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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Angola

Addendum

Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments
and replies presented by the State under review

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



1. Angola, along with other States, presented its report at the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. Following 110 interventions by various States, a total of 270 recommendations were produced, of which the Government **accepted 259 and took note of 11**. The recommendations will be presented officially at the forty-third session of the Human Rights Council in March 2020.
2. The recommendations of which Angola **decided to take note** were grouped thematically and relate to the following issues:
 - (a) Establishing a 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) (**recommendations 49, 52, 55 and 61**);
 - (b) Extending an open invitation to all special procedure mandate holders to visit Angola (**recommendations 26 and 28**);
 - (c) Joining the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (**recommendation 78**);
 - (d) Ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (**recommendations 18, 19, 20 and 21**).

Views on the recommendations

A. Establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles

3. The establishment of a national human rights institution that operates in accordance with the Paris Principles is an issue which deserves the attention and consideration of the Angolan Government.
4. The Office of the Ombudsman is an independent public entity tasked with defending the rights, liberties and safeguards of the country's citizens and ensuring, through informal means, the justice and legality of the public administration.
5. The statutes of the Office of the Ombudsman, which, like in other countries, performs the role of national human rights institution, are generally considered to be in line with the Paris Principles when it comes to its powers, responsibilities and constitutional mandate.

B. Open invitation to all special procedure mandate holders to visit Angola

6. Committed as it is to ensuring respect for the fundamental rights and freedoms of its citizens, Angola has already received visits from several special rapporteurs on human rights issues and from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
7. Several special rapporteurs on human rights issues currently have a standing invitation to visit Angola. These invitations will be reissued in due course depending on the assistance required by these special mechanisms.
8. The Angolan Government will consider inviting other special rapporteurs in due course.

C. Joining the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

9. Angola is a party to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption. It is also a founding member of the Kimberley Process to regulate the purchase and sale of diamonds on the formal market with the aim of preventing natural resources from being used to finance illicit businesses or conflict, while respecting the international market and guaranteeing the human rights of citizens. Angola has even previously held the presidency of the process.

10. The advantages of joining the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative have been assessed, and a working group has been created pursuant to Presidential Order No. 239/14 of 22 December to evaluate the compatibility of the Initiative with the domestic legal system.

D. Ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

11. Angola has signed the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and is analysing the compatibility of its provisions with the Angolan Constitution.

12. An initial analysis identified a number of contradictions between the Constitution and the Rome Statute, which must be resolved before the Statute can be ratified.

13. As a member State of the African Union, Angola supports the position of the African Union regarding the International Criminal Court.

Final considerations

14. While these recommendations were not accepted for the reasons stated above, they will nonetheless continue to command the due attention and consideration of Angolan State and non-State institutions over the next four years.

15. The Republic of Angola once again thanks the States that spoke during its review, the members of the troika and the secretariat and presidency of the Human Rights Council and reiterates its full readiness to engage in open and constructive dialogue with the human rights mechanisms.
