain, Thailand, Turkey and the United States of America joined the sponsors.

995. At the same meeting, the representative of South Africa orally revised the draft resolution.

996. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of China, Qatar (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the Russian Federation and Slovenia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

997. At the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.

998. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

999. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

1000. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 33/26).

#### **Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic**

1001. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.16, sponsored by South Africa on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Romania, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Malta, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and the United States of America joined the sponsors.

1002. At the same meeting, the representative of Slovenia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

1003. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1004. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

1005. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/27).

**Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights**

1006. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of Thailand, also on behalf of Brazil, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Qatar, Singapore and Turkey, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.18, sponsored by Brazil, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand and Turkey, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Ukraine, Uruguay, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Viet Nam. Subsequently, Argentina, Austria, Botswana, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Georgia, Haiti, Ireland, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lithuania, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Poland, Romania, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia joined the sponsors.

1007. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1008. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/28).

**Technical assistance and capacity-building for human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

1009. At the 42nd meeting, on 30 September 2016, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/33/L.26, sponsored by South Africa on behalf of the Group of African States. Subsequently, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Hungary, Indonesia, Poland, Spain, Thailand and Turkey joined the sponsors.

1010. At the same meeting, the representatives of Belgium and Slovenia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution.

1011. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo made a statement as the State concerned.

1012. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1013. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 33/29).

1014. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a general comment.

## Annex I

### Attendance

#### Members

Albania	Germany	Qatar
Algeria	Ghana	Republic of Korea
Bangladesh	India	Russian Federation
Belgium	Indonesia	Saudi Arabia
Bolivia	Kenya	Slovenia
(Plurinational State of)	Kyrgyzstan	South Africa
Botswana	Latvia	Switzerland
Burundi	Maldives	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
China	Mexico	Togo
Congo	Mongolia	United Arab Emirates
Côte d'Ivoire	Morocco	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Cuba	Namibia	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Ecuador	Netherlands	Viet Nam
El Salvador	Nigeria	
Ethiopia	Panama	
France	Paraguay	
Georgia	Philippines	
	Portugal	

#### States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Afghanistan	Cyprus	Libya
Andorra	Czechia	Liechtenstein
Angola	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Lithuania
Antigua and Barbuda	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Luxembourg
Argentina	Denmark	Malaysia
Armenia	Djibouti	Mali
Australia	Dominican Republic	Malta
Austria	Egypt	Mauritania
Azerbaijan	Eritrea	Micronesia (Federated States of)
Bahamas	Estonia	Monaco
Bahrain	Fiji	Montenegro
Belarus	Finland	Mozambique
Benin	Greece	Myanmar
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Guatemala	Nepal
Brazil	Haiti	New Zealand
Brunei Darussalam	Honduras	Nicaragua
Bulgaria	Hungary	Norway
Burkina Faso	Iceland	Oman
Cabo Verde	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Pakistan
Cambodia	Iraq	Palau
Cameroon	Ireland	Papua New Guinea
Canada	Israel	Peru
Central African Republic	Italy	Poland
Chad	Japan	Republic of Moldova
Chile	Jordan	Romania
Colombia	Kuwait	Rwanda
Costa Rica	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Croatia	Lebanon	Senegal
	Lesotho	Serbia
		Sierra Leone

Singapore	Swaziland	Turkmenistan
Slovakia	Sweden	Uganda
Solomon Islands	Syrian Arab Republic	Ukraine
Somalia	Tajikistan	United Republic of
South Sudan	Thailand	Tanzania
Spain	Timor-Leste	United States of America
Sri Lanka	Trinidad and Tobago	Uruguay
Sudan	Tunisia	Uzbekistan
Suriname	Turkey	Yemen

### **Non-Member States represented by observers**

Holy See  
State of Palestine

### **United Nations**

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
United Nations Children's Fund	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
United Nations Development Programme	United Nations Population Fund

### **Specialized agencies and related organizations**

International Labour Organization	World Economic Forum
International Telecommunication Union	World Health Organization

### **Intergovernmental organizations**

Commonwealth	International Development Law Organization
Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf	International Organization of la Francophonie
Council of Europe	Inter-Parliamentary Union
European Union	Organization of Islamic Cooperation

### **Other entities**

International Committee of the Red Cross  
Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta

## National human rights institutions, international coordinating committees and regional groups of national institutions

Australian Human Rights Commission	Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission
Commission nationale des droits de l'homme de la Mauritanie	La Defensoría de los Habitantes de Costa Rica
Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation	National Human Rights Commission of Korea
Commission nationale indépendante des droits de l'homme du Burundi	New Zealand Human Rights Commission
Conseil national des droits de l'homme du Maroc	Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights of Hungary
Danish Institute for Human Rights	Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan
Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions	
Greek National Commission for Human Rights	

## Non-governmental organizations

Action Canada for Population and Development	Article 19: International Centre against Censorship
Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs	Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact
Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme en Mauritanie	Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum
Africa culture internationale	Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development
African-American Society for Humanitarian Aid and Development	Asian Legal Resource Centre
African Commission of Health and Human Right Promoters	Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul
African Development Association	Association des étudiants tamouls de France
African Regional Agricultural Credit Association	Association du développement et de la promotion des droits de l'homme
Agence internationale pour le développement	Association Dunenyo
Agence pour les droits de l'homme	Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism
Al-Ayn Social Care Foundation	Association for the Prevention of Torture
Al-Hakim Foundation	Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights
Al-Haq	Association marocaine des droits humains
All-China Environment Federation	Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit
Alliance Defending Freedom	Association nationale de promotion et de protection des droits de l'homme
Al Mezan Center for Human Rights	Association of World Citizens
Alsalam Foundation	Association "Paix" pour la lutte contre la contrainte et l'injustice
Alulbayt Foundation	Association PANAFRICA
Al Zubair Charity Foundation	Association pour les victimes du monde
American Association of Jurists	Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique
Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain	Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII
Amman Center for Human Rights Studies	Atheist Alliance International
Amnesty International	Auspice Stella
Amuta for NGO Responsibility	Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Resource Rights
Anti-Slavery International	Baha'i International Community
Arab Commission for Human Rights	Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center
Arab NGO Network for Development	Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges
Arab Organization for Human Rights	
Arab Penal Reform Organization	
Archbishop E Kataliko Actions for Africa "KAF"	

Beijing Zhicheng Migrant Workers' Legal Aid and Research Center	Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers
Bischöfliches Hilfswerk Misereor	East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project
British Humanist Association	Eastern Sudan Women Development Organization
Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies	Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development
Canners International Permanent Committee	Edmund Rice International
Caritas Internationalis	Egyptian Organization for Human Rights
Center for Global Nonkilling	Elizka Relief Foundation
Center for International Environmental Law	Espace Afrique International
Center for Reproductive Rights	European Union of Public Relations
Centre Europe-tiers monde	European Youth Forum
Centre for Environmental and Management Studies	Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance
Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy	Family Health International
Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue	Federación de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos
Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales	Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland
Centro Regional de Derechos Humanos y Justicia de Género	Federation of Western Thracian Turks in Europe
Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims	Femmes solidaires
Child Development Foundation	FIAN International
China NGO Network for International Exchanges	Fondation des œuvres pour la solidarité et le bien-être social
China Society for Human Rights Studies	Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale
CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation	Foundation for GAIA
Colombian Commission of Jurists	Foundation of Japanese Honorary Debts
Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos "Capaj"	France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand
Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos	Franciscans International
Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples	Friedrich Ebert Foundation
Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches	Friends World Committee for Consultation
Commission to Study the Organization of Peace	Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social
Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul	Genève pour les droits de l'homme: formation internationale
Concile mondial de congrès diplomatiques des aumôniers pour la paix universelle des droits humains et juridiques	Global Community Health Foundation
Conectas Direitos Humanos	Global Eco-Village Network
Congregations of St. Joseph	Global Helping to Advance Women and Children
Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle	Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme	Graduate Women International
Conselho Indigenista Missionário	Hawa Society for Women
Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations	Health and Environment Program
Defence for Children International	Helios Life Association
	HelpAge International
	Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
	Himalayan Research and Cultural Foundation
	Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries
	Human Rights House Foundation
	Human Rights Information and Training Center
	Human Rights Law Centre
	Human Rights Now
	Human Rights Watch

Human Security Initiative Organization  
 Indian Council of Education  
 Indian Council of South America  
 Indian Law Resource Centre  
 Indigenous People of Africa  
 Coordinating Committee  
 Indigenous Peoples' Center for  
 Documentation, Research and  
 Information  
 Indigenous World Association  
 Initiative d'opposition contre les  
 discours extrémistes  
 Institute for Planetary Synthesis  
 Institut international pour la paix, la  
 justice et les droits de l'homme  
 International Association for  
 Democracy in Africa  
 International Association of Democratic  
 Lawyers  
 International Bar Association  
 International Bridges to Justice  
 International Career Support  
 Association  
 International Catholic Center of Geneva  
 International Catholic Child Bureau  
 International Center for Not-for-Profit  
 Law  
 International Commission of Jurists  
 International Committee for the  
 Indigenous Peoples of the Americas  
 (Switzerland)  
 International Council Supporting Fair  
 Trial and Human Rights  
 International Educational Development  
 International Federation for Human  
 Rights Leagues  
 International Federation for the  
 Protection of the Rights of Ethnic,  
 Religious, Linguistic and Other  
 Minorities  
 International Federation of Journalists  
 International Fellowship of  
 Reconciliation  
 International Humanist and Ethical  
 Union  
 International Indian Treaty Council  
 International Institute for Child  
 Protection  
 International Institute for Non-Aligned  
 Studies  
 International Islamic Federation of  
 Student Organizations  
 International-Lawyers.Org  
 International Lesbian and Gay  
 Association  
 International Longevity Center Global  
 Alliance  
 International Movement against All  
 Forms of Discrimination and Racism  
 International Movement for Fraternal  
 Union among Races and Peoples  
 International Muslim Women's Union  
 International NGO Forum on Indonesian  
 Development  
 International Organization for the  
 Elimination of All Forms of Racial  
 Discrimination  
 International Organization for the Right to  
 Education and Freedom of Education  
 International Peace and Development  
 Organization  
 International Planned Parenthood Federation  
 International Service for Human Rights  
 International Solidarity for Africa  
 International Volunteerism Organization for  
 Women, Education and Development  
 International Work Group for Indigenous  
 Affairs  
 International Youth and Student Movement  
 for the United Nations  
 Iranian Elite Research Center  
 Iraqi Development Organization  
 Islamic Human Rights Commission  
 Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice  
 delle Salesiane di Don Bosco  
 Iuventum  
 Jssor Youth Organization  
 Jubilee Campaign  
 Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of  
 Torture  
 Korea Center for United Nations Human  
 Rights Policy  
 La Brique  
 Lawyers for Lawyers  
 Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada  
 Liberal International  
 Liberation  
 Lutheran World Federation  
 Maarij Foundation for Peace and  
 Development  
 Make Mothers Matter  
 Mbororo Social and Cultural Development  
 Association  
 Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life  
 Education Fund  
 Minority Rights Group  
 Native American Rights Fund  
 Nonviolence International  
 Nonviolent Radical Party; Transnational and  
 Transparty  
 Nord-Sud XXI  
 Norwegian Refugee Council  
 Observatoire mauritanien des droits de  
 l'homme et de la démocratie  
 Odhikar: Coalition for Human Rights  
 ONG Hope International  
 Organisation pour la communication en  
 Afrique et de promotion de la coopération  
 économique internationale  
 Organization for Defending Victims of  
 Violence  
 Organization for Research and Community  
 Development  
 Orphan Charity Foundation

Oyoun Center Foundation for Studying  
 and Developing Human Rights and  
 Democracy in Assuit  
 Palestinian Return Centre  
 Pan African Union for Science and  
 Technology  
 Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation  
 Pax Christi International  
 Peace Brigades International  
 Switzerland  
 Planetary Association for Clean Energy  
 Plan International  
 Prahar  
 Presse emblème campagne  
 Prevention Association of Social Harms  
 Promotion du développement  
 économique et social  
 Rainforest Foundation International  
 Rencontre africaine pour la défense des  
 droits de l'homme  
 Reporters sans frontières international  
 Réseau international des droits humains  
 Réseau unité pour le développement de  
 Mauritanie  
 Russian Peace Foundation  
 Saami Council  
 Sanad Charity Foundation  
 Save the Children International  
 Servas International  
 Shivi Development Society  
 Sikh Human Rights Group  
 Social Service Agency of the Protestant  
 Church in Germany  
 Society for Threatened Peoples  
 Society of Iranian Women Advocating  
 Sustainable Development of the  
 Environment  
 Society Studies Centre  
 Soka Gakkai International  
 Solidarité pour un monde meilleur  
 Stichting Rutgers WPF  
 Sudan Council of Voluntary Agencies  
 Sudanese Women General Union  
 Sudanese Women Parliamentarians Caucus  
 Swedish Association for Sexuality Education  
 Tchad agir pour l'environnement  
 Terre des hommes fédération internationale  
 Tourner la page  
 Tour opération et initiatives  
 Transparency International  
 TRIAL: Track Impunity Always  
 Union of Arab Jurists  
 United Nations Watch  
 United Schools International  
 Universal Peace Federation  
 UPR Info  
 Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik  
 Victorious Youths Movement  
 Villages unis  
 Women Organization for Development and  
 Capacity-Building  
 Women's Federation for World Peace  
 International  
 Women's Human Rights International  
 Association  
 Women's International League for Peace and  
 Freedom  
 Women's World Summit Foundation  
 World Association for the School as an  
 Instrument of Peace  
 World Barua Organization  
 World Council of Arameans (Syriacs)  
 World Environment and Resources Council  
 World Evangelical Alliance  
 World Federation of Ukrainian Women's  
 Organizations  
 World Jewish Congress  
 World Medical Association  
 World Muslim Congress  
 World Network of Users and Survivors of  
 Psychiatry  
 World Organization against Torture  
 World Young Women's Christian  
 Association

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## Annex II

### Agenda

- Item 1. Organizational and procedural matters.
- Item 2. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.
- Item 3. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.
- Item 4. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention.
- Item 5. Human rights bodies and mechanisms.
- Item 6. Universal periodic review.
- Item 7. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories.
- Item 8. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Item 9. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Item 10. Technical assistance and capacity-building.

**Annex III**

[English, French and Spanish only]

**Documents issued for the thirty-third session***Documents issued in the general series*

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/33/1	1	Agenda and annotations: Agenda
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A/HRC/33/G/4	4	Letter dated 20 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/33/G/5	3, 4, 9	Note verbale dated 30 September 2016 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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A/HRC/33/NGO/21	4	Written statement submitted by the Conseil International pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux Droits de l'Homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/22	5	Written statement submitted by the Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/23	3	Written statement submitted by the Norwegian Refugee Council, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/24	3	Written statement submitted by Liberal International (World Liberal Union), a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/25	6	Written statement submitted by the Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/26	3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Alliance of Women, Make Mothers Matter (MMM), ONG HOPE International, Soroptimist International, non-governmental organizations in general consultative status, Al-Hakim Foundation, Association Points-Cœur, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23),

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A/HRC/33/NGO/38	3	Written statement submitted by the Sudanese Women Parliamentarians Caucus, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
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A/HRC/33/NGO/42	10	Written statement submitted by the Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/43	3	Written statement submitted by the Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/44	3	Written statement submitted by the Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/45	4	Written statement submitted by the Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/46	9	Written statement submitted by Auspice Stella, non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/33/NGO/47	3	Exposición escrita presentada por la Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (Cuban United Nations Association), organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/33/NGO/48	3	Written statement submitted by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/49	3	Written statement submitted by the International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/50	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/51	10	Written statement submitted by the Al Zubair Charitable Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/52	6	Written statement submitted by the Federal Union of European Nationalities, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/53	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/54	10	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/55	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/56	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/57	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/58	10	Written statement submitted by the Eastern Sudan Women Development Organization, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/59	6	Written statement submitted by the Federal Union of European Nationalities, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/60	4	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/33/NGO/61	9	Written statement submitted by Prahar, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/62	3	Written statement submitted by Europe-Third World Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/63	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/64	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/65	3	Written statement submitted by the Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/66	4	Written statement submitted by the Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/67	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/68	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/69	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/70	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/71	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/72	5	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/73	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/74	4	Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/75	3	Written statement submitted by the Women Organization for Development and Capacity Building, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/33/NGO/76	7	Written statement submitted by Amuta for NGO Responsibility, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/77	4	Written statement submitted by the Conseil International pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux Droits de l'Homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/78	4	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/79	4	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/80	7	Written statement submitted by Amuta for NGO Responsibility, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/81	9	Written statement submitted by the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/82	7	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/83	4	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/84	4	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/85	4	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/86	3	Joint written statement submitted by Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association Mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), Integrated Youth Empowerment - Common Initiative Group (I.Y.E. – C.I.G.), Society for Development and Community Empowerment, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/87	3	Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/33/NGO/88	10	Written statement submitted by the International Catholic Child Bureau, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/89	6	Written statement submitted by the International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/90	4	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/91	4	Written statement submitted by the World Evangelical Alliance, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/92	10	Written statement submitted by the Sudanese Women General Union, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/93	6	Written statement submitted by Atheist Alliance International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/94	7	Joint written statement submitted by the Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, ADALAH – Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/95	3	Written statement submitted by the Korea Center for United Nations Human Rights Policy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/96	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/97	3	Written statement submitted by the Korea Center for United Nations Human Rights Policy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/98	3	Written statement submitted by the Korea Center for United Nations Human Rights Policy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/99	6	Joint written statement submitted by the International Humanist and Ethical Union, the European Humanist Federation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/100	3	Joint written statement submitted by Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, Alliance Creative Community Project, Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association Mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association pour les Victimes Du Monde, Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), Integrated

## Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
		Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (I.Y.E. – C.I.G.), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/101	4	Joint written statement submitted by the Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty, non-governmental organization in general consultative status, the Women's Human Rights International Association, France Libertes: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Mouvement contre le racism et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/102	4	Joint written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, Alliance Creative Community Project, Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association des Jeunes pour l'Agriculture du Mali, Association Mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association pour les Victimes Du Monde, Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (I.Y.E. – C.I.G.), Society for Development and Community Empowerment, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/103	7	Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/104	3	Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/105	4	Written statement submitted by Gazeteciler ve Yazarlar Vakfi, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/106	2	Joint written statement submitted by World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY), non-governmental organization in general consultative status, American Association of Jurists, Federacion de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promocion de los Derechos Humanos, France Libertes: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Habitat International Coalition, International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), International-Lawyers.Org, World Barua Organization (WBO), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Liberation, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/107	4	Joint written statement submitted by Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, Alliance Creative Community Project,

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*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*


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<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
		Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association mauritanienne pour la promotion des droits de l'homme, Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/108	4	Joint written statement submitted by Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association Mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/109	4	Joint written statement submitted by the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, non-governmental organization in general consultative status, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/110	3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/111	3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/112	3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational

## Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
		Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/113	7	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement “Tupaj Amaru”, International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/114	7	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement “Tupaj Amaru”, International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/115	3	Joint written statement submitted by International-Lawyers.Org, Arab Organization for Human Rights, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/116	4	Joint written statement submitted by International-Lawyers.Org, Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement “Tupaj Amaru”, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/117	4	Written statement submitted by the Shia Rights Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/118	3	Written statement submitted by the Shia Rights Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/119	4	Written statement submitted by the Shia Rights Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/33/NGO/120	3	Written statement submitted by the Shia Rights Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/121	7	Written statement submitted by the BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/122	3	Written statement submitted by the Himalayan Research and Cultural Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/123	8	Written statement submitted by Federacion de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promocion de los Derechos Humanos, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/124	8	Exposición escrita presentada por la Federación de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/33/NGO/125	3	Written statement submitted by the Hawa Society for Women, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/126	3	Joint written statement submitted by AARP, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, HelpAge International, Association Camerounaise pour la Prise en Charge de la Personne Agée (ACAMAGE), Association Nationale pour l'Evaluation Environnementale (DRC), International Association for Homes and Services for the Ageing, International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics, International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, National Association of Community Legal Centres, Sir William Beveridge Foundation, Abiodun Adebayo Welfare Foundation, Nigeria, International Longevity Center Global Alliance, Regional Public Foundation Assistance for the Elderly "Dobroe Delo", non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, Gray Panthers, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/127	3	Exposición escrita presentada por la Asociacion Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (Cuban United Nations Association), organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/33/NGO/128	3	Exposición escrita presentada por la Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/33/NGO/129	2	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/130	4	Written statement submitted by the Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/131	7	Written statement submitted by the BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/132	3	Written statement submitted by the CIRID (Centre Independent de Recherches et d'Initiatives pour le Dialogue), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/133	3	Written statement submitted by the CIRID (Centre Independent de Recherches et d'Initiatives pour le Dialogue), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/134	4	Written statement submitted by the Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/135	3	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/136	7	Written statement submitted by the ADALAH – Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/137	3	Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/138	4	Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/139	5	Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/140	8	Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/33/NGO/141	9	Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/142	10	Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/143	3	Written statement submitted by Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/144	9	Written statement submitted by Servas International, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/145	10	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/146	2	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/147	8	Written statement submitted by the Indian Council of South America (CISA), a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/33/NGO/148	2	Written statement submitted by the International Career Support Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/149	4	Written statement submitted by the Agence pour les droits de l'homme, non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/150	2	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Advocates, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/151	4	Written statement submitted by the Orphan Charity Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/152	3	Written statement submitted by the Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance (FIND), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/153	2	Written statement submitted by the International Career Support Association, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/154	4	Written statement submitted by Femmes Solidaires, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/155	3	Written statement submitted by the Orphan Charity Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*


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<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/33/NGO/156	4	Written statement submitted by the Beijing Zhicheng Migrant Workers' Legal Aid and Research Center, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/157	4	Written statement submitted by the Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/158	4	Written statement submitted by the Agence pour les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/159	10	Written statement submitted by the Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/160	10	Written statement submitted by the Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/33/NGO/161	2	Exposé écrit présenté par Tchad agir pour l'environnement, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial

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*Documents issued in the national institutions series*


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<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/33/NI/1	3	Written submission by the Azerbaijan: Human Rights Commissioner (Ombudsman)
A/HRC/33/NI/2	3	Written submission by the Azerbaijan: Human Rights Commissioner (Ombudsman)

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## Annex IV

### Advisory Committee members elected by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-third session and date of expiry of their term of membership

<i>Member</i>	<i>Date of expiry of term of membership</i>
Lazhari Bouzid (Algeria)	30 September 2019
Karla Hananía De Varela (El Salvador)	30 September 2019
Mikhail Aleksandrovich Lebedev (Russian Federation)	30 September 2019
Xinsheng Liu (China)	30 September 2019
Kaoru Obata (Japan)	30 September 2019
Mona Omar (Egypt)	30 September 2019
Jean Ziegler (Switzerland)	30 September 2019

## **Annex V**

### **Special procedure mandate holders appointed by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-third session**

#### **Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons**

Cecilia Jimenez-Damary (Philippines)

#### **Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment**

Nils Melzer (Switzerland)

#### **Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (member from Eastern European States)**

Elina Steinerte (Latvia)

#### **Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity**

Vitit Muntarbhorn (Thailand)

#### **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran**

Asma Jilani Jahangir (Pakistan)

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