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## **Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\***

### **Namibia**

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\* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.



## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-eighth session from 3 to 14 May 2021. The review of Namibia was held at the 1st meeting, on 3 May 2021. The delegation of Namibia was headed by the Minister of Justice, Yvonne Dausab. At its 10th meeting, held on 7 May 2021, the Working Group adopted the report on Namibia.
2. On 12 January 2021, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Namibia: Fiji, the Sudan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Namibia:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);<sup>1</sup>
  - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);<sup>2</sup>
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).<sup>3</sup>
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Canada, Germany, Haiti, Liechtenstein, Panama, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay was transmitted to Namibia through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

## I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

### A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation stated that Namibia had supported 82 per cent of the recommendations received during the previous review and that the progress made in implementing them and the challenges faced had been highlighted in the national report. The contribution of civil society organizations in preparing the report was highly valued.
6. Namibia had prioritized combating sexual and gender-based violence, with emphasis placed on prevention and rehabilitation efforts and on a victim-centred approach. New legislation on divorce introducing a cost-effective and less cumbersome process that no longer included the common law element of fault as grounds for divorce was in the final stages of enactment.
7. Gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls had been incorporated into national development frameworks, including the Fifth National Development Plan, the Harambee Prosperity Plan, the National Gender Policy and Vision 2030. Since 2015, the proportion of women represented in Parliament had increased from 41.6 per cent to 46 per cent. Progress had also been made in relation to youth empowerment.
8. The Child Care and Protection Act (3 of 2015), which placed the welfare of children at the forefront of all matters affecting them, was comprehensive and, inter alia, prohibited harmful practices such as child marriage and sexual initiation practices and provided for children to consent to medical procedures and HIV/AIDS testing from the age of 14 years. Legislation on children in conflict with the law was at an advanced stage of finalization.

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<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/38/NAM/1.

<sup>2</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/38/NAM/2.

<sup>3</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/38/NAM/3.

9. An average of 19 per cent of the budget was allocated for education. That allocation covered, inter alia, all basic learning needs and school feeding programmes at public schools. While there remained challenges in maintaining a consistent level of education in all schools, the Government remained confident that this was achievable with the help of partners and through the implementation of the General Education Educator Policy. The promulgation of the Basic Education Act (3 of 2020) was a positive step in enhancing access to inclusive education. Access to basic education for children in marginalized communities had improved through mobile schools and incentives to attract qualified teachers to teach in remote areas. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic had caused significant disruption in the education sector.

10. Despite a high HIV/AIDS burden the adult prevalence rate was 12.8 per cent – Namibia had met the 90-90-90 treatment target of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) by 2020 and was committed to achieving the 95-95-95 treatment target by 2030. Child and maternal mortality rates had declined. A targeted national response to combating pandemics such as the COVID-19 pandemic, outbreaks of hepatitis E, cancer, diabetes and kidney disease was being implemented.

11. Access to justice had been enhanced by expanding access to legal aid. Legal counsel had been deployed to all district courts across the country and efforts were under way to enhance service delivery to indigent litigants.

12. Freedom of opinion and expression played a crucial role in ensuring good governance and promoting human rights, and Namibia ranked first in Africa and twenty-fourth in the world on the World Press Freedom Index.

13. Social and economic inequality persisted. Namibia had the second-highest Gini coefficient in the world, despite targeted interventions that included supportive and redistributive policies. Unemployment, especially among youth, remained a major concern and programmes had been introduced to create employment with a specific focus on training and youth entrepreneurship.

14. There was slow progress in realizing the right to adequate housing and the Government was continuing to pursue viable partnerships with the private sector to provide sufficient housing. Amendment bills to the High Court Act (16 of 1990) and the Magistrates' Courts Act (32 of 1944), once promulgated, will provide for judicial oversight in matters relating to the sale of immovable property, allowing time for parties to find a solution to avoid the sale of primary immovable property. Namibia has met the Millennium Development Goal target for safe drinking water and was on course to improving sanitation.

15. The bill on preventing and combating torture would once again be brought before Parliament later in 2021, after the Ministry of Justice had addressed the issues that had been highlighted during the parliamentary debates held in 2019. Torture was prohibited in the Constitution and public officials accused of torture were liable for prosecution. In 2016, the Office of the Ombudsman had developed a training manual on the prevention of torture for police officers and training was given to police officers in nine regions of the country.

16. The Office of the Ombudsman and the Ministry of Justice had held public hearings to listen to the concerns of persons with albinism and had recommended solutions for consideration in the development of government policies and legislation. A Namibian disability standard was being developed to ensure that public buildings and buildings meant for public use were accessible to all persons with disabilities.

17. Discrimination against minorities, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups continued to be of concern and efforts were ongoing to increase public awareness about the need to respect the human rights of others. Namibia was a signatory to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ratification of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), was under consideration.

18. Several mechanisms in the form of legislation, policies and action programmes aimed at promoting the rights and welfare of ethnic minorities had been developed. Teaching and learning materials were available in the Ju/'hoansi dialect of the San languages and used to teach students in grades 1 to 3 in schools predominantly attended by San children. Marginalized communities were among those targeted in the context of the land resettlement

programme. A policy had been introduced by the ruling party to bring indigenous people into elected party structures. The Electoral Commission of Namibia had the mandate to register and educate all citizens who were eligible to vote. Namibia had been ready to welcome the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples in 2020 but, due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the visit was postponed, with a future date yet to be arranged.

19. The Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act (1 of 2018) was effectively being operationalized. The national referral mechanism and the standard operating procedures for the identification, protection, referral and safe return of victims of trafficking had been launched and a police and prosecutor training manual and pocket manual on trafficking in persons had been developed.

20. The COVID-19 pandemic had exposed the lack of realization of universal health care, as illustrated by the fact that only 0.2 per cent of people in developing countries had been vaccinated, while the same was true for over 30 per cent of people in developed countries. While emphasizing the importance of vaccine equality, Namibia was grateful to those countries that had donated vaccines and offered relevant support in its efforts to combat the pandemic.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

21. During the interactive dialogue, 106 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

22. Slovenia commended Namibia for becoming a pathfinder country within the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children. It expressed concern about discrimination against women and girls.

23. Somalia commended Namibia for its efforts to strengthen the legal and institutional framework.

24. South Africa commended Namibia for its policies to address the COVID-19 pandemic and welcomed the increase in young women graduating in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

25. Spain commended Namibia for the progress made in the fight against human trafficking and in the treatment of HIV/AIDS.

26. Sri Lanka commended Namibia for its commitment to promoting the right to education and the rights of persons with disabilities and to combating human trafficking.

27. The State of Palestine commended Namibia for its Social Accountability and School Governance programme and for combating gender-based violence.

28. The Sudan acknowledged the efforts made to protect human rights, particularly by strengthening the institutional and legislative framework.

29. Switzerland encouraged Namibia to pursue efforts to promote gender equality in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal 5.

30. The Syrian Arab Republic appreciated the adoption of national development plans and the strengthening of social protection systems to reduce poverty.

31. Thailand commended Namibia for its efforts to achieve gender equality, the progress made to combat HIV/AIDS and opening the first correctional centre for women.

32. Timor-Leste welcomed the plans to enact new legislation on the rights, protection and care of older people.

33. Togo welcomed the improved normative framework to combat human trafficking, violence and harassment in the world of work in Namibia.

34. Tunisia noted the efforts made by Namibia to cooperate with international human rights bodies and the progress made towards democracy and the rule of law.

35. Turkey welcomed the efforts made to address poverty and noted the Namibia School Feeding Policy.
36. Uganda stated that the promotion of knowledge about human rights in the education system was a positive development.
37. Ukraine noted the adoption of numerous legislative acts, such as the Harabee Prosperity Plan and the Fifth National Development Plan.
38. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland congratulated Namibia on its efforts in tackling human trafficking and encouraged it to increase public awareness.
39. The United States of America recognized the tier 1 status of Namibia for meeting the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking.
40. Uruguay noted the creation of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare.
41. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the efforts made in education and in eradicating poverty, particularly during the pandemic.
42. Zambia stated that Namibia should expedite the enactment of the planned new legislation relating to older people.
43. Zimbabwe noted the adoption of policies such as the National Gender Policy and the National Agenda for Children.
44. Albania noted the adoption of the Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act (1 of 2018) and the Basic Education Act (3 of 2020).
45. Algeria noted the adoption of the National Agenda for Children (2018–2022).
46. Angola commended Namibia for its commitment to protecting people with HIV/AIDS.
47. Argentina noted the efforts made to eliminate human trafficking, including the adoption of the Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act (1 of 2018).
48. Armenia welcomed the efforts made to combat torture and human trafficking, promote social protection and ensure freedom of the press.
49. Australia expressed concerns about corruption and discrimination based on sexual orientation.
50. Austria noted the absence of effective policies to protect ethnic minorities and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.
51. Azerbaijan welcomed the measures taken to implement recommendations from the previous review.
52. Bahamas noted the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, among others.
53. Bangladesh appreciated the efforts made to maintain peace and stability.
54. Barbados stated that Namibia should remain committed to protecting human rights, particularly in relation to political participation.
55. The delegation of Namibia stated that convicted prisoners underwent rehabilitation to ease their reintegration into society and that the Namibian Correctional Service was in the process of aligning its policies and infrastructure with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules).
56. Further steps had been taken to abolish corporal punishment, including the enactment of the Basic Education Act (3 of 2020) and the Child Care and Protection Act (3 of 2015). A new school curriculum that aimed, inter alia, to enhance sexual education and allow pregnant girls to complete their education was in the final stages of implementation.
57. The Caprivi high treason trials, which had ended in September 2015, had resulted in 30 persons being convicted and sentenced to terms of imprisonment and to 79 others being

acquitted. Several convicted persons were appealing their convictions and some acquitted persons were suing the State. To expedite the delivery of justice, the Aspirant Judges Programme had been introduced to enhance the capacity of judges. A similar programme was being run for aspiring magistrates and prosecutors and was a resounding success.

58. Regarding the protection of children affected by violence, the National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023 had been introduced and amendments to the Combating of Domestic Violence Act (4 of 2003) had been tabled. Social and cultural practices were being addressed through education and awareness-raising campaigns. The Combating of Rape Act (8 of 2000), the Combating of Domestic Violence Act (4 of 2003) and the Child Care and Protection Act (3 of 2015) specifically prohibited all forms of sexual exploitation of children. Legislation was currently being drafted to specifically address online sexual exploitation.

59. Namibia has continued to make strides in promoting gender equality, including through the National Gender Policy, which set out 12 areas serving as indicators for gender equality and women's empowerment. The Constitution protected against all forms of discrimination. Members of vulnerable groups, including LGBTIQ persons and commercial sex workers, had unfettered access to public health-care facilities and the Government would continue to raise officials' awareness of the prohibition of discrimination and of cultural biases against members of these groups.

60. The National Disability Council Act (26 of 2004) and the National Policy on Disability were undergoing review to ensure their alignment with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Measures were being taken to eliminate harmful cultural practices, including through engagement with traditional leaders. The Child Care and Protection Act (3 of 2015) prohibits harmful customary practices, including child marriage and early sexual activity.

61. Several measures were being taken to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on human rights, including by providing an emergency income grant, free COVID-19 testing and free vaccines, access to online education and budgetary allocations for employer subsidies and employee protection programmes.

62. The National Energy Policy and the National Renewable Energy Policy had been adopted in 2017 to manage the effects of climate change. In accordance with the Paris Agreement, Namibia had committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 89 per cent by 2030.

63. The Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, was in the final stages of being ratified.

64. Botswana noted the efforts made to address gender-based violence, promote democracy and ensure the rule of law.

65. Brazil encouraged Namibia to enact legislation on access to information, review legislation that allowed discrimination and expand the constitutional prohibition of discrimination.

66. Bulgaria acknowledged the adoption of laws and plans to protect children and women and promote peace and security.

67. Burkina Faso noted the efforts made to ensure gender equality in Parliament and to repeal laws that were discriminatory.

68. Burundi welcomed the measures taken to combat torture and terrorism, improve access to justice and ensure inclusive education.

69. Cameroon noted the efforts made to promote democracy, ensure the rule of law and protect human rights.

70. Canada welcomed the leadership shown by Namibia in promoting media freedom but was concerned about gender-based violence and child marriage.

71. Chile noted the implementation of the National Gender Policy and its Plan of Action (2010–2020).
72. China appreciated the establishment of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and the plans in the areas of health and education.
73. Colombia asked whether Namibia had considered receiving technical assistance from OHCHR to make progress in implementing its policies to combat gender-based violence.
74. The Congo noted the improvements made in access to health, education and drinking water, and the cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms.
75. Costa Rica noted the efforts made in the fight against poverty and that Namibia recognized the various forms of discrimination against certain groups.
76. Côte d’Ivoire congratulated Namibia for the measures taken since the previous review to respect its human rights obligations.
77. Cuba acknowledged the efforts made in strengthening the constitutional and legislative framework and in implementing national development policies and plans.
78. The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea noted the implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan and the Fifth National Development Plan.
79. The Democratic Republic of the Congo noted the adoption of a national plan to combat gender-based violence.
80. Denmark expressed concern about infringements of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and the limited participation of indigenous people.
81. Djibouti welcomed the measures taken to strengthen the normative and institutional framework relating to human rights, the rule of law and democracy.
82. The Dominican Republic noted the progress made in improving the legal and institutional framework for promoting and protecting human rights.
83. Ecuador appreciated the report presented by Namibia and acknowledged the progress made since the previous review.
84. Egypt commended Namibia for repealing obsolete laws and for enacting legislation to combat human trafficking.
85. Estonia welcomed the establishment of a Children’s Advocate in the Office of the Ombudsman and adoption of the Child Care and Protection Act (3 of 2015).
86. Ethiopia noted the national agenda for children, the efforts made to mainstream the rights to health and education and the rehabilitation support provided for children with disabilities.
87. Fiji noted a reduction in the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and the efforts made to combat human trafficking.
88. Finland expressed its appreciation for the engagement of Namibia in the universal periodic review process.
89. France welcomed the progress made in protecting human rights, particularly in relation to combating gender-based violence.
90. Gabon noted the adoption of policies for the protection of human rights, including the National Gender Policy.
91. Georgia encouraged Namibia to accelerate its efforts aimed at gender parity and welcomed efforts to combat human trafficking.
92. Germany noted the efforts made to combat violence against women and protect the rights of children but remained concerned at the high rates of domestic violence.
93. Ghana welcomed the creation of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and the adoption of the Whistleblower Protection Act (10 of 2017).

94. Greece noted the efforts made to ensure freedom of expression and the remarkable progress made in combating the spread of HIV/AIDS.
95. Guyana commended Namibia for the progress achieved in meeting its human rights obligations.
96. Haiti noted the progress made in addressing HIV/AIDS and maintaining a stable democratic and economic structure.
97. Iceland welcomed the number of human rights-related policies and laws adopted and the institutions established since the previous review.
98. India welcomed the near achievement of gender parity in Parliament and the enactment of the Basic Education Act (3 of 2020).
99. Indonesia welcomed the achievements and good practices undertaken, particularly in the areas of women's empowerment and human rights education.
100. The Islamic Republic of Iran noted the progress made in increasing access to education for women and girls and welcomed the prevention and combating of torture bill.
101. Iraq appreciated the efforts made to combat HIV/AIDS and human trafficking and to increase access to safe drinking water.
102. Ireland noted the establishment of a Children's Advocate in the Ombudsman's Office and the Child Care and Protection Act (3 of 2015).
103. Italy took note of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security and the National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023.
104. Japan appreciated the steps taken to protect women's rights, including through the National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023.
105. Kenya noted the efforts made to achieve gender parity and the enactment of key national laws, including the Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act (1 of 2018).
106. The Lao People's Democratic Republic noted the measures taken to empower women, girls and boys and to eradicate poverty.
107. Latvia thanked Namibia for the presentation of the national report.
108. Lesotho noted the enactment of the Basic Education Act (3 of 2020) to, inter alia, ensure equitable and inclusive quality education.
109. Libya noted the steps taken to enhance the participation of women in political life.
110. Liechtenstein thanked the delegation for the information provided.
111. Malawi thanked Namibia for its comprehensive national report.
112. Malaysia noted the efforts made to promote gender equality, women's empowerment, the rights of persons with disabilities and access to clean water and sanitation.
113. Maldives noted the efforts made to advance human rights and to strengthen the core values of democracy.
114. Mali welcomed the measures envisaged under the National Agenda for Children and the efforts made to ensure access to drinking water and to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
115. Malta noted the adoption of the National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023.
116. The Marshall Islands recognized Namibia as a top protector of human rights in its region and encouraged the country to continue on this path.
117. Mauritania commended Namibia for its human rights achievements, including the adoption of legislation to combat trafficking in persons.



118. Mauritius noted the enactment of the Prevention and Combating of Terrorist and Proliferation Activities Act (4 of 2014) and the inclusion of environmental learning in the school curriculum.
119. Mexico welcomed the adoption of policies related to education, human trafficking, gender equality, access to justice and the rights of persons with disabilities.
120. Mongolia noted the establishment of regional offices for the Ombudsman and encouraged Namibia to ensure that these mechanisms were adequately resourced.
121. Montenegro reiterated its call to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
122. Mozambique noted the efforts made to promote access to education for girls and young women at all levels.
123. Nepal noted progress in HIV/AIDS treatment and the efforts made to promote nutritional health in schools. It encouraged Namibia to continue to strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman.
124. The Netherlands noted the steps taken to combat gender-based violence through the National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023.
125. The Niger appreciated the measures taken to promote human rights, particularly the right to education and the right to development, despite the COVID-19 pandemic.
126. Nigeria appreciated the determination shown by Namibia to combat human trafficking and noted the adoption of the National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023.
127. Pakistan noted the measures taken to comply with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment through public awareness-raising campaigns and preventive actions.
128. Paraguay noted the ratification of international human rights instruments and expressed concern about discriminatory practices in the labour market.
129. The Philippines noted the efforts made to promote the participation of young women and girls in education and to mainstream human rights education.
130. Portugal welcomed the efforts made to realize the right to safe drinking water and to combat human trafficking.
131. The Russian Federation noted the efforts made to establish dedicated institutions to monitor compliance with human rights and the rule of law.
132. Rwanda welcomed the establishment of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare.
133. Senegal noted the efforts made to promote the right to health, water and sanitation through targeted policies and voluntary commitments.
134. Serbia noted the efforts made to improve the protection of human rights since the previous review and, in particular, to combat human trafficking.
135. Sierra Leone noted the repealing of discriminatory laws, the enactment of the Combating of Domestic Violence Act (4 of 2003) and the increased access to justice at the district level.
136. Chad acknowledged the progress made in meeting human rights obligations.
137. The delegation of Namibia thanked all the other delegations for their participation in the review and stated that their valuable input, comments and recommendations served as guidance to Namibia in its continued efforts to ensure the full protection of human rights for the benefit of its people. Namibia had deferred taking a position on the recommendations received to allow for consultation with the Cabinet and other government entities.

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

138. The following recommendations will be examined by Namibia, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council:

138.1 Accelerate national discussions on the ratification of the main international instruments to which the country is not yet a party, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, and request technical support from OHCHR to facilitate their implementation (Uruguay);

138.2 Ratify the main international human rights treaties that are still pending in order to make progress on Sustainable Development Goals 5, 11, 13 and 16 (Paraguay);

138.3 Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina);

138.4 Ratify without delay the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);

138.5 Consider the possibility of ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Iraq);

138.6 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ukraine);

138.7 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Japan);

138.8 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Italy);

138.9 Ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);

138.10 Consider ratifying the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), of the International Labour Organization and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Colombia);

138.11 Ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization (Côte d'Ivoire);

138.12 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);

138.13 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Ratify (Italy);

138.14 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Ukraine);

138.15 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Ukraine);

138.16 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and take all necessary action to protect children from all forms of violence and exploitation, including early marriage (Portugal);

138.17 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Rwanda);

138.18 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Chile);

- 138.19 **Accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Senegal);**
- 138.20 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sierra Leone);**
- 138.21 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Somalia);**
- 138.22 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Congo);**
- 138.23 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 138.24 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Egypt);**
- 138.25 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines);**
- 138.26 **Ratify without delay the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (France);**
- 138.27 **Ratify the Optional Protocol relating to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Togo);**
- 138.28 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Italy);**
- 138.29 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ukraine);**
- 138.30 **Consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Armenia);**
- 138.31 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);**
- 138.32 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark);**
- 138.33 **Intensify efforts to adopt the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ghana);**
- 138.34 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture (Switzerland);**
- 138.35 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Liechtenstein);**
- 138.36 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Mauritania);**
- 138.37 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Mauritius);**
- 138.38 **Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and criminalize this offence at the national level (Mexico);**

- 138.39 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Mongolia);**
- 138.40 **Explore the possibility of ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger);**
- 138.41 **Issue a standing invitation to the special procedure mechanisms of the Human Rights Council (Ukraine);**
- 138.42 **Continue to promote the rights contained in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Timor-Leste);**
- 138.43 **Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 138.44 **Continue its cooperation with the treaty bodies and special procedures of the United Nations (Azerbaijan);**
- 138.45 **Continue to cooperate with human rights mechanisms (Niger);**
- 138.46 **Establish a permanent national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up of human rights recommendations and consider the possibility of receiving cooperation for this purpose, in the framework of Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17 (Paraguay);**
- 138.47 **Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, as previously recommended (Latvia);**
- 138.48 **Strengthen cooperation with international rights protection mechanisms such as the United Nations special procedure mandate holders (Lesotho);**
- 138.49 **Extend an open and standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Paraguay);**
- 138.50 **Continue the efforts made to further enhance cooperation and technical assistance programmes with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to address the challenges facing the protection and promotion of human rights (Tunisia);**
- 138.51 **Continue its efforts to fulfil international obligations by further developing and implementing comprehensive national plans and programmes (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 138.52 **Include all the rights set forth in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights among the fundamental rights and freedoms protected in the Constitution (Argentina);**
- 138.53 **Modify the definition of the child in the Constitution as a person below the age of 18, continue its efforts to end child, early and forced marriage and accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Italy);**
- 138.54 **Enact legislation explicitly prohibiting all corporal punishment of children in all settings, including in the home, and repeal all legal defences for its use (Slovenia);**
- 138.55 **Adopt legislative measures in line with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and intensify actions aimed at protecting the rights of persons with disabilities, particularly in the areas of access to education and to justice (Togo);**
- 138.56 **Continue to work towards creating a specific law against torture and other cruel or inhuman treatment and punishment (Uganda);**

- 138.57 **Adopt a law that clearly defines international crimes (Zambia);**
- 138.58 **Enact legislation specifically prohibiting discrimination based on age and disability status and legislation aimed at reducing de facto discrimination, in all forms (Bahamas);**
- 138.59 **Enact legislation to improve women's and girls' rights by protecting them from gender-based violence, increasing their access to health care and increasing their representation in government and political life (Bahamas);**
- 138.60 **Build on the legislative interventions made to enhance the enjoyment of human rights for vulnerable populations, including women, girls and persons living with disabilities (Barbados);**
- 138.61 **Guarantee approval of the bill on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Likewise, the creation of national mechanisms that reinforce prevention (Costa Rica);**
- 138.62 **Finalize the adoption of the law on the prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**
- 138.63 **Finalize the entry into force of the law on water resources management (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**
- 138.64 **Adopt legal measures to criminalize any practice that promotes child marriage or sexual initiation rites and, on the other hand, to register customary marriages in order to protect inheritance and property rights of women and children (Ecuador);**
- 138.65 **Conclude the domestic legal procedure to enact the divorce law and reform the law that regulates marriage and the law against domestic violence (Ecuador);**
- 138.66 **Take necessary measures to protect the rights of refugees and migrant workers by adopting specific legislation to provide for their proper management and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Malawi);**
- 138.67 **Enact the prevention and combating of torture bill and provide necessary technical and financial support to all concerned authorities for its implementation (Maldives);**
- 138.68 **Expedite the adoption of the bill on preventing and combating torture and make national laws compatible with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Pakistan);**
- 138.69 **Strengthen the mandate of the Ombudsman so that he operates in accordance with the Paris Principles (France);**
- 138.70 **Continue developing agriculture and vocational training programmes in rural areas (Timor-Leste);**
- 138.71 **Carry out awareness campaigns for the public, health personnel and educators on the right to health, sexual and reproductive rights and gender-based violence, and ensure that adolescents and young people have access to information and comprehensive education on the subject (Uruguay);**
- 138.72 **Continue to uphold the capacities of government officials and citizens on the principles of human rights values through education and training programmes (Somalia);**
- 138.73 **Consider extending the human rights education and training programme to include more categories of public service officials (Zimbabwe);**
- 138.74 **Strengthen education and training on HIV programmes in order to reduce discrimination against affected people (Angola);**

- 138.75 Strengthen efforts by providing specialized training to law enforcement and follow up on measures to ensure the investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of gender-based violence, as well as the provision of shelter and protection for victims (Botswana);
- 138.76 Strengthen its efforts to raise awareness about violence against women and children, including by providing specialized training to police and law enforcement forces (Greece);
- 138.77 Continue advancing human rights-based training programmes for public service and law enforcement officials and the development of community policing initiatives with a view to eradicating the practice of torture and other forms of ill-treatment (Indonesia);
- 138.78 Accelerate efforts to review its legislation to ensure that it does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, including through the prompt decriminalization of consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex (Uruguay);
- 138.79 Adopt the necessary measures to accelerate the current review of laws and policies in order to rectify provisions that discriminate against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and older persons, including those with disabilities (Argentina);
- 138.80 Repeal all laws that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, including the Criminal Procedure Act (51 of 1977), the Labour Act (11 of 2007) and the Combating of Immoral Practices Act (21 of 1980) (Denmark);
- 138.81 Intensify the implementation of the relevant legal framework to fully eliminate discrimination against minorities, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups (Kenya);
- 138.82 Develop a comprehensive national strategy to reduce gender inequality and enhance its efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups (Mongolia);
- 138.83 Approve and implement a new national gender policy to ensure action towards the integration and mainstreaming of gender in the broader development framework (Mozambique);
- 138.84 Accelerate the promotion of non-discrimination against minorities, women, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups (Cameroon);
- 138.85 Continue to promote gender equality and better protect the rights of women and children (China);
- 138.86 Adopt effective measures to combat de facto racial discrimination and discrimination against indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, HIV-positive persons and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons (Ecuador);
- 138.87 Prohibit expressly the traditional practices that endanger the physical and psychological integrity of women and girls (Argentina);
- 138.88 Strengthen efforts to eliminate harmful traditional practices and take comprehensive measures to eliminate stereotypical conceptions of gender roles (Iceland);
- 138.89 Take necessary measures for combating discriminatory practices against women and girls, including gender-based violence (India);
- 138.90 Take effective measures to ensure equal opportunities for minority groups, including for the political participation of indigenous communities, and ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), of the International Labour Organization (Malawi);

- 138.91 Eliminate traditional harmful practices to women and girls by criminalizing them and prosecuting alleged perpetrators (Montenegro);
- 138.92 Increase its efforts to tackle stigmatization of and discrimination against persons, especially women and girls infected with HIV/AIDS, by prioritizing support and education (South Africa);
- 138.93 Strengthen measures to combat violence against women and girls and establish clear and efficient mechanisms to combat the different forms of discrimination faced by people with disabilities, indigenous peoples and members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community (Costa Rica);
- 138.94 Include the protection of same-sex couples in reforms and proposed amendments to the Combating of Domestic Violence Act (4 of 2003) (United States of America);
- 138.95 Formally repeal the legacy common law prohibition of sodomy (Australia);
- 138.96 Repeal laws that criminalize and discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, especially sodomy under the schedule 1 offences in the Criminal Procedure Act (51 of 1977), the Labour Act (11 of 2007) and the Combating of Immoral Practices Act (21 of 1980) (Austria);
- 138.97 Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex (Spain);
- 138.98 Decriminalize sexual activities between same-sex consenting adults and ensure full legal equality and protections against discrimination (Canada);
- 138.99 Implement further measures targeting equality before the law for members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community (Dominican Republic);
- 138.100 Take concrete action to ensure access to health services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, especially transgender persons, and to combat all forms of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in relation to employment opportunities and treatment by the police forces (Finland);
- 138.101 Decriminalize sexual relations between people of the same sex and promote equality and non-discrimination, including on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (France);
- 138.102 Revise laws discriminating against persons based on their sexual orientation and gender identity, especially LGBTI+ persons, in particular the law which criminalizes sodomy between consenting adult men (Germany);
- 138.103 Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);
- 138.104 Decriminalize consensual same-sex relations (Ireland);
- 138.105 Enshrine in legislation the prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Ireland);
- 138.106 Decriminalize consensual same-sex adult relations and adopt measures to combat all forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Italy);
- 138.107 Amend its legislation to abolish provisions discriminating against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, including those criminalizing sexual acts between consenting adults of the same gender (Liechtenstein);

- 138.108 Consider appointing a diversity liaison officer from the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community in government (Malta);
- 138.109 Decriminalize consensual same-sex sexual relations and adopt legislation prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Mexico);
- 138.110 Amend legislation in order to abolish any provisions discriminating against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, including those provisions criminalizing consensual acts between adults of the same sex (Netherlands);
- 138.111 Adopt laws to ensure that people living in or close to resource-rich areas benefit from social services and development projects (Chad);
- 138.112 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development so as to provide a solid foundation for the people to enjoy human rights (China);
- 138.113 Scale up the implementation of a national development plan with a particular focus on children, women and girls (Ethiopia);
- 138.114 Prioritize fighting corruption by enacting an access-to-information law, fully implementing whistle-blower protections and empowering and adequately funding the Anti-Corruption Commission to fulfil its mandate (United States of America);
- 138.115 Continue efforts to eradicate corruption, including by maximizing funding of the Anti-Corruption Commission and promoting corruption reporting from the public (Australia);<sup>4</sup>
- 138.116 Continue to put in place awareness-raising programmes on climate change and disaster risk reduction (Angola);
- 138.117 Address the effects of climate change, especially drought, including through measures to reduce the distance to water supply points in rural areas (Chile);
- 138.118 Continue to explore progressive law and policy reforms to address cross-sectoral environmental challenges, including climate change adaptation and mitigation frameworks (Fiji);
- 138.119 Ensure that women, children, persons with disabilities, minority groups, and local communities are meaningfully engaged in the development and implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks (Fiji);
- 138.120 Take additional concrete and sustainable measures at the national level to combat the negative effects of climate change, in particular in the agricultural sector, with a view to revitalizing the national policy to combat climate change in Namibia (Haiti);
- 138.121 Strengthen initiatives aimed at preventing torture, including through workshops and trainings on the prevention of torture training manual for police officers and the prevention of torture project (Fiji);
- 138.122 Continue to strengthen efforts to combat acts of torture as a party to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, including by conducting training workshops on the prevention of torture for all police officers (Japan);

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<sup>4</sup> The recommendation made during the interactive dialogue was: “Continue efforts to eradicate corruption, including by maximizing funding of the Anti-Corruption Commission, promoting corruption reporting from the public and reforming sections 21 (1) and 31 (1) of the Anti-Corruption Act of 2003 to make the thresholds for investigation and criminal referral objective.”



- 138.123 Follow up on previous recommendations on corporal punishment of children and enact legislation explicitly prohibiting all forms of corporal punishment of children, including in the home (Liechtenstein);
- 138.124 Develop a framework on violence against and abuse and maltreatment of older persons (Mauritius);
- 138.125 Strengthen its efforts to improve prison conditions, reduce the rate of overcrowding and implement the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) and the Nelson Mandela Rules (Thailand);
- 138.126 Take concrete measures to improve detention conditions, namely by reducing prison overcrowding and ensuring adequate food, water and health care to persons deprived of their liberty (Portugal);
- 138.127 Ensure that there is an adequate number of penitentiary facilities for minors to separate them from adults (Russian Federation);
- 138.128 Ensure that national laws and law enforcement practices comply with international standards on human rights and procedural safeguards for detainees (Russian Federation);
- 138.129 Ensure the availability of sufficient youth facilities so that all juveniles in pretrial detention are held separately from adults (Zambia);
- 138.130 Establish specialized juvenile detention centres in line with recently adopted internal rules and international standards (Bulgaria);
- 138.131 Step up efforts to reduce the prison population and improve living conditions in prisons (Burundi);
- 138.132 Detain children only in specialized child detention facilities (Germany);
- 138.133 Develop and implement a policy to address public health concerns in prisons, especially in relation to the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS to enhance the right to life (Malawi);
- 138.134 Improve prison conditions, including by reducing overcrowding and adopting measures to curb the spread of HIV in prisons (Mexico);
- 138.135 Adopt and enforce hate crime legislation that punishes homophobic and transphobic violence (Spain);
- 138.136 Undertake further measures to protect vulnerable groups of the population, in particular women, persons with disabilities and children (Ukraine);
- 138.137 Continue reforms in the areas of the judiciary and the penitentiary system in order to strengthen social justice and ensure the reintegration of those who have committed crimes (Gabon);
- 138.138 Accelerate the process of reforming the justice system and take measures to reduce the length of pretrial detention (Russian Federation);
- 138.139 Continue to strengthen measures to guarantee access to justice and to a fair trial (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 138.140 Address the obstacles faced by victims of domestic violence in seeking remedies and obtaining protection (Zambia);
- 138.141 Take measures to avoid lengthy extrajudicial detention of suspects (Bulgaria);
- 138.142 Continue efforts to improve access to justice for persons with disabilities (Mozambique);

- 138.143 Continue its efforts in addressing gender-based violence and ensure the effective investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators (State of Palestine);
- 138.144 Continue efforts to combat violence against women and children, with a particular emphasis on providing support measures to victims, such as access to magistrates' courts and police stations (Germany);
- 138.145 Ensure that all cases of violence against women and girls are thoroughly and effectively investigated and that perpetrators are prosecuted and held to account (Switzerland);
- 138.146 Ensure digital rights in accordance with international standards (Estonia);
- 138.147 Take concrete steps to improve the safety of journalists, investigate incidents of attacks on journalists and implement the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (Greece);
- 138.148 Promote and protect the right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, as well as media freedom and the safety of journalists (Latvia);
- 138.149 Strengthen the representation of civil society in the country's decision-making process (Albania);
- 138.150 Whereas female representation has improved, to the extent that 44 per cent of seats in the National Assembly are held by women (according to Inter-Parliamentary Union data), Namibia should continue to promote the representation of women in Parliament and in other decision-making institutions (Malawi);
- 138.151 Enhance public education programmes on human trafficking and ensure sufficient resources to fully train law enforcement and judicial staff in support of the Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act (1 of 2018) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 138.152 Intensify efforts to prevent and fight against trafficking in human beings (Azerbaijan);
- 138.153 Sustain efforts in combating human trafficking, poverty reduction, as well as access to justice (Nigeria);
- 138.154 Continue to conduct public awareness-raising and capacity-building programmes on trafficking in persons for duty bearers (Philippines);
- 138.155 Ensure that existing national cybercrime, data protection and privacy legislation is fully compliant with international human rights standards (Canada);
- 138.156 Continue to support, through economic and social policies and customary law, the institution of the family and the preservation of family values (Haiti);
- 138.157 Take rigorous measures to stem occupational segregation based on sex in the labour market and strengthen the fight against traditional practices harmful to women and girls (Togo);
- 138.158 Take actions to end job segregation based on sex, including measures to increase the participation of women in managerial positions (Chile);
- 138.159 Further recognize the role of health and essential workers in defending human rights during the COVID-19 pandemic and continue its work at the national and international levels in providing a safe and enabling environment for such workers (Indonesia);
- 138.160 Intensify efforts to improve living conditions for older persons (Congo);

- 138.161 Establish policies and programmes to make land acquisition accessible and affordable for the most deprived groups (Senegal);
- 138.162 Give top priority to tackling the shortage of affordable housing with access to water, electricity and sanitation (Turkey);
- 138.163 Improve access to adequate housing, safe drinking water and adequate sanitation (Ukraine);
- 138.164 End all forced evictions that deprive people of shelter and expose them to other human rights violations (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 138.165 Continue expanding access to food and educational opportunities for all children, particularly those from food-insecure households (Turkey);
- 138.166 Address the problem of the high rate of poverty by adopting specific measures targeting rural areas (Ukraine);
- 138.167 Continue to strengthen laws and policies aimed at further reducing poverty and improving living standards, especially for the most vulnerable, including women and children (Zimbabwe);
- 138.168 Further strengthen its efforts to fight poverty and promote access to health care and education in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies and other partners (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 138.169 Step up efforts to combat poverty and all forms of discrimination, especially against indigenous persons and persons with disabilities (Gabon);
- 138.170 Continue its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 138.171 Work to address the high rates of poverty, especially in rural areas and among children (Iraq);
- 138.172 Continue its efforts to realize its National Development Plan and to alleviate and eradicate poverty in the country (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 138.173 Promptly and adequately address poverty, especially in rural areas and among children, through more targeted measures (Malaysia);
- 138.174 Adopt and implement specific measures to address the high rates of poverty, especially in rural areas and among children (Montenegro);
- 138.175 Continue efforts towards poverty eradication and increasing food security and sanitation (Nepal);
- 138.176 Develop a universal social security system (Timor-Leste);
- 138.177 Reinforce the measures adopted in the area of social protection, ensuring the empowerment and participation of girls, boys, women and communities in the design of public policies (Costa Rica);
- 138.178 Continue the exerted efforts to guarantee to all citizens the enjoyment of economic and social rights and provide a social security network that includes the poorest groups (Libya);
- 138.179 Work as much as possible, and within reasonable limits, to strengthen social protection programmes in terms of expanding coverage and the range of beneficiaries (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 138.180 Continue to take steps to mitigate COVID-19-related socioeconomic challenges that may hinder progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (Pakistan);
- 138.181 Strengthen its efforts towards enhancing access to safe drinking water in rural and isolated areas and towards the realization of the right to sanitation (Portugal);

- 138.182 Take effective measures in rural areas to reduce the distance from households to water points (Rwanda);
- 138.183 Take effective measures in terms of infrastructure development in order to reduce the distance to water sources in rural areas of the country (Serbia);
- 138.184 Finalize Neckartal Dam construction with supplementary irrigation projects for safe and clean water for use by citizens and for the needs of small-scale farmers, and finalize other government projects (Turkey);
- 138.185 Continue efforts to extend access to safe drinking water and improved conditions of sanitation (Barbados);
- 138.186 Continue efforts to realize the human rights to drinking water and sanitation, increasing access to safe drinking water and sanitation both in informal settlements and in rural areas by, among others, reducing the distance between points of water supply in these areas (Spain);
- 138.187 Continue national efforts to further improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation (Sri Lanka);
- 138.188 Continue to take effective measures in rural areas to reduce the distance to water points and improve access to sanitation (Malaysia);
- 138.189 Strengthen initiatives aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goal target concerning sanitation, particularly in rural areas (Mali);
- 138.190 Make additional efforts to ensure the availability of health services in rural areas and strive to equalize the quality of health services in public and private institutions (Serbia);
- 138.191 Continue the progress made in promoting the full implementation of human rights in the field of health, in particular concerning women and children (Tunisia);
- 138.192 Consolidate the measures destined to assure the full enjoyment of the right to health (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 138.193 Strengthen health-care facilities and services for the benefit of all, including people living in rural areas (Azerbaijan);
- 138.194 Step up efforts to fight maternal and child mortality among low-income groups and harmful traditional practices against women and girls (Burkina Faso);
- 138.195 Continue to expand investment in the field of public health and better protect people's right to health (China);
- 138.196 Maintain ongoing efforts in the field of health through the implementation of the National Health Policy Framework and national efforts to allocate financial resources to this sector (Cuba);
- 138.197 Pursue the measures necessary to extend access to quality care to all segments of society without discrimination and guarantee access to health services for all (Djibouti);
- 138.198 Take necessary steps to ensure equal access to quality health services in both rural and remote areas with an emphasis on prevention and early detection of diseases (Maldives);
- 138.199 Strengthen prevention and awareness-raising measures in the health sector concerning HIV (Dominican Republic);
- 138.200 Intensify its efforts to combat HIV/AIDS and prevent mother-to-child transmission (Thailand);
- 138.201 Seek technical assistance and cooperation from the international community to continue to fight HIV/AIDS (Bangladesh);

- 138.202 Further implement measures against HIV/AIDS, including to address the challenges related to access to health services for rural communities (Georgia);
- 138.203 Intensify efforts to fight HIV/AIDS and, in particular, to improve access to health-care services in rural areas (Ghana);
- 138.204 Strengthen its measures to combat HIV/AIDS and improve the quality of patient care (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 138.205 Step up efforts to end stigmatization and discrimination against women and children infected with HIV/AIDS (Kenya);
- 138.206 Revise outdated laws on abortion, develop national service protocols and provide training guidelines in accordance with the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol) and World Health Organization (WHO) best practices (Austria);
- 138.207 Increase its efforts on improving access to health services for rural women and girls and their communities, as well as gender and sexual minorities (South Africa);
- 138.208 Step up efforts to reduce maternal and child mortality rates through the improvement of health-care services (Bangladesh);
- 138.209 Further advance the right to health by enhancing achievements in preventing maternal and infant mortality and in the fight against HIV/AIDS (Sri Lanka);
- 138.210 Step up efforts to address the issue of high maternal and infant mortality rates, including by increasing the provision of medical services in rural and remote areas (Sudan);
- 138.211 Raise public awareness on sexual and reproductive health and make efforts particularly to ensure access to information, education and services (Malaysia);
- 138.212 Revise existing laws on abortion, including the Abortion and Sterilization Act (2 of 1975), and develop national service protocols and provider training guidelines in accordance with the Maputo Protocol and WHO best practices (Netherlands);
- 138.213 Continue efforts to ensure the right to a free and compulsory education for all children, including those belonging to indigenous groups and those living in rural areas (Sudan);
- 138.214 Pursue efforts in terms of access to education in order to increase enrolment rates at all levels (Algeria);
- 138.215 Continue to invest in education and take further measures to reduce the school dropout rate and achieve gender parity in primary and secondary education (Bangladesh);
- 138.216 Promote the right to education, including through the implementation of the Basic Education Act (3 of 2020) and maintaining the national budgetary contribution to education (Sri Lanka);
- 138.217 Continue to ensure that persons with disabilities have equal access to quality education and to develop a culturally responsive educational environment (State of Palestine);
- 138.218 Continue its endeavours in providing quality and accessible education for all learners, especially learners with disabilities, orphans and vulnerable children (Lao People's Democratic Republic);

138.219 Ensure the availability of the required tools and facilities for the advancement of basic education in accordance with the provisions of the Basic Education Act (Act No. 3 of 2020) (Syrian Arab Republic);

138.220 Enhance its efforts to prevent children of poor families from dropping out of school and to ensure they remain in the education system (Islamic Republic of Iran);

138.221 Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development to strengthen institutional capacity to deliver quality comprehensive sexuality education (Iceland);

138.222 Implement the relevant recommendations that Namibia supported during the last review relating to the rights of women and girls (Zambia);

138.223 Continue its efforts to protect women and girls, as well as children, and include them in the National Development Plan (Algeria);

138.224 Strengthen its efforts to promote the empowerment of women and girls and to raise awareness about violence against women and children, including by ensuring that children are educated about such violence; by providing specialized training to police and law enforcement forces; and by ensuring the effective investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of such crimes (Guyana);

138.225 Accelerate the implementation of affirmative action policies to increase the access of women, particularly indigenous women, to decent jobs, especially at the managerial level, and to provide vocational training opportunities (Paraguay);

138.226 Continue to strengthen community mechanisms to fight gender-based and sexual violence (Uganda);

138.227 Take steps to prevent and respond to all forms of gender-based violence, including through funding women-led and women's rights organizations on the frontline and ensuring perpetrators are held to account (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

138.228 Establish a sexual offender registry programme and review the effectiveness of sentencing laws and the educational curriculum concerning gender-based violence (United States of America);

138.229 Continue its efforts to curb gender-based violence, especially domestic violence (United States of America);

138.230 Continue its recent efforts to protect survivors of gender-based violence, including by streamlining processes for obtaining protection orders under the Combating of Domestic Violence Act (4 of 2003) (Australia);

138.231 Allocate significant budget and human resources to implement the prioritized National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023 (Austria);

138.232 Continue to fast-track the implementation of its National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023, including by addressing the root causes thereof (South Africa);

138.233 Implement legislative and policy measures adopted in the field of gender-based violence (Azerbaijan);

138.234 Prioritize efforts to raise awareness about gender-based violence against women and girls, including violence perpetrated in a domestic setting (Botswana);

- 138.235 Step up efforts to eradicate traditional practices harmful to women and girls, such as the ritual of Olufuko, which involves child marriage, by criminalizing such practices and prosecuting alleged perpetrators (Brazil);
- 138.236 Ensure proper and prompt implementation of the legislation related to eliminating gender-based violence (Bulgaria);
- 138.237 Strengthen the application of a comprehensive multisectoral approach to effectively combat gender-based violence (Spain);
- 138.238 Develop and resource a framework with specific timelines to monitor the implementation of measures adopted to prevent and address gender-based violence (Canada);
- 138.239 Implement public policies to eradicate all forms of domestic violence against women and children (Chile);
- 138.240 Implement further measures to tackle gender-based and domestic violence and ensure that there are effective mechanisms for protection and for ensuring access to justice and effective reparations for the victims of domestic and gender-based violence (Dominican Republic);
- 138.241 Improve efforts to combat sexual and domestic violence, especially against women and children, and to implement the elements of the national action plan on sexual violence that was adopted for the period 2019–2023 (Egypt);
- 138.242 Take effective preventive measures to protect women and girls from discrimination and gender-based violence, especially sexual violence, and to ensure women's and girls' access to information on sexual and reproductive health and rights (Finland);
- 138.243 Intensify efforts in the fight against gender-based violence by fully implementing existing plans throughout the country (France);
- 138.244 Raise awareness about violence against women and children and address the obstacles faced by victims in seeking remedies and protection (Iceland);
- 138.245 Further strengthen the implementation of various sets of policies and laws dealing with gender-based violence and sexual violence, including by conducting training on gender mainstreaming in various related sectors (Indonesia);
- 138.246 Ensure that national policies to reduce gender-based violence and to protect women's and girls' rights are effectively implemented, including through the provision of sufficient resources to support victims (Ireland);
- 138.247 Take all necessary measures, both in law and in practice, to combat violence against women and girls and domestic violence, as well as child early and forced marriage (Latvia);
- 138.248 Undertake measures to address gender-based violence, especially against persons with disabilities (Lesotho);
- 138.249 Provide adequate shelters for women and girls who are victims of violence in all regions of the country, including by providing them with sufficient resources (Switzerland);
- 138.250 Continue its efforts to eliminate all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as violence against children, by taking comprehensive measures to investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of gender-based violence and violence against children, as well as by addressing the obstacles faced by survivors in seeking remedies and obtaining protection (Liechtenstein);
- 138.251 Adopt a detailed national budget allocation with timelines and sectoral responsibilities for its response to violence against women and girls (Malta);

- 138.252 Take more targeted measures to address the root causes of gender-based violence and introduce a budget for implementation (Marshall Islands);
- 138.253 Continue measures to eliminate sexual and gender-based violence, including traditional harmful practices against women and girls (Nepal);
- 138.254 Continue its efforts to combat gender-based violence and ensure the protection of the rights of persons in vulnerable situations (Nigeria);
- 138.255 Continue measures to combat gender-based violence and empower women (Pakistan);
- 138.256 Enhance measures to address gender-based violence and ensure appropriate and adequate remedies and protection for the victims (Philippines);
- 138.257 Review laws and conventions relating to the rights of children to harmonize them with international human rights standards (Sierra Leone);
- 138.258 Review laws on children's rights in order to ensure that the definition of the child therein is in line with international human rights standards (Chad);
- 138.259 Continue the application and implementation of the national children's programme (2018–2022) (Albania);
- 138.260 Continue implementing the national programme for children and its harmonization with other strategies such as the national strategic framework for the fight against HIV/AIDS and the gender equality and child welfare framework (Cuba);
- 138.261 Define by law children as persons under the age of 18 (Estonia);
- 138.262 Pursue the implementation of the National Agenda for Children 2018–2022 (Mauritania);
- 138.263 Enhance its strategy aimed at ensuring the protection of the rights of children (Mongolia);
- 138.264 Increase efforts to cut practices of marrying children and teenage pregnancies (Germany);
- 138.265 Continue the efforts made to further enhance the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (Tunisia);
- 138.266 Promote the protection of people with disabilities who are victims of marginalization (Cameroon);
- 138.267 Strengthen national bodies responsible for guaranteeing the rights of people with disabilities and promote the full integration of people with disabilities into society, in particular through the promotion of increased access for children with disabilities to education and vocational training (Djibouti);
- 138.268 Strengthen efforts to empower the representation of persons with disabilities in the areas of public affairs and governance (Ethiopia);
- 138.269 Align its legislation on disabilities with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Greece);
- 138.270 Consider strengthening existing and taking new policy-oriented measures to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (India);
- 138.271 Take necessary measures to promote the employment of persons with disabilities (Malaysia);
- 138.272 Ensure that the needs of children with disabilities are adequately addressed in policy measures on inclusive education (Philippines);
- 138.273 Recognize all indigenous peoples under the Traditional Authorities Act (25 of 2000) and develop national legislation to protect their rights (Brazil);



138.274 **Allocate adequate resources to programmes promoting indigenous well-being and addressing discrimination and abuse of indigenous peoples in the health-care and education systems (Canada);**

138.275 **Effectively implement the white paper on indigenous rights and ensure free, prior and informed consent in the process (Denmark);**

138.276 **Make efforts to improve the status and the rights of indigenous peoples and to adopt the white paper drafted by the Office of the Ombudsman (Estonia);**

138.277 **Continue and intensify efforts to enrol indigenous and rural children through the mobile school unit programme (Fiji);**

138.278 **Continue to enhance the projects and programmes aimed at ensuring the protection and rights of indigenous communities (Ghana);**

138.279 **Recognize formally the rights of indigenous communities in the Constitution so as to ensure that their specific needs are safeguarded, particularly on the issue of land expropriation, which should be addressed comprehensively (Marshall Islands);**

138.280 **Ensure that the legally guaranteed rights of ethnic minorities are also de facto guaranteed, especially by undertaking all efforts to reduce the dropout rate of schoolchildren belonging to ethnic minorities and to stop discrimination against ethnic minorities in the labour market (Austria);**

138.281 **Adopt specific legislation protecting the rights of refugees and migrant workers and make provisions for addressing all relevant issues thereunder (Sierra Leone);**

138.282 **Accelerate the procedures necessary for accession to the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Georgia);**

138.283 **Reform sections 21 (1) and 31 (1) of the Anti-Corruption Act (8 of 2003) to make the thresholds for investigation and criminal referral objective (Australia).<sup>5</sup>**

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

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<sup>5</sup> The recommendation made during the interactive dialogue was: “Continue efforts to eradicate corruption, including by maximizing funding of the Anti-Corruption Commission, promoting corruption reporting from the public and reforming sections 21 (1) and 31 (1) of the Anti-Corruption Act of 2003 to make the thresholds for investigation and criminal referral objective”.

## **Annex**

### **Composition of the delegation**

The delegation of Namibia was headed by the Minister of Justice, the Honourable Yvonne Dausab and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Julia Imene-Chanduru, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Namibia to the United Nations in Geneva and Other International Organisations in Switzerland;
  - Mr. Festus Mbandeka, Attorney-General;
  - Mrs. Gladice Pickering, Executive-Director, MOJ;
  - Mr. Simataa Lennon Limbo, Chief Legal Services, MOJ;
  - Mr. Basilius Dyakugha, Chief Law Reform, MOJ;
  - Mr. Jerry Mika, Second Secretary, Namibian Mission in Geneva;
  - Ms. Tangi Shikongo, Legal Attaché, Namibian Mission in Geneva.
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