



United Nations

Report of the Human Rights Committee

**123rd session
(2–27 July 2018)**

**124th session
(8 October–2 November 2018)**

**125th session
(4–29 March 2019)**

**General Assembly
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Supplement No. 40**



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Note

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I. Jurisdiction and activities

A. States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to the Optional Protocols

1. At the end of the 125th session of the Human Rights Committee, there were 172 States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and 116 States parties to the first Optional Protocol to the Covenant. Both instruments have been in force since 23 March 1976. The Second Optional Protocol to the Covenant, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, entered into force on 11 July 1991. As at 29 March 2019, there were 86 States parties to that Protocol.

2. Since the previous report, there have been two new accessions to the Covenant and one new accession to the Second Optional Protocol. The Committee encourages States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Covenant and the Optional Protocols.

3. As at 29 March 2019, 50 States had made the declaration provided for under article 41 (1) of the Covenant. In this connection, the Committee appeals to States parties to make the declaration under article 41 of the Covenant and to consider using this mechanism with a view to making implementation of the provisions of the Covenant more effective.

4. All information on the status of the treaties, including reservations and declarations made by States parties, is available at <https://treaties.un.org/Pages/Treaties.aspx?id=4&subid=A&lang=en>.

B. Sessions of the Committee

5. The Committee has held three sessions since the adoption of its previous annual report. The 123rd session was held from 2 to 27 July 2018, the 124th session from 8 October to 2 November 2018 and the 125th session from 4 to 29 March 2019. All sessions were held at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

C. Election of officers

6. On 4 March 2019, the Committee elected the following officers for a term of two years, in accordance with article 39 (1) of the Covenant (for a list of the Committee members, see annex I):

<i>Chair:</i>	Ahmed Amin Fathalla
<i>Vice-Chairs:</i>	Tania María Abdo Rocholl, Photini Pazartzis and Yuval Shany
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Ilze Brands Kehris

7. During the 123rd, 124th and 125th sessions, the Bureau of the Committee held meetings. Pursuant to the decision taken at the seventy-first session, the Bureau records its decisions in formal minutes, which are kept as a record of all decisions taken.

D. Special Rapporteurs

8. During the 123rd and 124th sessions, the Special Rapporteurs on new communications and interim measures, Sarah Cleveland and Olivier de Frouville, registered 166 communications and transmitted them to the States parties concerned. They also issued 38 decisions calling for interim measures of protection pursuant to rule 94 of the Committee's rules of procedure. At the 125th session, Christof Heyns and Mr. Shany were appointed Special Rapporteurs on new communications and interim measures, for a two-year term commencing on 4 March 2019.

9. During the 123rd and 124th sessions, the Special Rapporteur for follow-up on Views, Ms. Pazartzis, and the Special Rapporteur for follow-up on concluding observations, Mauro Politi, carried out their functions. At its 125th session, Andreas Zimmermann was appointed Special Rapporteur for follow-up on Views, and Marcia V.J. Kran was appointed Special Rapporteur for follow-up on concluding observations.

E. Working Group on Communications and country report task forces

10. Country report task forces met during the 123rd, 124th and 125th sessions to consider and adopt lists of issues on the reports of Angola, Cabo Verde, the Central African Republic, Mauritania, the Niger, Senegal, Tajikistan and Viet Nam. Task forces also adopted lists of issues prior to reporting, under the simplified reporting procedure, on Finland, Germany, Israel, Lesotho, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States of America. Task forces adopted lists of issues in the absence of a report on Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea and Nigeria.

11. At the 123rd session, the Working Group on Communications was composed of Ms. Brands Kehris, Ms. Cleveland, Mr. de Frouville, Ivana Jelić, José Manuel Santos Pais and Margo Waterval. Ms. Jelić was designated Chair-Rapporteur. The Working Group met from 25 to 29 June 2018.

12. At the 124th session, the Working Group on Communications was composed of Yadh Ben Achour, Mr. Fathalla, Mr. Heyns, Bamariam Koita and Ms. Waterval. Ms. Waterval was designated Chair-Rapporteur. The Working Group met from 1 to 5 October 2018.

13. At the 125th session, the Working Group on Communications was composed of Ms. Abdo Rocholl, Ms. Brands Kehris, Mr. Fathalla, Mr. Koita, Ms. Kran and Mr. Santos Pais. Mr. Fathalla was designated Chair-Rapporteur. The Working Group met from 25 February to 1 March 2019.

F. Derogations pursuant to article 4 of the Covenant

14. Article 4 (1) of the Covenant stipulates that, in time of public emergency which threatens the life of the nation, States parties may take measures derogating from certain of their obligations under the Covenant. Pursuant to article 4 (2), no derogation is allowed from articles 6, 7, 8 (1) and (2), 11, 15, 16 and 18. Pursuant to article 4 (3), any derogation must be immediately notified to the other States parties through the intermediary of the Secretary-General. A further notification is required upon the termination of the derogation.¹ During the period covered by the present report, Ecuador and Peru made derogations under the Covenant. The following States extended the derogations they had made: Peru and Turkey. All such notifications are available from the website of the Office of Legal Affairs (<http://treaties.un.org>).

G. Informal meetings with States parties

15. On 30 October 2018, during its 124th session, the Committee held its 10th informal meeting with States parties to the Covenant. Representatives of 80 States parties took part in the meeting. The Committee provided an update on its working methods, including the simplified reporting procedure, and the 2020 review of the treaty body system. The Chair, Mr. Shany, opened the meeting and referred to positive developments, including the adoption of general comment No. 36 on the right to life (art. 6) as an important contribution to international human rights law. He expressed appreciation for the valuable comments provided by States parties during the drafting process. He highlighted the financial and human resources that were lacking in the secretariat, which caused difficulties in addressing the backlog of individual communications. Representatives of States parties expressed their

¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 40*, vol. I (A/60/40 (vol. I)), chap. I, para. 28.

appreciation and support for the Committee's work. They also expressed interest in the impact and evaluation of the simplified reporting procedure.

H. Concluding observations and follow-up to concluding observations

16. Since its forty-fourth session, held in March 1992,² the Committee has adopted concluding observations. It takes the concluding observations as a starting point in the preparation of the list of issues for the consideration of the subsequent State party report. During the period under review, concluding observations were adopted on 16 States parties. At its 123rd session, the Committee adopted concluding observations on Algeria (CCPR/C/DZA/CO/4), Bahrain (CCPR/C/BHR/CO/1), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (CCPR/C/LAO/CO/1), Liberia (CCPR/C/LBR/CO/1) and Lithuania (CCPR/C/LTU/CO/4). At its 124th session, the Committee adopted concluding observations on Belarus (CCPR/C/BLR/CO/5), Belize (CCPR/C/BLZ/CO/1/Add.1), Bulgaria (CCPR/C/BGR/CO/4), Guinea (CCPR/C/GIN/CO/3) and the Sudan (CCPR/C/SDN/CO/5). At its 125th session, the Committee adopted concluding observations on Angola (CCPR/C/AGO/CO/2), Eritrea (CCPR/C/ERI/CO/1), Estonia (CCPR/C/EST/CO/4), the Niger (CCPR/C/NER/CO/2), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (CCPR/C/VCT/CO/2) and Viet Nam (CCPR/C/VNM/CO/3). Those concluding observations are available from the website of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) under "Human rights bodies/Treaty bodies/Treaty bodies database" (www.ohchr.org) and from the Official Document System of the United Nations (<http://documents.un.org>) under the symbols indicated.

17. At its fifty-seventh session, the Committee adopted decisions spelling out the modalities for following up on concluding observations.³ The Committee invites the State party to report to it within a specified period regarding follow-up on recommendations selected by the Committee, indicating what steps, if any, it has taken. The responses received are thereafter examined by the Committee's Special Rapporteur for follow-up on concluding observations. Since its seventy-sixth session, the Committee has, as a rule, examined the progress reports submitted by the Special Rapporteur on a sessional basis.

18. During its 108th session, the Committee adopted a note on the procedure for follow-up to concluding observations (CCPR/C/108/2). The note defines the rules and guidelines on the development of the follow-up process and is aimed at systematizing the practice developed.

19. During the period under review, the Special Rapporteur for follow-up on concluding observations submitted interim reports to the Committee during the 123rd, 124th and 125th sessions. During its 123rd session, the Committee reviewed the following States parties under the follow-up process: Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Kazakhstan, Malta and Suriname. During its 124th session, the Committee reviewed the following States parties under the follow-up process: Benin, Greece, Montenegro, Republic of Korea and Rwanda. During its 125th session, the Committee reviewed the following States parties under the follow-up process: Austria, Denmark, Kuwait, South Africa and Sweden.

20. During the 112th session, and given the difficulties caused by the imposition of the word limit for reports on follow-up to concluding observations, the Committee decided to revert to the practice of preparing and adopting a report at each session (as opposed to two reports annually). During the period under review, follow-up comments were received from States parties. Follow-up information was also received from non-governmental organizations.

21. All information on follow-up to concluding observations, including follow-up reports, can be found on the OHCHR website.

² Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/47/40)*, chap. I, sect. E, para. 18.

³ Ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40, vol. I (A/57/40 (vol. I))*, annex III, sect. A.

I. Communications and follow-up to Views

22. Individuals who claim that their rights under the Covenant have been violated by a State party and who have exhausted all available domestic remedies may submit written communications to the Committee for consideration under the Optional Protocol. No communication can be considered unless it concerns a State party to the Covenant that has recognized the competence of the Committee by becoming a party to the Optional Protocol.

23. Consideration of communications under the Optional Protocol is confidential and takes place in closed meetings (art. 5 (3)). The Committee's final decisions (Views, decisions declaring a communication inadmissible, decisions to discontinue the consideration of a communication) are made public; the names of the authors are disclosed unless the Committee decides otherwise at the request of the authors.

24. An overview of States parties' obligations under the Optional Protocol is contained in the Committee's general comment No. 33 (2008) on the obligations of States parties under the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

1. Progress of work

25. The Committee started its work under the Optional Protocol at its second session, in 1977. Since then, 3,624 communications concerning 93 States parties have been registered for consideration by the Committee, of which 412 were registered during the period covered by the present report. At present, the status of the 3,624 registered communications is as follows:

(a) Consideration concluded by the adoption of Views under article 5 (4) of the Optional Protocol: 1,511, in 1,157 of which violations of the Covenant were found;

(b) Declared inadmissible: 723;

(c) Discontinued or withdrawn: 470;

(d) Not yet concluded: 920.

26. At its 123rd, 124th and 125th sessions, the Committee adopted Views on 68 cases and concluded the consideration of 17 cases by declaring them inadmissible. The Views and final decisions adopted by the Committee at those sessions are available through the treaty body case law database (<http://juris.ohchr.org>), as well as from the details on jurisprudence available on the OHCHR website (by session).⁴ They are also accessible through the treaty body database on the OHCHR website (www.ohchr.org) and from the Official Document System of the United Nations (<http://documents.un.org>).

27. The Committee decided to discontinue the consideration of 21 communications for such reasons as withdrawal by the author, or because the author or counsel failed to respond to the Committee despite repeated reminders, or because the authors, who had expulsion orders pending against them, were ultimately allowed to stay in the countries concerned.

28. The table below sets out the pattern of the Committee's work on communications over the past eight years (communications dealt with from 2011 to 31 December 2018).

<i>Year</i>	<i>New cases registered</i>	<i>Cases concluded^a</i>	<i>Pending cases at 31 December</i>
2018	190	101	746
2017	167	131	635
2016	211	113	599
2015	196	101	532
2014	191	124	456

⁴ See https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=1213&Lang=en;
https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=1214&Lang=en.

Year	New cases registered	Cases concluded ^a	Pending cases at 31 December
2013	93	72	379
2012	102	99	355
2011	106	188	352

^a Total number of cases decided (by the adoption of Views, decisions of inadmissibility and decisions to discontinue consideration).

29. By the date of adoption of the present report (29 March 2019), some 290 communications were ready to be prepared for the Committee to take decisions on admissibility and/or the merits.⁵ Unless there is a significant increase in the capacity of the secretariat to process communications, however, the Committee's ability to address its backlog in that regard will continue to be seriously compromised.

30. During the period under review, the Committee, through its Special Rapporteurs on new communications and interim measures and the co-rapporteur, transmitted 178 new communications to States parties under rule 92 of the Committee's rules of procedure, requesting information or observations relevant to questions of admissibility and the merits.

2. Cooperation by States parties in the examination of communications

31. In several cases decided during the period under review, the Committee noted that States parties had failed to cooperate in the procedure by not providing observations on the admissibility and/or the merits of the authors' allegations. The Committee deplored the situation and recalled that it was implicit in the Optional Protocol that States parties should transmit to the Committee all information at their disposal. In the absence of a reply, due weight has to be given to the author's allegations, to the extent that they have been properly substantiated.

3. Issues considered by the Committee

32. A review of the Committee's work under the Optional Protocol from its second session in 1977 to its 122nd session in March 2018 can be found in the Committee's annual reports from 1984 to 2018, which contain summaries of the procedural and substantive issues considered and summaries of the decisions taken by the Committee. The full texts of the Views adopted by the Committee and of its decisions declaring communications inadmissible under the Optional Protocol are available in the treaty body database.

33. During the period under review, the Committee examined and found violations of the Covenant in the following communications: *S.Y. v. Netherlands* (CCPR/C/123/D/2392/2014), *Severinets v. Belarus* (CCPR/C/123/D/2230/2012), *Barkovsky v. Belarus* (CCPR/C/123/D/2247/2013), *Grunova v. Belarus* (CCPR/C/123/D/2375/2014-CCPR/C/123/D/2690/2015), *Vandom v. Republic of Korea* (CCPR/C/123/D/2273/2013), *F.A. v. France* (CCPR/C/123/D/2662/2015 and Corr.1), *K.H. v. Denmark* (CCPR/C/123/D/2423/2014), *Maalem and Maalem v. Uzbekistan* (CCPR/C/123/D/2371/2014), *Katashynskiy v. Ukraine* (CCPR/C/123/D/2250/2013), *Giménez v. Paraguay* (CCPR/C/123/D/2372/2014), *Araya v. Denmark* (CCPR/C/123/D/2575/2015), *Toussaint v. Canada* (CCPR/C/123/D/2348/2014), *Olanguena Awono v. Cameroon* (CCPR/C/123/D/2660/2015), *I.D.M. v. Colombia* (CCPR/C/123/D/2414/2014), *Arias Leiva v. Colombia* (CCPR/C/123/D/2537/2015), *Hebbadj v. France* (CCPR/C/123/D/2807/2016), *Yaker v. France* (CCPR/C/123/D/2747/2016), *Cacho Ribeiro v. Mexico* (CCPR/C/123/D/2767/2013), *Nepomnyashchiy v. Russian Federation* (CCPR/C/123/D/2318/2013), *F.A. v. Uzbekistan* (CCPR/C/123/D/2189/2012), *Humaam v. Maldives* (CCPR/C/123/D/2785/2016), *Türkan v. Turkey* (CCPR/C/123/D/2274/2013/Rev.1), *Levinov v. Belarus* (CCPR/C/123/D/2235/2015), *Levinov v. Belarus* (CCPR/C/123/D/2236/2013 and Corr.1), *Levinov v. Belarus* (CCPR/C/123/D/2239/2013), *Bolakhe v. Nepal* (CCPR/C/123/D/2658/2015), *Pranevich v.*

⁵ A list of communications registered in 2018 and pending consideration is available at www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CCPR/Pages/TableRegisteredCases.aspx.

Belarus (CCPR/C/124/D/2251/2013), *Durdyyev v. Turkmenistan* (CCPR/C/124/D/2268/2013), *Rybchenko v. Belarus* (CCPR/C/124/D/2266/2013), *Zhagiparov v. Kazakhstan* (CCPR/C/124/D/2441/2014), *Toregozhina v. Kazakhstan* (CCPR/C/124/D/2257/2013-CCPR/C/124/D/2334/2014), *Wade v. Senegal* (CCPR/C/124/D/2783/2016), *Abdiev v. Kyrgyzstan* (CCPR/C/124/D/2892/2016), *Strizhak v. Belarus* (CCPR/C/124/D/2260/2013), *Mudorov v. Tajikistan* (CCPR/C/124/D/2826/2016), *McIvor and Grismer v. Canada* (CCPR/C/124/D/2020/2010), *Kumar Pandey v. Nepal* (CCPR/C/124/D/2413/2014), *Fofana v. Ecuador* (CCPR/C/124/D/2290/2013), *Sanila-Aikio v. Finland* (CCPR/C/124/D/2668/2015), *Käkkäljärvi et al. v. Finland* (CCPR/C/124/D/2950/2017), *Amelkovich v. Belarus* (CCPR/C/125/D/2720/2016), *Japalali v. Philippines* (CCPR/C/125/D/2536/2015), *Siervo Sabarsky v. Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela* (CCPR/C/125/D/2254/2013), *Lupiañez Mintegi v. Spain* (CCPR/C/125/D/2657/2015), *Abdoellaevna and Y v. Netherlands* (CCPR/C/125/D/2498/2014), *Chernev v. Russian Federation* (CCPR/C/125/D/2322/2013), *Osincev v. Kyrgyzstan* (CCPR/C/125/D/2313/2013), *Dzhumanbaev v. Kazakhstan* (CCPR/C/125/D/2308/2013), *Magomadova v. Russian Federation* (CCPR/C/125/D/2524/2015), *Petrovets v. Belarus* (CCPR/C/125/D/2333/2014), *Sabirova and Sabirov v. Uzbekistan* (CCPR/C/125/D/2331/2014), *Abdurakhmanov v. Uzbekistan* (CCPR/C/125/D/2295/2013), *Nyaya v. Nepal* (CCPR/C/125/D/2556/2015), *Abildayeva v. Kazakhstan* (CCPR/C/125/D/2309/2013), *Nuryllayev and Salayev v. Turkmenistan* (CCPR/C/125/D/2448/2014), *Bekmanov and Egemberdiev v. Kyrgyzstan* (CCPR/C/125/D/2312/2013), *Özçelik et al. v. Turkey* (CCPR/C/125/D/2980/2017) and *Dawletow v. Turkmenistan* (CCPR/C/125/D/2316/2013).

34. The Committee found no violations of the Covenant in the following communications: *H.A. v. Denmark* (CCPR/C/123/D/2328/2014), *M.S.P.-B. v. Netherlands* (CCPR/C/123/D/2673/2015), *Demonte v. Argentina* (CCPR/C/123/D/2424/2014), *Hussein v. Denmark* (CCPR/C/124/D/2734/2016), *M.M. v. Denmark* (CCPR/C/125/D/2345/2014), *Baharuddin v. Hungary* (CCPR/C/125/D/2923/2016), *I.K. v. Denmark* (CCPR/C/125/D/2373/2014), *S.F. v. Denmark* (CCPR/C/125/D/2494/2014), *M.B.S. v. Denmark* (CCPR/C/125/D/2439/2014), *Hashemi and Hashemi v. Netherlands* (CCPR/C/125/D/2489/2014) and *B.D.K. v. Canada* (CCPR/C/125/D/3041/2017).

35. The Committee decided that the following communications were inadmissible: *A.S. v. Russian Federation* (CCPR/C/123/D/2232/2013), *Guliyev v. Azerbaijan* (CCPR/C/123/D/2407/2014), *R.E. v. Russian Federation* (CCPR/C/123/D/2249/2013), *M.A.K. v. Spain* (CCPR/C/123/D/2831/2016), *Z.B. v. Hungary* (CCPR/C/123/D/2768/2016), *G.G. v. Armenia* (CCPR/C/124/D/3075/2017), *Karapetyan v. Armenia* (CCPR/C/124/D/3064/2017), *S.C. v. Australia* (CCPR/C/124/D/2296/2013), *G.A. v. Uzbekistan* (CCPR/C/124/D/2335/2014), *X v. Hungary* (CCPR/C/125/D/2901/2016), *X v. Lithuania* (CCPR/C/125/D/2564/2015), *N.P.S.S. and M.K. v. Canada* (CCPR/C/125/D/2238/2013), *H.S. et al. v. Canada* (CCPR/C/125/D/2948/2017), *F.Z. and M.Z. v. Canada* (CCPR/C/125/D/2323/2013), *T. v. New Zealand* (CCPR/C/125/D/2684/2015), *S.D.P.T. et al. v. Canada* (CCPR/C/125/D/2034/2011) and *J.F.H. v. Denmark* (CCPR/C/125/D/2672/2015).

4. Decisions concerning working methods for dealing with communications

36. At its 124th session, the Committee updated its guidelines on making oral comments concerning communications (CCPR/C/159/Rev.1). Pursuant to rule 97 (5) of its rules of procedure, the Committee reviewed a total of six cases in dual chambers at its 125th session.

5. Follow-up to Views

37. During the period under review, the Special Rapporteur for follow-up on Views submitted a report at the 125th session.

38. At the time of conclusion of the 124th session, the Committee determined that there had been a violation of the Covenant in 1,157 of the 1,511 Views adopted since 1979. The Committee has continued the practice, initiated at its 109th session, of including in its reports on follow-up to Views an assessment of the replies received from or action taken by States parties; the assessment uses the criteria established for the follow-up procedure to the

concluding observations. At its 118th session, the Committee decided to revise its assessment criteria. At its 121st session, on 9 November 2017, the Committee decided to further revise its methodology and procedure for monitoring follow-up to Views. The Committee continues to note that many States parties fail to implement the Views adopted under the Optional Protocol.

J. General comments under article 40 (4) of the Covenant

39. At its 124th session, the Committee finalized its second reading of the draft general comment on the right to life (art. 6) and adopted the final text. During the same session, the Committee decided to develop a new general comment on the right to peaceful assembly (art. 21), in the light of the experience obtained in the review of State party reports and individual communications on this right. The Committee designated Mr. Heyns as the Rapporteur for the drafting of the general comment and held a half-day of general discussion at its 125th session, on 20 March 2019, and invited national human rights institutions, civil society organizations, academia and international organizations to provide submissions.

K. Staff resources and word limits for official documents

40. In accordance with article 36 of the Covenant, the Secretary-General has a duty to provide the Committee with the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of its functions. The Committee reiterates its concern regarding the shortage of staff resources and emphasizes once again the importance of allocating adequate staff resources to service its sessions and promote greater awareness, understanding and implementation of its recommendations at the national level. The Committee reiterates the fact that, unless there is a significant increase in the staff capacity of the Petitions Unit that would allow it to prepare a greater number of communications for consideration by the Committee in the coming years than it has in the past, the Committee's ability to address its backlog will continue to be seriously compromised. Furthermore, the Committee expresses its dissatisfaction regarding the regular turnover of staff, in particular those in the Petitions Unit, who need to remain in their positions long enough to acquire adequate experience and knowledge regarding the jurisprudence of the Committee.

41. The Committee welcomes the temporary support that will be provided by Junior Professional Officers supplied by a number of States parties to mitigate the effects of the failure of the General Assembly to approve the human resources necessary to support the work of the Committee in the 2018–2019 biennium, particularly with regard to individual communications. However, the Committee remains concerned at the sustainability of the system in the medium and longer term, particularly in the light of the remaining backlog in communications and the information it has received regarding budgetary restrictions for the overall operations of OHCHR, which may further adversely affect the Committee's work. The Committee also regrets the strict word limits imposed under General Assembly resolution 68/268 on key documents, such as general comments, rules of procedure and Views.

L. Outreach on the work of the Committee

42. At its ninety-fourth session, the Committee adopted a paper on a strategic approach to public relations with the media (CCPR/C/94/3).

43. During the 123rd, 124th and 125th sessions, OHCHR provided a full webcast of the Committee's sessions, including the examination of all States parties' reports and other public meetings. The webcast may be viewed at <https://webtv.un.org>.

44. The Committee continued to develop a media strategy, which has included holding press conferences at the end of each session.

45. The Committee continued to highlight the importance of holding a periodic session in New York.

M. Submission of the Committee's annual report to the General Assembly

46. The Chair attended the interactive dialogue with the General Assembly in New York on 16 October 2018, at which time he presented the Committee's annual report.

N. Adoption of the report

47. At its 3607th meeting, on 29 March 2019, the Committee considered the draft of its sixty-first annual report, covering its activities at its 123rd, 124th and 125th sessions, held in 2018 and 2019. The report, as amended in the course of the discussion, was adopted unanimously. By virtue of its decision 1985/105 of 8 February 1985, the Economic and Social Council authorized the Secretary-General to transmit the Committee's annual report directly to the General Assembly.

II. Methods of work of the Committee under article 40 of the Covenant and cooperation with other United Nations bodies

48. The present section contains a summary and an explanation of the modifications introduced by the Committee to its working methods under article 40 of the Covenant during the past year.

A. Recent developments and decisions on procedures

49. During the 123rd session, the Committee decided to:

(a) Extend the pilot procedure for repetitive communications to another year in order to assess the procedure's effectiveness;

(b) Consider the report of the working group on the simplified reporting procedure, chaired by Mr. Heyns (CCPR/C/123/3), and adopt a decision endorsing most of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report (see annex II);

(c) Consider the replies of the Gambia to the list of issues drawn up in the absence of a second periodic report (CCPR/C/GMB/Q/2/Add.1) as its second periodic report.

50. At its 123rd session, the Committee discussed the list of questions/topics developed at the 30th meeting of Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies, entitled "Developing a treaty body oriented position for the 2020 review", with the view to facilitating and developing a treaty body oriented position. Following the discussion, the Committee drew up a paper to reflect its position on each of the topics listed in the document.

51. During the 124th session, the Committee decided to:

(a) Endorse the document adopted by the Chairs at their 30th meeting of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies, held in 2018, entitled "Possible elements of a common aligned procedure for follow-up to concluding observations, decisions and views for all treaty bodies" (A/73/140, annex II) on the basis of a number of understandings (see annex III);

(b) Adopt criteria for the review of a State party in which the human rights situation was seriously deteriorating;

(c) Adopt guidance on identifying cases for oral comments, further to the guidelines on making oral comments concerning communications adopted by the Committee at its 120th session.

52. At its 120th session, the Committee undertook its first reading of the draft of the revised rules of procedure as prepared by the working group established during the 116th session. At its 124th session, the Committee adopted the final text of the revised rules of procedure (CCPR/C/3/Rev.11).

53. At its 125th session, the Committee discussed the 2020 review of the treaty body system, based on the position paper prepared by the Committee focal point, Mr. Shany. The

Committee decided to endorse in principle, conditional on a cost calculation, the recommendations contained in the position paper, which included adopting the simplified reporting procedure as the default procedure, from which States parties could opt out, and moving to a predictable review cycle from 2020 onwards. That was also in line with General Assembly resolution 68/268 and article 40 of the Covenant and included cost-saving measures compared to the regular reporting procedure. In that regard, the Committee requested that from 2020 onwards, the allocation of resources to the treaty body system, both in terms of calculation methods and amounts, be adjusted to the Committees' real projected needs rather than past trends. To be feasible, the proposal for a predictable review cycle should be reflected and the formula should correspond to the number of reviews scheduled, rather than the number of reports received over a period in the past. The Committee would aim, in the interim, to initiate transition to the predictable review cycle, within existing resources.

54. At its 125th session, the Committee developed and implemented a pilot project for the coordinated adoption of lists of issues prior to reporting with the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights with regard to one country. In October 2009, the Committee decided to make a new reporting procedure available to a limited number of States parties. At its 111th session (July 2014), the Committee decided that the procedure involving a list of issues prior to reporting should, in principle, be offered to all States parties and should be applicable to periodic reports only (A/70/40, para. 56 (a)). Information on the procedure can be found at www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CCPR/Pages/SimplifiedReportingProcedure.aspx.

55. At its 123rd, 124th and 125th sessions, the Committee examined the fifth periodic report of Belarus, the fourth periodic report of Bulgaria, the fourth periodic report of Estonia and the fourth periodic report of Lithuania, all of which were submitted pursuant to the simplified reporting procedure. During those three sessions, the Committee also adopted lists of issues prior to reporting with respect to the seventh periodic report of Finland, the seventh periodic report of Germany, the fifth periodic report of Israel, the second periodic report of Lesotho, the fifth periodic report of Trinidad and Tobago and the fifth periodic report of the United States of America.

B. Links to other bodies

56. At the 124th and 125th sessions, the Bureau met with members of the Bureau of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and decided to explore the possibility of developing a joint substantive statement on article 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and article 8 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to discuss cooperation. Committee members also met informally with members of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to discuss, among other topics, harmful practices and the experience of both Committees in addressing those issues. In an effort to strengthen the relationship with other treaty bodies and regional human rights mechanisms, the Committee appointed the following focal points: Ms. Kran for the Committee against Torture and the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Mr. Heyns for the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Ms. Brands Kehris for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Mr. Santos Pais for the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Ms. Abdo Rocholl for the Inter-American human rights system and H el ene Tigroudja for the European Court of Human Rights.

III. Submission of reports by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant

57. In line with the guidelines adopted by the Committee at its sixty-sixth session and amended at its seventieth session (CCPR/C/66/GUI/Rev.2), the five-year periodicity in reporting, which the Committee had established at its thirteenth session, in July 1981 (CCPR/C/19/Rev.1), was replaced by a flexible system whereby the date for the subsequent

periodic report by a State party is set on a case-by-case basis at the end of the Committee's concluding observations on any report, in accordance with article 40 of the Covenant and in the light of the guidelines for reporting and the working methods of the Committee. The Committee confirmed this approach in its current guidelines, adopted at the ninety-ninth session (CCPR/C/2009/1).

A. Reports submitted to the Secretary-General between 7 April 2018 and 29 March 2019

58. During the period covered by the present report, 11 reports were submitted to the Secretary-General by the following States parties: Belgium (sixth periodic report), Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (fourth periodic report), Central African Republic (third periodic report), Czechia (fourth periodic report), Haiti (second periodic report), Kenya (fourth periodic report), Portugal (fifth periodic report), Senegal (fifth periodic report), Togo (fifth periodic report), Ukraine (eighth periodic report) and Uzbekistan (fifth periodic report).

B. Overdue reports and non-compliance by States parties with their obligations under article 40

59. The Committee wishes to reiterate that States parties to the Covenant must submit the reports referred to in article 40 of the Covenant on time so that the Committee can duly perform its functions under that article. Regrettably, serious delays have been noted since the establishment of the Committee.

60. The Committee notes with concern that the failure of States parties to submit reports hinders the performance of its monitoring functions under article 40 of the Covenant. The Committee reiterates that States with overdue reports are in default of their obligations under article 40 of the Covenant (see annex II for the list of States parties with overdue reports).

61. The Committee draws particular attention to the fact that 15 initial reports are overdue, of which 7 are overdue by between 5 and 10 years and 8 are overdue by 10 years or more. The result is frustration of a crucial objective of the Covenant, namely, to enable the Committee to monitor compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Covenant on the basis of periodic reports. The Committee addresses reminders at regular intervals to all those States parties whose reports are significantly overdue.

62. Owing to the concern of the Committee about the number of overdue reports and non-compliance by States parties with their obligations under article 40 of the Covenant,⁶ amendments to the rules of procedure were formally adopted during the seventy-first session, in March 2001.⁷ The Committee has applied the revised rules since the end of the seventy-first session (April 2001).

63. The amendments introduced a procedure to be followed when a State party has failed to honour its reporting obligations for a long time, or requests a postponement of its scheduled appearance before the Committee at short notice. In both situations, the Committee may henceforth notify the State concerned that it intends to consider, from material available to it, the measures adopted by that State party to give effect to the provisions of the Covenant, even in the absence of a report.

64. At its 103rd session, the Committee amended its rules of procedure (then rules 68 and 70) relating to the examination of country situations in the absence of a report (review procedure).⁸ Since 2012, the examination of such country situations takes place in public

⁶ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 40*, vol. I (A/51/40 (vol. I)), chap. III, sect. B, and *ibid.*, *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/57/40), chap. III, sect. B.

⁷ *Ibid.*, *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 40*, vol. I (A/56/40 (vol. I)), annex III, sect. B. The revised rules were confirmed in the amended rules of procedure adopted at the 103rd session.

⁸ *Ibid.*, *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40*, vol. I (A/67/40 (vol. I)), chap. II, para. 64.

rather than closed sessions and the resulting concluding observations are also issued as public documents.

65. The Committee first applied the procedure under rule 71 of its current rules of procedure to a non-reporting State at its seventy-fifth session. To date, the procedure to examine States parties in the absence of a report has been initiated with regard to the following 24 States parties: Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Gambia, Grenada, Haiti, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Seychelles, South Africa and Suriname. Information on all States parties examined under this procedure up until the 110th session is contained in the annual report to the sixty-ninth session.⁹

66. Prior to its 112th session, the Committee indicated to South Africa that it would adopt a list of issues in the absence of a report from that State party during the 112th session. On 26 November 2014, South Africa submitted its report and the adoption of a list of issues was rescheduled. A note verbale was also sent to Bangladesh indicating that the Committee would adopt a list of issues in the absence of a report at the 112th session. Following a commitment by Bangladesh to provide the Committee with a report by March 2015, the Committee deferred consideration of the situation of civil and political rights in Bangladesh until receipt of the report. On 19 June 2015, Bangladesh submitted its report, which was examined by the Committee during its 119th session. After several reminders, the Committee adopted a list of issues in the absence of a report at the 119th session. Eswatini¹⁰ sent a reply to the list of issues and a high-level delegation for the dialogue with the Committee at its 120th session.

67. During its 123rd, 124th and 125th sessions, the Committee adopted lists of issues on Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea and Nigeria in the absence of a report.

C. Periodicity with respect to States parties' reports examined during the period under review

68. At its 104th session, the Committee decided to allow States parties to submit reports at intervals of no more than six years. Thus, the Committee may now ask States parties to submit their subsequent periodic reports within three, four, five or six years. At its 114th session, the Committee decided that, when determining the periodicity for future reports, States submitting reports under the simplified reporting procedure should be given an extra year to provide their reports compared with those submitting under the standard reporting procedure, with a view to ensuring fairness among States parties making use of the different procedures. Accordingly, the Committee may now ask States parties submitting reports under the simplified reporting procedure to provide their periodic reports at intervals of no more than seven years (i.e., the maximum six years allowed under the standard reporting procedure plus an extra year).

69. The dates of examination of the State party reports considered during the period under review and the due date for the subsequent reports are indicated in the table below.

⁹ Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 40*, vol. I (A/69/40 (vol. I)), chap. III, paras. 101–117.

¹⁰ Since 19 April 2018, "Eswatini" has replaced "Swaziland" as the short name used in the United Nations.

<i>State party</i>	<i>Date of examination</i>	<i>Due date for next report</i>
Algeria	July 2018	July 2022
Bahrain	July 2018	July 2022
Gambia	July 2018	July 2022
Lao People's Democratic Republic	July 2018	July 2022
Liberia	July 2018	July 2022
Lithuania	July 2018	July 2024
Belarus	October 2018	November 2022
Belize	October 2018	November 2022
Bulgaria	October 2018	November 2023
Guinea	October 2018	November 2022
Sudan	October 2018	November 2022
Angola	March 2019	March 2023
Eritrea	March 2019	March 2021
Estonia	March 2019	March 2025
Niger	March 2019	March 2023
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	March 2019	March 2024
Viet Nam	March 2019	March 2023

Annex I

Members and officers of the Human Rights Committee, 2018–2019

<i>Name</i>	<i>Country of nationality^a</i>	<i>Term ends 31 December</i>
Tania María Abdo Rocholl	Paraguay	2020 ^c
Yadh Ben Achour	Tunisia	2018 ^b
Ilze Brands Kehris	Latvia	2020 ^c
Sarah Cleveland	United States of America	2018 ^b
Ahmed Amin Fathalla	Egypt	2020 ^c
Olivier de Frouville	France	2018 ^b
Christof Heyns	South Africa	2020 ^c
Yuji Iwasawa	Japan	2018 ^{b, e}
Ivana Jelić	Montenegro	2018 ^{b, f}
Bamariam Koita	Mauritania	2020 ^c
Marcia Kran	Canada	2020 ^c
Duncan Laki Muhumuza	Uganda	2018 ^b
Photini Pazartzis	Greece	2018 ^b
Mauro Politi	Italy	2018 ^b
José Manuel Santos Pais	Portugal	2020 ^c
Anja Seibert-Fohr	Germany	2020 ^{c, d}
Yuval Shany	Israel	2020 ^c
Margo Waterval	Suriname	2018 ^b

Note: Information on current and past membership of the Committee can be found at www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CCPR/Pages/Membership.aspx.

^a In accordance with article 28 (3) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the members of the Committee shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity.

^b Member elected during the 34th meeting of States parties, held in New York on 24 June 2014.

^c Member elected during the 35th meeting of States parties, held in New York on 23 June 2016.

^d Member resigned, effective 1 March 2018. At the election held on 28 August 2018, during the 37th meeting of States parties, Andreas Zimmermann was elected as a member of the Committee to replace Ms. Seibert-Fohr. His term is due to expire on 31 December 2020.

^e Member resigned, effective 22 June 2018.

^f Member resigned, effective 11 July 2018.

The following officers of the Committee were elected for a term of two years at the meeting held on 4 March 2019, during the 125th session:

Chair: Ahmed Amin Fathalla

Vice-Chairs: Tania María Abdo Rocholl, Photini Pazartzis and Yuval Shany

Rapporteur: Ilze Brands Kehris

Annex II

Decision on the simplified reporting procedure

1. The Committee notes with appreciation the report of the working group composed of Christof Heyns, Marcia Kran and Margo Waterval on the simplified reporting procedure.
2. The Committee supports the report's main recommendation to adopt the simplified reporting procedure as a permanent option for States and decides to adjust its relevant rules of procedure accordingly.
3. The Committee decides to take steps to ensure that as many States parties as possible are encouraged to accept the simplified reporting procedure, including through active campaigns.
4. The Committee will offer the simplified reporting procedure to all States parties that have already submitted their initial reports. It will consider on a case-by-case basis whether to regard as an initial report replies to lists of issues in the absence of an initial report submitted by States parties. The Committee recalls in this connection that States parties should keep the common core documents up-to-date.
5. The Committee instructs the secretariat to explore ways to ensure that there are no undue delays in scheduling reports that have been submitted under the simplified procedure for dialogue.
6. The Committee notes that the simplified reporting procedure places more pressure on the secretariat and the Committee, since it requires more background research in the absence of a report, and it is bound to lead to an increase in the number of reports by non-reporting and late-reporting States.
7. The Committee expresses its interest in aligning the manner in which it applies the simplified reporting procedure with the manner in which other treaty bodies apply the same procedure.
8. The Committee intends to continue to monitor the implementation of the simplified reporting procedure and to accommodate changes to the treaty body reporting system. Whether there is interest from other Committees to conduct a joint assessment of the simplified reporting procedure, such an initiative should be favourably considered.

Annex III

Endorsing statement on follow-up procedure

During its 124th session (8 October to 2 November 2018), the Human Rights Committee considered the document adopted by the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies at their 30th meeting, held in 2018, entitled “Possible elements of a common aligned procedure for follow-up to concluding observations, decisions and views for all treaty bodies” (A/73/140, annex II), and decided to endorse it. The Committee has reached its decision on the basis of the following understandings:

(a) That the document contains recommendations reflecting desirable common practice and does not bind the Committee;

(b) That the criteria for selection of follow-up recommendations enumerated in section A (c) of the document is illustrative only, and that not all criteria would be necessarily relevant for each selected recommendation;

(c) Whereas the Committee has already moved to one cycle of follow-up, it reserves, on an exceptional basis, the right to request in appropriate cases additional follow-up information from States parties after the first cycle is completed;

(d) The reference to three years as the time frame for conclusion of follow-up to views in section B (j) of the document is merely illustrative and the Committee retains discretion to deviate from this time frame where necessary;

(e) The Committee recalls the importance of the role played by national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations in the follow-up procedure.

Annex IV

Status of submission of reports under article 40 of the Covenant (as at 29 March 2019)

A. States parties the initial report of which is overdue (16 States parties)

	<i>State party</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Years overdue</i>	<i>Considered in the absence of a report</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1.	Andorra	22 December 2007	11		Deadline in last reminder letter (rule 70 of the rules of procedure) to submit report by 31 August 2016
2.	Bahamas	23 March 2010	9		Deadline in last reminder letter (rule 70 of the rules of procedure) to submit report by 31 August 2016
3.	Dominica	16 September 1994	24	List of issues adopted at the 102nd session (July 2011; consideration was postponed); new list of issues adopted at the 125th session (March 2019)	
4.	Equatorial Guinea	24 December 1988	30	Seventy-ninth session (October 2003); list of issues adopted at the 124th session (October 2018)	
5.	Eritrea	22 April 2003	15	List of issues adopted at the 123rd session (July 2018)	
6.	Grenada	6 September 1991	27	Ninetieth session (July 2007)	Deadline in concluding observations to submit initial report by 31 December 2008
7.	Guinea-Bissau	1 February 2012	7		Deadline in last reminder letter (rule 70 of the rules of procedure) to submit report by 31 August 2016
8.	Papua New Guinea	21 October 2009	9		Deadline in last reminder letter (rule 70 of the rules of procedure) to submit report by 31 August 2016

<i>State party</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Years overdue</i>	<i>Considered in the absence of a report</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
9. Samoa	15 May 2009	9		Deadline in last reminder letter (rule 70 of the rules of procedure) to submit report by 31 August 2016
10. Sao Tome and Principe	10 April 2018			
11. Seychelles	4 August 1993	25	101st session (March 2011)	Deadline in concluding observations to submit initial report by 1 April 2012
12. Somalia	23 April 1991	27		
13. South Sudan	9 July 2012	6		Bearing in mind that the Sudan has been a party to the Covenant since 1986, and that South Sudan became independent from it in July 2011, the Committee, in the light of its general comment No. 26 (1997) on the continuity of obligations (see <i>Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 40</i> , vol. I (A/53/40 (vol. I)), annex VII), is of the view that the people of South Sudan remain under the protection of the Covenant, and thus South Sudan should submit an initial report under article 40 (1) (a) of the Covenant. The Committee decided, on two occasions, to invite South Sudan to submit an initial report (see para. 61 above and A/69/40 , vol. I, para. 75).
14. State of Palestine	3 July 2015	3		Accession on 2 April 2014
15. Timor-Leste	19 December 2004	14		Deadline in last reminder letter (rule 70 of the rules of procedure) to submit report by 31 August 2016
16. Vanuatu	21 February 2010	9		Deadline in last reminder letter (rule 70 of the rules of procedure) to submit report by 31 August 2016

B. States parties the periodic report of which is overdue by 10 years or more (13 States parties)

<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Years overdue</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1. Afghanistan	Third	15 May 1996	22	12 May 2011	31 October 2013	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 105th session (July 2012)
2. Congo	Third	31 March 2003	15			
3. Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Third	1 January 2004	15			
4. Egypt	Fourth	1 November 2004	14			
5. Gabon	Third	31 October 2003	15			
6. Guyana	Third	31 March 2003	16	18 October 2018		
7. India	Fourth	31 December 2001	17			
8. Lesotho	Second	30 April 2002	16	9 February 2017	2 April 2020	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 125th session (March 2019)
9. Mali	Third	1 April 2005	14			
10. Nigeria	Second	28 October 1999	19			List of issues in the absence of a report adopted at the 124th session (November 2018)
11. Trinidad and Tobago	Fifth	31 October 2003	15	12 January 2018	9 November 2019	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 124th session (November 2018)
12. Uganda	Second	1 April 2008	10			
13. Zimbabwe	Second	1 June 2002	16			

C. States parties the periodic report of which is between 5 and 10 years overdue (10 States parties)

<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Years overdue</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1. Barbados	Fourth	29 March 2011	8			
2. Botswana	Second	31 March 2012	6	3 August 2017	30 April 2019	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 122nd session (March 2018)
3. Brazil	Third	31 October 2009	9			
4. Libya	Fifth	30 October 2010	8			
5. Luxembourg	Fourth	1 April 2008	10			
6. Panama	Fourth	31 March 2012	6			
7. Syrian Arab Republic	Fourth	1 August 2009	9			
8. Tunisia	Sixth	31 March 2012	6	4 July 2017	30 April 2019	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 122nd session (March 2018)
9. United Republic of Tanzania	Fifth	1 August 2013	5			
10. Zambia	Fourth	20 July 2011	7			

D. States parties the report of which is less than five years overdue (28 States parties)

<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Years overdue</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1. Albania	Third	26 July 2018				
2. Armenia	Third	30 July 2016	2			
3. Burundi	Third	31 October 2018				

	<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Years overdue</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
4.	Chad	Third	28 March 2018	1	30 January 2012	15 August 2018	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 120th session (July 2017)
5.	Djibouti	Second	1 November 2017	1			
6.	Ethiopia	Second	29 July 2014	4			
7.	Hong Kong, China ^a	Fourth	30 March 2018				
8.	Iceland	Sixth	30 July 2018				
9.	Indonesia	Second	26 July 2017	1			
10.	Iraq	Sixth	6 November 2018				
11.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Fourth	2 November 2014	4			
12.	Israel	Fifth	31 October 2018		9 May 2011	30 July 2019	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 123rd session (July 2018)
13.	Japan	Seventh	31 July 2018		30 March 2016	30 November 2018	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 121st session (October 2017)
14.	Kyrgyzstan	Third	28 March 2018	1			
15.	Macao, China ^b	Second	30 March 2018				
16.	Malawi	Second	31 July 2018				
17.	Maldives	Second	30 July 2015	3			
18.	Mozambique	Second	1 November 2017	1			
19.	Nepal	Third	28 March 2018	1			
20.	Nicaragua	Fourth	29 October 2012	6			
21.	Peru	Sixth	30 March 2018		18 February 2016	15 August 2018	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 120th session (July 2017)

<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Years overdue</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
22. Philippines	Fifth	2 November 2016	2			
23. Sierra Leone	Second	28 March 2017	2			
24. Sri Lanka	Sixth	31 October 2017	1			
25. Turkey	Second	2 November 2016	2			
26. Uruguay	Sixth	1 November 2018		26 November 2010	30 April 2019	List of issues prior to reporting adopted on the 122nd session (March 2018)
27. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Fifth	24 July 2018				
28. Yemen	Sixth	30 March 2015	3			

^a Although China is not itself a party to the Covenant, the Government of China has honoured the obligations under article 40 with respect to Hong Kong, China, which was previously under British administration. For information on the application of the Covenant in Hong Kong, China, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/51/40)*, chap. V, sect. B, paras. 78–85.

^b Although China is not itself a party to the Covenant, the Government of China has honoured the obligations under article 40 with respect to Macao, China, which was previously under Portuguese administration. For information on the application of the Covenant in Macao, China, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/55/40)*, chap. IV.

E. States parties the report of which is not yet due (81 States parties)

<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1. Algeria	Fifth	27 July 2022			
2. Argentina	Sixth	15 July 2022	20 September 2013		Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure

	<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
3.	Australia	Seventh	10 November 2023	10 March 2011		Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
4.	Austria	Sixth	6 November 2021			
5.	Azerbaijan	Fifth	4 November 2020			
6.	Bangladesh	Second	29 March 2021			
7.	Belarus	Sixth	2 November 2022			
8.	Belize	Second	2 November 2022			
9.	Benin	Third	6 November 2019			
10.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Fourth	29 March 2022	1 February 2011		Concluding observations on the third periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
11.	Bulgaria	Fifth	2 November 2023			
12.	Burkina Faso	Second	15 July 2020			
13.	Cambodia	Third	2 April 2019			
14.	Cameroon	Sixth	10 November 2022	2 February 2011		Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
15.	Canada	Seventh	24 July 2020			
16.	Chile	Seventh	31 July 2019			
17.	Colombia	Eighth	4 November 2020			
18.	Costa Rica	Seventh	31 March 2021			
19.	Côte d'Ivoire	Second	2 April 2019			

	<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
20.	Croatia	Fourth	2 April 2020	8 January 2014		Concluding observations on the third periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
21.	Cyprus	Fifth	2 April 2020	16 February 2015		
22.	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Fifth	10 November 2021			
23.	Denmark	Seventh	15 July 2022	2 March 2013		Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
24.	Dominican Republic	Seventh	10 November 2022			
25.	Ecuador	Seventh	15 July 2021	1 March 2013		Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
26.	El Salvador	Eighth	6 November 2023	11 February 2014		Concluding observations on the seventh periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
27.	Eswatini	Second	28 July 2021			Replies of Eswatini drawn up in the absence of an initial report considered as an initial report
28.	Finland	Seventh	26 July 2019	8 January 2016	TBC	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 125th session (March 2019)
29.	France	Sixth	24 July 2020			
30.	Georgia	Fifth	31 July 2019			
31.	Germany	Seventh	31 October 2018	28 March 2013	30 July 2019	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 123rd session (July 2018)

	<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
32.	Ghana	Second	15 July 2020			
33.	Greece	Third	6 November 2020			
34.	Guatemala	Fifth	6 April 2023	15 July 2013		Concluding observations on the fourth periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
35.	Guinea	Fourth	2 November 2022			
36.	Honduras	Third	28 July 2021			
37.	Hungary	Seventh	6 April 2023	15 October 2014		Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
38.	Ireland	Fifth	31 July 2019			
39.	Italy	Seventh	29 March 2022			
40.	Jamaica	Fifth	4 November 2021			
41.	Jordan	Sixth	10 November 2022			
42.	Kazakhstan	Third	15 July 2020			
43.	Kuwait	Fourth	15 July 2020			
44.	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Second	27 July 2022			
45.	Latvia	Fourth	28 March 2020			
46.	Lebanon	Fourth	6 April 2023			
47.	Liberia	Second	27 July 2022			
48.	Liechtenstein	Third	28 July 2023			
49.	Lithuania	Fifth	27 July 2024			
50.	Madagascar	Fifth	28 July 2021			

<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
51. Malta	Third	31 October 2020			
52. Mauritius	Sixth	10 November 2022			
53. Monaco	Fourth	2 April 2021	5 January 2011		Concluding observations on the third periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
54. Mongolia	Seventh	28 July 2022			
55. Montenegro	Second	31 October 2020	27 June 2016		
56. Morocco	Seventh	4 November 2020			
57. Namibia	Third	31 March 2020			
58. New Zealand	Seventh	31 March 2023	28 January 2011		Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
59. North Macedonia	Fourth	24 July 2020			
60. Norway	Eighth	6 April 2024	5 April 2013		Concluding observations on the seventh periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
61. Pakistan	Second	28 July 2020			
62. Poland	Eighth	4 November 2021	6 March 2012		Concluding observations on the seventh periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
63. Republic of Korea	Fifth	6 November 2019	28 August 2018		
64. Republic of Moldova	Fourth	4 November 2022	18 March 2011		Concluding observations on the third periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure

	<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
65.	Romania	Sixth	10 November 2023	15 July 2013		Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
66.	Russian Federation	Eighth	2 April 2019			
67.	Rwanda	Fifth	31 March 2019			
68.	San Marino	Fourth	6 November 2022	23 February 2011		Concluding observations on the third periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
69.	Serbia	Fourth	29 March 2021			
70.	Slovakia	Fifth	4 November 2021			
71.	Slovenia	Fourth	31 March 2021			
72.	South Africa	Second	31 March 2020			
73.	Spain	Seventh	24 July 2020	2 October 2015		
74.	Sudan	Sixth	2 November 2022			
75.	Suriname	Fourth	6 November 2020			
76.	Sweden	Eighth	31 March 2023	20 June 2013		Concluding observations on the seventh periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
77.	Switzerland	Fifth	28 July 2022	23 January 2014		Concluding observations on the fourth periodic report adopted under the simplified reporting procedure
78.	Thailand	Third	29 March 2021			
79.	Turkmenistan	Fourth	29 March 2020			

<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>New due date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
80. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Eighth	24 July 2020	7 June 2018		
81. United States of America	Fifth	28 March 2019	29 January 2018	2 April 2020	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 125th session (March 2019)

^a Although China is not itself a party to the Covenant, the Government of China has honoured the obligations under article 40 with respect to Hong Kong, China, which was previously under British administration. For information on the application of the Covenant in Hong Kong, China, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/51/40)*, chap. V, sect. B, paras. 78–85.

^b Although China is not itself a party to the Covenant, the Government of China has honoured the obligations under article 40 with respect to Macao, China, which was previously under Portuguese administration. For information on the application of the Covenant in Macao, China, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/55/40)*, chap. IV.

F. States parties the report of which is yet to be considered by the Committee (18 States parties)

<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Date of submission</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1. Belgium	Sixth	2017	18 July 2018	26 November 2014	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 117th session (June 2016)
2. Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Fourth	1 November 2018	13 December 2018		
3. Cabo Verde	Initial	30 March 2013	9 February 2018		
4. Central African Republic	Third	1 August 2010	26 June 2018		
5. Czechia	Fourth	15 August 2018	31 August 2018	5 July 2013	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 120th session (July 2017)
6. Guinea	Third	30 September 1994	17 October 2017		

	<i>State party</i>	<i>Type of report</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Date of submission</i>	<i>Accepted simplified reporting procedure</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
7.	Haiti	Second	31 October 2018	20 December 2018		
8.	Kenya	Fourth	27 July 2015	28 December 2018		
9.	Mauritania	Second	1 November 2017	22 November 2017		
10.	Mexico	Sixth	2015	20 February 2018	18 December 2013	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 111th session (July 2014)
11.	Netherlands	Fifth	1 April 2018	2 April 2018	12 May 2016	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 119th session (March 2017)
12.	Paraguay	Fourth	2017	5 March 2018	23 October 2015	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 118th session (October 2016)
13.	Portugal	Fifth	31 October 2018	31 October 2018		
14.	Senegal	Fifth	4 April 2000	30 August 2018		
15.	Tajikistan	Third	26 July 2017	26 July 2017		
16.	Togo	Fifth	2017	23 August 2018	22 February 2016	List of issues prior to reporting adopted at the 118th session (October 2016)
17.	Ukraine	Eighth	26 July 2018	25 July 2018		
18.	Uzbekistan	Fifth	24 July 2018	2 August 2018		