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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Burkina Faso

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



Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its forty-fourth session from 6 to 17 November 2023. The review of Burkina Faso was held at the 2nd meeting, on 6 November 2023. The delegation of Burkina Faso was headed by the Minister of Justice and Human Rights, with responsibility for relations with institutions, Garde des Sceaux, Edasso Rodrigue Bayala. At its 10th meeting, held on 10 November 2023, the Working Group adopted the report on Burkina Faso.

2. On 11 January 2023, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Burkina Faso: Eritrea, Kazakhstan and Ukraine.

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 Burkina Faso:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);¹

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);²

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).³

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, Germany, Liechtenstein, Panama, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Burkina Faso through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of Burkina Faso stated that the national report contained information on changes in the normative and institutional framework and public policies for the promotion and protection of human rights, the status of implementation of the 184 accepted recommendations emanating from the third cycle of the universal periodic review, the constraints and challenges facing Burkina Faso in the area of human rights and its priorities and commitments in this area.

6. With regard to the accepted recommendations emanating from the third cycle of the universal periodic review, Burkina Faso had developed a national action plan for the period 2019–2022, together with a computerized tool for monitoring its implementation, in collaboration with all stakeholders, which had brought about many positive developments.

7. With regard to legislative reforms, between 2018 and 2023, more than 20 laws had been adopted to guarantee the independence of the judiciary, strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights and punish violations of these rights. In addition, eight international instruments had been ratified.

8. At the institutional level, several public institutions and agencies that contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights had been established or strengthened. With regard to public policy, more than 20 sectoral policies had been adopted, including the Sectoral Policy on Justice and Human Rights and the Action Plan for Stabilization and Development for the period 2023–2025. The implementation of these policies improved the enjoyment of

¹ [A/HRC/WG.6/44/BFA/1](#).

² [A/HRC/WG.6/44/BFA/2](#).

³ [A/HRC/WG.6/44/BFA/3](#).

the rights to health, education, justice, drinking water and sanitation, among other things, thus contributing to the achievement of the targets of Sustainable Development Goals 3, 4, 6 and 16.

9. The security and humanitarian crisis that Burkina Faso had been experiencing since 2015 remained a cause for concern, to the extent that it undermined the State's efforts to implement a number of human rights programmes. It was against this backdrop that institutional changes had been made on 24 January and 30 September 2022. On 14 October 2022, a new transitional charter had been adopted with four priority actions: fighting terrorism and restoring territorial integrity, responding to the humanitarian crisis, rebuilding the State and improving governance, and working towards national reconciliation and social cohesion.

10. Budgetary restrictions and protective measures, including the closure of borders following the onset of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, had hampered the execution of certain activities intended to implement the recommendations emanating from the third cycle of the universal periodic review. However, this particularly complex security, health and sociopolitical context had not diminished the State's commitment and determination to implement these recommendations. As at 6 November 2023, 88.04 per cent of the accepted recommendations had been fully implemented.

11. Since the submission of the national report, several developments had taken place, including the launch, on 24 August 2023, of a framework for consultation, monitoring and early warnings of alleged human rights violations and abuses, resulting from cooperation between the Government of Burkina Faso and the country office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other agencies of the United Nations system. Furthermore, on 10 October 2023, an interministerial working group to monitor, report and follow up on allegations of human rights violations reported in the context of counter-terrorism operations had been launched.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

12. During the interactive dialogue, 98 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

13. Morocco praised Burkina Faso for passing important legislation since 2018 and for creating several public institutions contributing to the promotion and protection of human rights.

14. Mozambique commended the efforts made by Burkina Faso to fight against violent extremism and to consolidate achievements in human rights.

15. Nepal welcomed the memorandum of understanding with the United Nations on the care of children during security operations.

16. The Kingdom of the Netherlands noted the challenges faced by Burkina Faso and expressed concern about the deterioration of the human rights situation.

17. The Niger welcomed the actions undertaken aimed at generalizing human rights education at all school levels and the continuation of training programmes for security forces, magistrates and health-care personnel.

18. Nigeria commended the Government's efforts to promote and protect human rights and its commitment to improving the socioeconomic well-being of its people.

19. Pakistan welcomed various legislative enactments in the fields of social protection, the independence of the judiciary, tackling trafficking in persons and strengthening good governance.

20. Panama thanked the delegation for the presentation of its national report.

21. Paraguay welcomed efforts to combat gender-based violence, but expressed concern about the deterioration of the situation of the civilian population in the context of the armed conflict.

22. The Philippines commended the steps taken to strengthen normative and institutional frameworks for rights promotion and protection, in particular the abolition of the death penalty and reforms to the justice sector.
23. Poland congratulated Burkina Faso on the abolition of the death penalty and expressed appreciation for efforts to strengthen the National Human Rights Commission.
24. Portugal commended Burkina Faso for abolishing the death penalty for civilians and for starting the ratification process of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.
25. The Russian Federation pointed out that, despite all the difficulties, the Government of Burkina Faso was doing its utmost to stabilize the security situation and implement its commitments in relation to human rights protection.
26. Saudi Arabia commended the adoption by Burkina Faso of national legislation, policies and strategies that contributed to the promotion of human rights.
27. Senegal welcomed the commitment of Burkina Faso to improving the human rights situation and its cooperation with United Nations mechanisms, in particular the conclusion of an agreement establishing the OHCHR country office.
28. Serbia welcomed the introduction of legislative texts that strengthened the independence of the judiciary, the ratification of human rights instruments and the implementation of measures aimed at instilling a culture of human rights.
29. Sierra Leone welcomed the measures taken to promote the protection of human rights, including the adoption of several laws and national action plans.
30. Slovenia acknowledged the implementation of awareness-raising activities on the sexual and reproductive health of adolescents and expressed concern about the high rate of child and forced marriage.
31. Somalia welcomed the adoption of the National Strategy for the Protection and Advancement of Persons with Disabilities 2021–2025 and the establishment of the OHCHR country office.
32. South Africa welcomed, inter alia, the ratification by Burkina Faso of the African Charter on the Values and Principles of Decentralization, Local Governance and Local Development.
33. Spain welcomed the reform of the Penal Code that abolished the death penalty for crimes prosecuted before civilian courts.
34. Sri Lanka noted with appreciation, inter alia, the National Security Policy 2020–2050 and the Sectoral Policy on Justice and Human Rights 2018–2027.
35. The Sudan welcomed the adoption by Burkina Faso of several policies and strategies aimed at promoting and protecting human rights.
36. Sweden expressed concern about grave human rights violations committed with impunity in the name of combating terrorism and about the lack of independence in the judicial system.
37. Switzerland thanked the delegation for its presentation.
38. The Syrian Arab Republic welcomed the various strategies put in place in Burkina Faso to protect human rights, while noting key legal and institutional challenges to ensuring their optimal application.
39. Togo welcomed the efforts to increase the well-being of the most marginalized groups, but expressed concern about the situation of persons with disabilities in the labour market and about victims of statelessness.
40. Tunisia noted the adoption in Burkina Faso of several strategies and policies to develop and strengthen the legal and institutional human rights framework.
41. Türkiye commended the participatory and inclusive approach to the preparation of the national report, and the evolution of the normative and institutional human rights framework.

42. Ukraine commended the efforts to reinforce the legal and institutional frameworks, in particular by adopting important legislative and regulatory texts aimed at strengthening human rights protection.
43. The United Arab Emirates expressed appreciation for the efforts of Burkina Faso to promote and protect human rights, in particular the adoption of the new Child Protection Code.
44. The United Kingdom expressed concern about allegations of widespread human rights violations and abuses, including indiscriminate killings of civilians by security forces.
45. The United Republic of Tanzania welcomed measures taken to promote and protect human rights, promote gender equality and improve access to justice.
46. The United States expressed sincere condolences to the people of Burkina Faso victimized by violent extremist groups.
47. The delegation of Burkina Faso noted that the majority of the observations and recommendations referred to the fundamental importance of improving security in the country in order for human rights to be realized. It therefore called for international solidarity in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism.
48. With regard to the terminology used in the compilation and by certain delegations, clarifications were provided concerning the terms “armed conflict” and “armed group”, as well as the alleged violation of international humanitarian law.
49. Since 2015, Burkina Faso had been experiencing a rise in violent extremism and an upsurge in terrorist attacks in several regions of the country. Given the degree of organization of the terrorists, it was not accurate to describe them as “armed groups”. The term “armed conflict” was therefore inappropriate for the situation in Burkina Faso.
50. Burkina Faso was facing a security crisis marked by terrorist acts that constituted violations of national criminal law. In this regard, the State did not believe that international humanitarian law formed part of the legal framework governing counter-terrorism operations.
51. It was also inappropriate in the context of Burkina Faso to describe *Volontaires pour la défense de la patrie* as a government-linked militia since no such militias existed in the operational mechanism set up to fight terrorism. On 17 December 2022, the Government had adopted a law on the establishment of *Volontaires pour la défense de la patrie* in order to enable community participation in accordance with article 10 of the Constitution. Under this law, *Volontaires pour la défense de la patrie* were classified as auxiliaries to the National Armed Forces and the Internal Security Forces, operating in the field under the strict supervision of these forces.
52. With regard to the measures taken to shed light on the events in the village of Karma in the commune of Barga, in Yatenga Province, the judicial investigation was continuing under the direction of the prosecutor’s office of the Ouahigouya *Tribunal De Grande Instance* (court of major jurisdiction).
53. Regarding the measures taken to put an end to the intimidation of journalists and the media, the delegation recalled that Burkina Faso was committed to the freedom of the press and opinion, the freedom of assembly and the right to information. However, these freedoms were exercised in compliance with the laws currently in force. In this connection, restrictions could be imposed by the Government, in accordance with the international commitments of Burkina Faso.
54. Laws had been passed to promote and protect the right to freedom of opinion and expression and, as a result of the various measures taken, the national press was recognized as one of the freest in Africa. In 2023, according to Reporters Without Borders, Burkina Faso was ranked 58th out of 180 countries worldwide and was the seventh ranked country in Africa.
55. With regard to the protection of human rights defenders, several measures had been taken to ensure that they could carry out their activities safely, such as the adoption of Act No. 039-2017/AN in 2017. In addition, honorary distinctions had been awarded to human

rights defenders. In this regard, the winner of the Martin Ennals Award in 2022 had been made a *chevalier de l'ordre de l'Étalon* (Knight of the Order of the Stallion).

56. With regard to the measures taken to guarantee non-discrimination and the full participation of citizens in all aspects of national life, Burkina Faso was engaged in an inclusive transition process that would lead to the organization of free and transparent elections. In this respect, the Transitional Charter adopted on 14 October 2022 ensured that a transition would take place in accordance with the standards of justice, reconciliation, respect for human rights, dialogue and inclusion without any discrimination.

57. A number of measures had been taken to protect the rights of older persons, including laws guaranteeing their well-being in civil, socioeconomic and political life and punishing all forms of violence, neglect, social exclusion and abuse directed at them. A number of other measures had been taken to improve their quality of life.

58. As for the measures taken to protect the fundamental rights of persons with albinism, appropriate legal and institutional frameworks were in place to effectively combat their stigmatization.

59. Uruguay thanked Burkina Faso for the presentation of its report and welcomed the efforts made to comply with its human rights obligations.

60. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the efforts of Burkina Faso to comply with the accepted recommendations and congratulated it on its efforts to consolidate national reconciliation.

61. Viet Nam praised Burkina Faso for the progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the adoption of laws and regulations to strengthen the legal and institutional frameworks.

62. Yemen expressed appreciation for efforts to adopt national strategies to promote human rights, in particular those related to children and persons with disabilities.

63. Zambia thanked the delegation for the presentation of its national report and update.

64. Algeria welcomed the implementation of the National Strategy for the Development of Inclusive Education, which was aimed at offering the same opportunities for access and success to all children.

65. Angola expressed appreciation for the cooperation of Burkina Faso with United Nations human rights mechanisms despite a difficult security and humanitarian situation on the ground.

66. Argentina thanked Burkina Faso for the presentation of its report.

67. Australia commended Burkina Faso for its ongoing commitment to combating female genital mutilation. It was concerned by reports of conflict-related sexual violence against women and girls.

68. Austria deplored the deterioration of the security situation, with an increasing number of innocent victims and serious humanitarian consequences for the population and for the socioeconomic development of the country.

69. Azerbaijan commended Burkina Faso for the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the abolition of the death penalty from the Criminal Code.

70. Belgium was concerned about the increasing number of measures taken by the authorities over the previous 12 months against freedom of expression, and about the security situation in the country.

71. Bhutan noted the legislative measures and policies to promote and protect human rights and to reinforce the legal and institutional frameworks, despite the challenges the country was facing.

72. Botswana encouraged the expeditious operationalization of the agreement establishing the OHCHR country office. It was concerned about reports that women and children continued to be victims of gender-based violence and experience harmful practices.

73. Brazil encouraged Burkina Faso to continue its efforts in favour of human rights education for the National Armed Forces and the Internal Security Forces.
74. Bulgaria noted with appreciation the developments in the legislative and institutional human rights framework. It expressed concern about the cases of school closures due to insecurity.
75. Burundi welcomed the adoption of a range of legislative texts to strengthen the protection of human rights.
76. Cabo Verde took note of the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations concerning the transfer and care of children found during operations to secure the territory.
77. Cameroon commended Burkina Faso for the progress made in human rights and made a series of recommendations.
78. Canada recognized the serious challenges that Burkina Faso was facing and stressed that respect for human rights was an essential condition for the return to peace.
79. Chad noted with satisfaction the measures taken in the area of the institutional and normative frameworks for the promotion and protection of human rights.
80. Chile congratulated Burkina Faso for creating the Ministry for Human Rights and the Promotion of Civic Values and establishing the National Gender Strategy 2019–2023.
81. China noted efforts in combating terrorism and trafficking in persons, towards peace and stability and economic development and in promoting human rights education.
82. The Congo thanked Burkina Faso for the presentation of its report and expressed support for the fight against terrorism.
83. Costa Rica welcomed the progress made, in particular the abolition of the death penalty, the cooperation with the United Nations and strategic actions to combat violence, in particular against girls and women.
84. Côte d'Ivoire congratulated Burkina Faso on the progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular concerning the opening of the OHCHR country office.
85. Czechia noted the significant deterioration of the situation in Burkina Faso, resulting in serious violations of human rights and the need for humanitarian aid for half of the population.
86. Denmark was gravely concerned by the increasing number of reports of extrajudicial killings involving defence and security forces and their civilian auxiliaries.
87. Djibouti commended the commitments and efforts made to strengthen programmes and policies in favour of inclusion, equality and non-discrimination.
88. The Dominican Republic applauded the approval of the action plan for the implementation of human rights education for 2020–2024.
89. Egypt welcomed the strengthening of institutional structures and relevant public policies, notably the adoption of the action plan for the implementation of human rights education for 2020–2024.
90. Ethiopia commended Burkina Faso for implementing previous recommendations and welcomed the concrete measures taken to restore peace and security.
91. Finland expressed appreciation for the engagement of Burkina Faso in the universal periodic review process and the comprehensive report presented.
92. France encouraged the authorities of Burkina Faso to strengthen their efforts to implement the recommendations accepted during the previous review, in 2018.
93. Gabon commended the steps taken by Burkina Faso to strengthen its legislative and institutional frameworks to support vulnerable persons, including women, children, detainees and people with disabilities.

94. The delegation of Burkina Faso stated that the death penalty had been prohibited under the Criminal Code since 31 May 2018 and that all death sentences handed down before that date had been commuted to life imprisonment.

95. The Personal and Family Code was being revised. The delegation stated that Burkina Faso had ratified the Amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on the crime of aggression on 19 March 2019. The process of acceding to the Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes had not yet begun. However, these crimes were punishable under the Criminal Code.

96. With regard to the adoption of a national action plan for the promotion and protection of education and measures to ensure the safety of education stakeholders in the face of terrorist attacks, a national strategy for education in emergency situations had been adopted in 2019, making it possible to re-enrol 277,521 pupils and reopen 539 schools as of 31 May 2023.

97. With regard to the measures taken to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, a national action plan to combat this offence for the period 2023–2025 was being implemented.

98. A national action plan to combat sexual violence, early marriage and female genital mutilation for the period 2022–2024 had been adopted. At the multilateral level, since 2012, Burkina Faso had played a leading role in addressing the issue of female genital mutilation within the African Group of States in New York and Geneva, leading to the adoption of General Assembly and Human Rights Council resolutions on the elimination of this harmful practice.

99. With regard to specific measures to protect the rights and the physical and mental integrity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and intersex persons, the Constitution prohibited all forms of discrimination, and acts of discrimination of all kinds were defined in, and punishable under, the Criminal Code.

100. Burkina Faso had acceded to the main legal instruments on the prevention of statelessness, including the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, on 1 May 2012, and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, on 3 August 2017. These conventions were being implemented.

101. The Gambia commended Burkina Faso for aligning its Criminal Code with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and for its proactive steps in regional collaboration.

102. Georgia welcomed the abolition of capital punishment. It remained concerned about the current developments within the country.

103. Germany commended Burkina Faso for abolishing capital punishment. It expressed concern about the increasing human rights violations committed by all armed groups and about limited access to justice.

104. Ghana noted with appreciation the efforts made to strengthen the rule of law through legislative amendments, including the National Human Rights Commission Act and the adoption of the National Gender Strategy (2019–2023).

105. Honduras commended the presentation of the second voluntary national review on implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognized advances made in combating female genital mutilation.

106. Iceland made a series of recommendations.

107. India noted the measures taken to promote gender equality, including the adoption of the National Gender Strategy and the implementation of the National Migration Strategy.

108. Indonesia made a series of recommendations.

109. The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomed the efforts to implement the National Economic and Social Development Plan, which had improved the access of people to basic social services and drinking water, in particular in rural areas.

110. Iraq expressed appreciation for the efforts made in strengthening the institutional framework and public policies related to human rights through the adoption of several comprehensive national strategies.

111. Ireland remained concerned by restrictions on freedom of expression, press freedom and civic space and was particularly worried by reports of intimidation and attacks on journalists and human rights defenders.

112. Italy welcomed the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations and Burkina Faso on child protection during security operations. It remained deeply concerned about the worsening human rights and humanitarian situations.

113. Japan reiterated the importance of addressing the human rights situation and the prompt restoration of the constitutional order in Burkina Faso.

114. Kazakhstan expressed appreciation for, inter alia, the abolition of the death penalty and the steps taken to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

115. Kenya welcomed the efforts of Burkina Faso to combat female genital mutilation and commended it for signing legal instruments focused on the protection of children, in particular during security operations.

116. Lebanon noted the adoption of sectoral policies and practical actions to promote human rights and highlighted the encouraging results of the implementation of the National Economic and Social Development Plan.

117. Lesotho commended Burkina Faso for taking positive steps to inculcate human rights in the country by developing and implementing policies that strengthened the effective enjoyment of human rights.

118. Libya commended the steps taken recently to access the World Programme for Human Rights Education and the adoption of an action plan to implement that programme for the period 2020–2024.

119. Luxembourg thanked the delegation for presenting the national report and for the efforts made to implement the recommendations from the third cycle.

120. Madagascar welcomed the actions undertaken in the promotion of human rights through the integration of human rights education into primary and secondary schools since the beginning of the 2022/23 school year.

121. Malawi commended recent progress in the promotion and protection of human rights, including ratifying various treaties and harmonizing the Criminal Code with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

122. Malaysia took note of the efforts of Burkina Faso to empower women and girls but was concerned about reports that women and girls were subjected to gender-based discriminatory practices.

123. Maldives commended Burkina Faso for adopting legislative measures to strengthen the promotion of human rights.

124. Mali welcomed the decision of the Government of Burkina Faso to integrate human rights education into its national education policy and to generalize such education in primary and secondary schools.

125. Malta noted the positive steps taken by Burkina Faso to strengthen the implementation of human rights standards in the country.

126. Mauritania welcomed the strengthening of public institutions and structures that contributed to the promotion and protection of human rights and applauded the cooperation with various United Nations human rights bodies and mechanisms.

127. Mauritius took note of the adherence of Burkina Faso to the World Programme for Human Rights Education and measures taken at the national level aimed at inculcating a culture of human rights among its citizens.

128. Mexico commended Burkina Faso for abolishing the death penalty, beginning the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and establishing an OHCHR country office.

129. Montenegro welcomed the establishment of the OHCHR country office. It noted with concern the suspension of the activities of political parties and civil society organizations since 2022.

130. In conclusion, the delegation of Burkina Faso stressed that the stabilization measures undertaken to restore peace and security were essential for ensuring the return to normal constitutional life through the organization of inclusive, free and transparent elections. It therefore reiterated its appeal to the international community to support it, while respecting its sovereignty, without interference, in its efforts to combat terrorism, which remained the main threat to the exercise of the first human right, the right to life.

131. The implementation of the recommendations accepted by Burkina Faso required substantial resources, which is why bilateral and multilateral partners were asked to provide technical and financial assistance, including in the fight against terrorism, the development and execution of a national action plan for the implementation of human rights recommendations and commitments based on the sustainable development goals, and the strengthening of the database used to monitor the implementation of these recommendations and commitments.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

132. The following recommendations will be examined by Burkina Faso, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fifty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council:

132.1 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Iceland) (Madagascar);

132.2 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and take appropriate measures to abolish the death penalty in law for all crimes (Ukraine);

132.3 Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Finland);

132.4 Continue advancing in the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Chile);

132.5 Conclude the ratification process for the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Gabon);

132.6 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (South Africa);

132.7 Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);

132.8 Consider ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, with a view to ensuring the fulfilment of economic, social and cultural rights (Sierra Leone);

132.9 Consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Finland);

- 132.10 Continue efforts to ratify international human rights treaties, in particular the International Labour Organization Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155) (Serbia);
- 132.11 Continue efforts to ratify the international legal instruments relating to human rights, recommended by the United Nations, and strengthen collaboration with the latter, with a view to further promoting humanitarian action and the protection of human rights in the country (Cabo Verde);
- 132.12 Continue efforts to harmonize national legislation with international standards relating to human rights (Algeria);
- 132.13 Open a standing invitation to special procedure mandate holders (Finland);
- 132.14 Issue an open and standing invitation for special procedure mandate holders to visit the country (Paraguay);
- 132.15 Issue and implement a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Czechia);
- 132.16 Continue to work with the Human Rights Council mechanisms (United Arab Emirates);
- 132.17 Strengthen cooperation with international organizations for the promotion and protection of human rights (Saudi Arabia);
- 132.18 Strengthen cooperation with international bodies for the promotion and protection of human rights (Viet Nam);
- 132.19 Cooperate with national and United Nations human rights mechanisms, including the OHCHR country office (Austria);
- 132.20 Take active steps to facilitate the operationalization of the OHCHR country office in Burkina Faso (Botswana);
- 132.21 Cooperate actively with the United Nations country team and other relevant United Nations agencies (Georgia);
- 132.22 Continue efforts to promote democracy, respect for human rights, justice and peace (Yemen);
- 132.23 Encourage dialogue, national reconciliation and social cohesion (Italy);
- 132.24 Strive for the rapid restoral of normal constitutional life (Nepal);
- 132.25 Adhere to the transition timetable, agreed with the Economic Community of West African States, and organize elections within a reasonable time to return to a civilian Government within the constitutional framework (Austria);
- 132.26 Continue to strengthen the legal and institutional frameworks for the promotion and protection of human rights (Bhutan);
- 132.27 Continue to take dedicated steps to improve national legislation in the area of promotion and protection of human rights and freedoms (Russian Federation);
- 132.28 Strengthen efforts aimed at raising awareness about human rights and communicate accepted recommendations to all national actors (Türkiye);
- 132.29 Strengthen the role of parliamentarians, the judiciary and civil society organizations in implementing the accepted recommendations (Kazakhstan);
- 132.30 Strengthen the participation of parliamentarians in the universal periodic review process, including the effective implementation of accepted recommendations (Angola);

- 132.31 Strengthen the role of the legislature, the judiciary and civil society organizations in implementing the accepted recommendations (Maldives);
- 132.32 Strengthen the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission (Yemen);
- 132.33 Strengthen efforts to provide adequate financial and human resources to the national human rights institution, in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (United Arab Emirates);
- 132.34 Continue efforts to guarantee the full independence of the members of the National Human Rights Commission from a personal and institutional point of view, providing said body with sufficient human and material resources so that it can fully perform its functions as a national mechanism for the prevention of torture (Dominican Republic);
- 132.35 Strengthen the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up of recommendations on human rights (Paraguay);
- 132.36 Take additional measures to strengthen the protection of human rights for all citizens, especially those who are most vulnerable, in line with the principles of good governance (Mauritius);
- 132.37 Ensure the protection of vulnerable groups of the population, in particular women, children, people with disabilities, older persons and representatives of ethnic minorities (Russian Federation);
- 132.38 Take effective measures to protect people with albinism from violence, discrimination and stigmatization (Paraguay);
- 132.39 Improve the conditions of people with albinism (Iraq);
- 132.40 Abolish the death penalty for all crimes (France);
- 132.41 Abolish the death penalty for all crimes by removing it as a sentence before military courts (Australia);
- 132.42 Abolish the death penalty completely, including in military tribunals (Spain);
- 132.43 Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Czechia);
- 132.44 Reinforce security throughout the country and strengthen human rights protection mechanisms (Mozambique);
- 132.45 Strengthen the protection of civilians against human rights violations by armed groups and government forces, with an emphasis on accountability (Kingdom of the Netherlands);
- 132.46 Conduct prompt and impartial investigations into allegations of extrajudicial killings and hold perpetrators accountable (Ireland);
- 132.47 Intensify efforts to investigate all credible allegations of human rights abuses and violations and hold those responsibilities to account (Ukraine);
- 132.48 Fully investigate persistent allegations of acts of arbitrary detention, torture, extrajudicial executions and forced disappearances and prosecute those responsible for such acts (Spain);
- 132.49 Conduct transparent and independent investigations into allegations of human rights violations, such as arbitrary arrests and detentions, extrajudicial executions, torture and violence against women, and ill-treatment in places of detention, and ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted (Switzerland);

132.50 Implement necessary measures to ensure that all allegations of ill-treatment are fully investigated, in line with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and perpetrators brought to justice, including those instances occurring during counter-terrorism operations (Malta);

132.51 Investigate human rights violations and abuses committed during security operations in Karma in April 2023 and in Nouna in December 2022, publicly release the findings and hold the perpetrators to account (United States of America);

132.52 Strengthen efforts towards mobilizing resources and seeking necessary international support to improve the capacity of the national mechanism for the prevention of torture (Nigeria);

132.53 Adopt additional measures to support the national mechanism for the prevention of torture (Ukraine);

132.54 Protect individuals and places of worship from potential hate crimes and other threats of violence (Poland);

132.55 Ensure respect for the rights of detainees in prisons (France);

132.56 Take measures to protect the rights of detainees and take further steps to upgrade detention and correctional facilities (Pakistan);

132.57 Allocate an adequate budget to the prison reform policy and improve the material conditions of detention (Chad);

132.58 Intensify efforts on ensuring compliance with national laws on arrests and detentions and establish effective consequences for perpetrators of arbitrary arrests and detentions (Zambia);

132.59 Redouble efforts to reduce prison overcrowding, primarily through the effective implementation of existing alternative measures to incarceration, such as sentence reduction (Chad);

132.60 Continue efforts to address overcrowding in places of detention, as well as improving the food and health conditions of inmates (Lesotho);

132.61 Provide armed and security forces with adequate training in international human rights law and the protection of civilian populations (Luxembourg);

132.62 Step up training and other capacity-building programmes for the military and security forces, including the volunteer defence force, to ensure the protection of the human rights of all persons during operations (Philippines);

132.63 Take all necessary measures to ensure that military forces and aligned groups operate with full respect for human rights and international humanitarian law (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

132.64 Ensure that security force operations, including those in conjunction or cooperation with Volunteers for the Defence of the Homeland forces, are implemented in compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as applicable (United States of America);

132.65 Redouble efforts aimed at the adequate training of the armed and security forces, including the Special Forces Unit, on the protection of children during military operations, in accordance with international humanitarian law (Honduras);

132.66 Strengthen control procedures and, prior to deployment, training in international humanitarian law for the defence and security forces and the Volunteers for the Defence of the Homeland, as well as the supervision of the Volunteers for the Defence of the Homeland (Austria);

- 132.67 Investigate allegations of conflict-related civilian killings and sexual violence and hold perpetrators to account (Australia);
- 132.68 Investigate allegations of human rights violations and hold those responsible accountable and end impunity (Austria);
- 132.69 Comply with obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law, guaranteeing an end to indiscriminate attacks against civilians and protecting in particular social groups in vulnerable situations (Paraguay);
- 132.70 Combat impunity by conducting thorough, impartial and swift investigations into all credible allegations of human rights violations and abuses by armed groups and armed forces, as well as violations of international humanitarian law, and bringing the perpetrators of those acts to justice (Belgium);
- 132.71 End human rights violations committed by security forces of the country, including enforced disappearances, detentions and extrajudicial executions, and take concrete and verifiable measures to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice and to put an end to impunity (Canada);
- 132.72 Ensure that allegations of human rights violations and abuses are thoroughly and impartially investigated (France);
- 132.73 Launch investigations into allegations of cases of human rights violations (Georgia);
- 132.74 Establish accountability for serious violations and abuses of human rights, including children's rights, and ensure that suspected perpetrators are brought to justice (Luxembourg);
- 132.75 Continue to strengthen the training of defence and security forces in respect for human rights (Bhutan);
- 132.76 Take prompt, effective measures to ensure the safety of humanitarian actors and enhance access to persons in need, in full compliance with international humanitarian law (Sweden);
- 132.77 Ensure full compliance with international humanitarian law, including the obligations of parties to respect and protect children and to allow and facilitate humanitarian access to civilians in need (Switzerland);
- 132.78 Respect human rights and international humanitarian law within the fight against terrorism, put in place measures to provide protection from extrajudicial killings and torture by security forces and re-establish access to justice by reopening courts and protecting magistrates (Germany);
- 132.79 Protect the rights of civilians during counter-terrorist actions (Czechia);
- 132.80 Ensure the right to life in the fight against violent extremism by protecting civilians in line with obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law (Denmark);
- 132.81 Develop the necessary policies and strategies to put in place an effective mechanism for the screening, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of persons associated with terrorist groups, including children, with the effective participation of non-governmental organizations able to support age and gender mainstreaming (Panama);
- 132.82 Continue to implement the road map to support victims of terrorism (Burundi) (Mali) (Russian Federation) (Türkiye);
- 132.83 Continue efforts to strengthen care for victims of terrorism (Senegal);
- 132.84 Further assist victims of terrorism (China);

- 132.85 **Combat terrorist ideology and other manifestations of extremism by effectively implementing the National Strategy for Preventing Radicalization and Combating Violent Extremism 2021–2025 (Somalia);**
- 132.86 **Investigate terrorist acts by non-military and armed groups, including those that amount to serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law (Costa Rica);**
- 132.87 **Reopen and strengthen the capacity of the judiciary to sufficiently handle cases of terrorism and provide the necessary financial resources (Kenya);**
- 132.88 **Continue the training of national armed forces and internal security forces, as well as Volunteers for the Defence of the Homeland, on respect for human rights in the fight against terrorism (Mali);**
- 132.89 **Adopt measures so that anti-terrorism norms and policies observe international human rights obligations, and strengthen care for victims, especially women, girls, boys and the Fulani community (Mexico);**
- 132.90 **Continue efforts to strengthen the efficiency and independence of justice (Lebanon);**
- 132.91 **Take additional measures to ensure the full independence, impartiality and effectiveness of the judiciary (Somalia);**
- 132.92 **Strengthen efforts in line with the recommendations accepted during previous reviews to ensure the independence, accessibility and effectiveness of the judicial system (Sweden);**
- 132.93 **Strengthen the independence of the judicial system and put an end to arbitrary arrests (Italy);**
- 132.94 **Take measures to improve the situation in the work of the judiciary and the penitentiary system (Russian Federation);**
- 132.95 **Consider reinstating the juvenile justice system and ensure compliance with international detention standards (Ghana);**
- 132.96 **Strengthen public and individual freedoms (Cameroon);**
- 132.97 **Respect and guarantee the freedoms of expression, association, assembly and protest (France);**
- 132.98 **Promote the full exercise of the rights to freedom of expression and assembly, including in the context of security measures (Sierra Leone);**
- 132.99 **Protect the freedoms of the press, expression, association and opinion by ensuring that attacks and threats against journalists and activists are investigated and subject to criminal prosecution (Canada);**
- 132.100 **Guarantee and protect the rights to freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly and fight impunity for perpetrators of online and offline hate speech, calls for violence and stigmatization of population groups (Switzerland);**
- 132.101 **Ensure freedom of expression and media freedom (Italy);**
- 132.102 **Guarantee the right to freedom of expression and protect journalists and their rights (Czechia);**
- 132.103 **Refrain from government interventions into the freedom of the press and freedom of expression, so that citizens and the media can fully enjoy their rights (Germany);**
- 132.104 **Repeal laws that inhibit freedom of expression (Australia);**
- 132.105 **Review existing legislation that contains crimes that are broadly defined and that limit the exercise of freedoms of expression, the press, peaceful assembly and association (Spain);**

- 132.106 Repeal portions of the Criminal Code that violate the right to freedom of expression to ensure that journalists and human rights defenders can do their jobs free from fear, harassment and intimidation (United States of America);
- 132.107 Guarantee the right to freedom of expression and opinion, including the exercise of freedom of the press, civic space and the participation of civil society (Argentina);
- 132.108 Revoke measures impeding the rights to freedoms of expression and assembly and freedom of the press in order to ensure a conducive environment for political parties, civil society organizations and the free press (Denmark);
- 132.109 Abolish restrictions on the media and civic space (Montenegro);
- 132.110 Protect the civic space (Japan);
- 132.111 Establish a secure environment for civil society, guaranteeing freedom of association and peaceful assembly, freedom of expression and freedom of the press (Kingdom of the Netherlands);
- 132.112 Promote an inclusive transition to a civilian Government by opening up civic space and promoting and protecting the rights to freedom of expression and of assembly and association (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 132.113 Provide a safe and enabling environment for journalists, including by reversing suspensions and expulsions that restrict press freedom (Ireland);
- 132.114 Implement effectively Act No. 039 of 17 June 2017 on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders to ensure their safety and security (Malta);
- 132.115 Guarantee fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life, in particular for political parties and civil society (Brazil);
- 132.116 Continue efforts to promote freedom of religion and belief, in particular by protecting religious minority groups (Indonesia);
- 132.117 Set and implement the minimum legal age for marriage at 18, equally for boys and girls, and ensure accountability for violations of the law (Slovenia);
- 132.118 Guarantee the same minimum age for marriage of 18 years for women and men, including for religious and traditional marriages (Iceland);
- 132.119 Fight resolutely against early and forced marriage in order to improve the rights of women and girls by ensuring a minimum age of 18, and ensure broader enrolment in continued education (Germany);
- 132.120 Redouble efforts to eradicate child marriage and intensify measures to address gender-based violence and harmful practices against women (Paraguay);
- 132.121 Complete the implementation of the National Strategy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Marriage 2016–2025 and take steps to review and renew this strategy beyond 2025 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 132.122 Repeal all legal discriminatory provisions against women and raise the minimum age for marriage to 18, without exception (Montenegro);
- 132.123 Adopt the Personal and Family Code, which is under review, in order to effectively combat early and forced marriage (Burundi);
- 132.124 Adopt the revised Personal and Family Code to effectively combat early and forced marriage (Maldives);
- 132.125 Adopt the new Personal and Family Code and repeal all discriminatory provisions against women (Côte d'Ivoire);

- 132.126 Accelerate the revision of the Personal and Family Code and strictly enforce laws prohibiting early and forced marriage (Philippines);
- 132.127 Accelerate the adoption of the Personal and Family Code in order to effectively combat early and forced marriage (Tunisia);
- 132.128 Expedite the adoption of the new Personal and Family Code to raise the minimum age for marriage to 18 years for both men and women (Kenya);
- 132.129 Accelerate the adoption of the new Personal and Family Code, repeal all discriminatory provisions against women and raise the minimum legal age of marriage to 18 years for both men and women, without exception (South Africa);
- 132.130 Reform the Personal and Family Code to raise the legal age of marriage to 18 years without exception and reinforce awareness-raising campaigns in order to eradicate female genital mutilation (Spain);
- 132.131 Ensure the strict application of laws against early and forced marriage and accelerate the approval of the new Personal and Family Code, ensuring that the minimum age for marriage is set at 18 years (Chile);
- 132.132 Complete the process of adopting the Child Protection Code and ensure the application of its provisions, especially those related to enforcing efforts against early and forced marriage (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 132.133 Strengthen efforts to eliminate trafficking in persons (Iraq);
- 132.134 Reinforce measures to combat trafficking in persons (Mozambique);
- 132.135 Continue efforts to address trafficking in persons effectively (India);
- 132.136 Finalize the development of the national framework for combating trafficking in persons and commit to implementing the necessary reforms (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 132.137 Complete the development of a national framework to combat trafficking in persons and implement the necessary reforms with a view to adapting the legal framework to combat this crime in line with existing international standards (Dominican Republic);
- 132.138 Develop a national action plan to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children (Kenya);
- 132.139 Take steps to reform the national legal and regulatory frameworks on combating trafficking in persons in line with international standards (Malta);
- 132.140 Bring the legal and regulatory frameworks on combating trafficking in persons into line with international standards (Montenegro);
- 132.141 Finalize the steps necessary to bring anti-trafficking legislation into line with international standards (Georgia);
- 132.142 Ensure access to basic goods and services and human rights and humanitarian assistance (Japan);
- 132.143 Scale up investments to improve the socioeconomic well-being of the people and ensure the protection of the rights of persons in vulnerable situations (Nigeria);
- 132.144 Continue consolidating social policies and programmes for the well-being of the population, with an emphasis on the most vulnerable sectors (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 132.145 Continue the measures taken to strengthen the humanitarian crisis response mechanism, especially for ensuring food security (Pakistan);
- 132.146 Continue to improve the management of the humanitarian situation by emphasizing the strengthening of food security (Senegal);

- 132.147 Consolidate measures to strengthen the Government's efforts to increase the national rate of access to drinking water and sanitation (Morocco);
- 132.148 Ensure safe access for everyone to health institutions (Iraq);
- 132.149 Consider enhancing efforts to further decrease the distance of travel for access to health facilities (United Republic of Tanzania);
- 132.150 Continue efforts to ensure universal access to quality health services (Saudi Arabia);
- 132.151 Continue efforts to provide universal access to quality health services in the country (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 132.152 Guarantee universal health care coverage with the aim of significantly reducing maternal and child mortality (Costa Rica);
- 132.153 Continue efforts to improve universal access to primary health care and pregnancy care, particularly in rural and conflict-affected areas, including to reduce maternal and infant mortality (Djibouti);
- 132.154 Ensure maternal, sexual and reproductive health services for women through regular methods (Panama);
- 132.155 Increase efforts, allocating greater human and financial resources, to implement a strategy that guarantees access by women, adolescents and girls to maternal, sexual and reproductive health services, combats female genital mutilation and reduces maternal mortality (Uruguay);
- 132.156 Implement a strategy to guarantee the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people by combating female genital mutilation and child marriage and reducing maternal mortality linked to unsafe abortions (South Africa);
- 132.157 Strengthen measures to combat harmful cultural practices and stigmatization that hamper full access to health-care services, particularly sexual and reproductive health care for adolescent girls (Lesotho);
- 132.158 Eliminate the need for legal proceedings for women to access safe termination of pregnancy in cases of health hazards, serious illness of the foetus, rape and incest, and decriminalize abortion in all other cases (Iceland);
- 132.159 Continue to invest more in health care to promote people's right to health (China);
- 132.160 Take measures to ensure access to education (Bhutan);
- 132.161 Continue the necessary efforts to guarantee the right to education for all without discrimination (Egypt);
- 132.162 Ensure access to education for all, particularly for girls and children from vulnerable groups (Gambia);
- 132.163 Continue efforts to ensure equal opportunities for access to education for all, including girls and children with disabilities (Lebanon);
- 132.164 Guarantee the right to education and ensure equitable access to quality education for all children, including children with disabilities (Poland);
- 132.165 Redouble efforts to address challenges in the field of education to ensure meaningful education for all children, especially girls and children with disabilities (Congo);
- 132.166 Take further steps to continue efforts to strengthen the right to education and to ensure that children, especially girls, attend school, including in conflict zones (Djibouti);

- 132.167 Take further measures to guarantee the right to education of every child by providing appropriate educational facilities and ensuring a continuous educational process (Bulgaria);
- 132.168 Take measures to guarantee safe schools for children and adolescents (Costa Rica);
- 132.169 Establish a national action plan to protect schools, educational institutions, teachers and students from attacks (Portugal);
- 132.170 Develop a national action plan on support for the right to education to protect schools, children and teachers from attacks by armed groups (France);
- 132.171 Develop a national action plan to prevent attacks and threats of attacks against educational infrastructure and civilians, in particular children and teachers (Ghana);
- 132.172 Strengthen measures for access to education, including a national plan to protect children, educational personnel and educational infrastructure from attacks and insecurity (Mexico);
- 132.173 Allocate adequate resources for the implementation of the national action plan for human rights education (Saudi Arabia);
- 132.174 Allocate sufficient resources for the implementation of the national action plan for human rights education (Kazakhstan) (Viet Nam);
- 132.175 Continue to allocate sufficient resources to the implementation of the national action plan on human rights education (Niger);
- 132.176 Provide the necessary resources to implement the national action plan on human rights education (Russian Federation);
- 132.177 Increase resources for the operationalization of the World Programme for Human Rights Education (Angola);
- 132.178 Increase the resources of the Ministry of National Education, Literacy and the Promotion of National Languages to provide access to education to all children, without discrimination, including in conflict zones (Luxembourg);
- 132.179 Continue efforts to improve educational infrastructure, paying particular attention to improving access to quality education for all (Algeria);
- 132.180 Review the National Strategy for the Acceleration of Girls' Education to ensure equitable access to education for girls and establish an education system free from all forms of discrimination (Malaysia);
- 132.181 Continue the efforts made to reform and develop the education sector, to include all segments of society, including persons with disabilities (Libya);
- 132.182 Allocate more resources to alternative forms of schooling, especially for internally displaced children, strengthen the institutional capacity of the education system in host communities and establish a national plan to protect students, teachers and schools from attacks by armed groups (Spain);
- 132.183 Adopt measures that represent an alternative for the education of children, including and especially within the family (Honduras);
- 132.184 Continue efforts to raise awareness about human rights and to integrate human rights into educational curricula (Sudan);
- 132.185 Recommit to implementing the commitments made at the Nairobi Summit on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD25), work to achieve the health- and gender-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals and withdraw from the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women's Health and Strengthening the Family (United States of America);

- 132.186 Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 to harness the demographic dividend, particularly for young people, to accelerate economic growth and sustainable human development by promoting decent employment and social protection for all (South Africa);
- 132.187 Continue national policies and programmes aimed at implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including reducing poverty levels and ensuring access to education, health and safe drinking water services for citizens in rural areas (Sudan);
- 132.188 Further strengthen efforts to achieve sustainable development by expanding access to health care and education, advance the capacity of national human rights institutions and ensure women's empowerment and gender equality (Ethiopia);
- 132.189 Continue efforts to empower small and medium-sized enterprises in order to strengthen food security in the country (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 132.190 Strengthen the rights of women (Cameroon);
- 132.191 Continue efforts to protect the rights of women and children, given the disproportionate impact and devastating effects of armed conflict on them (Brazil);
- 132.192 Promote the adoption of measures to protect women's rights and intensify efforts to combat child, early and forced marriage and early pregnancy (Italy);
- 132.193 Continue to promote gender equality, combat gender-based violence and protect women's and children's rights (China);
- 132.194 Continue efforts to promote gender equality and combat discrimination against women (Tunisia);
- 132.195 Strengthen efforts to combat gender-based discrimination and violence, especially through the enforcement of laws (Sierra Leone);
- 132.196 Continue efforts to combat all forms of discrimination against women and girls, address the phenomenon of domestic violence and empower women and integrate them into political and economic life (Libya);
- 132.197 Continue the necessary efforts to ensure the empowerment of women (Egypt);
- 132.198 Continue efforts to empower women and youth (Mauritania);
- 132.199 Continue efforts to enable the participation of women in the management of public affairs (Morocco);
- 132.200 Maintain positive dynamics in the participation of women in the running of public affairs (Azerbaijan);
- 132.201 Develop a national action plan to provide opportunities for women to become entrepreneurs and improve women's access to decent work, better pay, social protection and quality childcare (Malaysia);
- 132.202 Continue to organize information and educational campaigns to raise awareness of women's rights in rural areas (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 132.203 Strengthen the implementation of the National Strategy on Gender 2020–2024 by raising awareness of women's rights in rural settings and villages through media and education campaigns (Malaysia);
- 132.204 Continue the fight against gender-based violence (Burundi) (Viet Nam);
- 132.205 Continue efforts in combating gender-based violence (Kazakhstan);

- 132.206 Take measures to combat gender-based violence in all its forms and ensure the safety and dignity of women in all contexts (Gambia);
- 132.207 Develop a national action plan to combat gender-based violence, which notably facilitates access to justice and reparations for victims (France);
- 132.208 Protect women and girls from gender-based violence and ensure access to maternal, sexual and reproductive health services for women (Luxembourg);
- 132.209 Strengthen and ensure the effective implementation of frameworks aimed at combating gender-based violence, including improving access to justice and the provision of necessary support to victims and survivors (Philippines);
- 132.210 Provide for specific mechanisms that promote access to justice for women and girls who are victims of gender-based violence, with special access for those belonging to areas with high rates of insecurity (Uruguay);
- 132.211 Take urgent measures to guarantee the rights of women and girls, including measures aimed at preventing, investigating and punishing physical and sexual violence against them (Argentina);
- 132.212 Provide the necessary access to justice mechanisms for girls and women who are victims of gender-based violence, with a special focus on internally displaced women (Costa Rica);
- 132.213 Investigate all reports of gender-based violence and raise the minimum age for marriage to 18 years without exception (Botswana);
- 132.214 Ensure the protection of women from exploitation, harassment and gender-based violence (Sri Lanka);
- 132.215 Amend the Penal Code to criminalize acts related to female genital mutilation (Portugal);
- 132.216 Continue efforts to eliminate female genital mutilation by raising awareness about the harmful consequences of these practices and enforcing existing legal penalties for this crime against the perpetrators (Belgium);
- 132.217 Take measures to combat sexual and gender-based violence by enforcing the laws that prohibit female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage (Canada);
- 132.218 Continue with efforts against the practice of female genital mutilation (Malawi);
- 132.219 Bolster efforts to find a lasting solution to the issue of female genital mutilation, which continues to persist, despite efforts by the Government to address the situation (Lesotho);
- 132.220 Ensure that adequate and child-friendly programmes are accessible to all survivors of rape and other forms of sexual violence (Malta);
- 132.221 Continue efforts to provide better care for women and girls who are victims of violence (Lebanon);
- 132.222 Consider increasing the number of shelters in rural areas to cater for victims of gender-based violence (Zambia);
- 132.223 Continue efforts in combating gender-based violence through awareness-raising and training initiatives (Azerbaijan);
- 132.224 Intensify public awareness efforts against female genital mutilation and enforce laws that criminalize it (Chile);
- 132.225 Implement information and awareness-raising strategies to eliminate all forms of sexual or gender violence, and investigate and punish it even when it is committed within a couple or by family members or community or religious leaders (Mexico);

- 132.226 Ensure the full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in particular in the areas of education, juvenile justice, trafficking and child labour (Switzerland);
- 132.227 Conclude the adoption procedure of the Child Protection Code (Gabon);
- 132.228 Conclude the process of adoption of the Child Protection Code (Malawi);
- 132.229 Promote the rights of the child by ensuring children's safety and access to education (Sri Lanka);
- 132.230 Develop a new national strategy for child protection (United Arab Emirates);
- 132.231 Strengthen measures under the National Child Protection Strategy 2019–2023 to protect children from all forms of violence (Pakistan);
- 132.232 Establish a national plan to protect schools, children and teachers from attacks by armed groups and develop effective measures and mechanisms to prevent attacks and threats of attacks against schools and protect the civilian nature of education infrastructure (Panama);
- 132.233 Take all necessary measures to protect boys and girls during military operations in situations of armed conflict and implement training plans for armed and security forces (Uruguay);
- 132.234 Develop a national strategy for the rehabilitation and social integration of former child soldiers recruited by armed terrorist groups (Zambia);
- 132.235 Strengthen measures to protect and to reintegrate minors who have been victims of military operations and activities between armed groups, including the recruitment of minors (Costa Rica);
- 132.236 Criminalize the recruitment and use of children by armed groups and armed forces and remind all parties that children affected by armed conflict must be primarily treated as victims (Belgium);
- 132.237 Step up efforts to ensure the protection of children during military operations and avoid clashes in areas where civilians are present, in particular children and girls (Honduras);
- 132.238 Strengthen efforts aimed at protecting children from the consequences of armed conflict and promoting children's rights with a focus on the right to education and the fight against child labour (Italy);
- 132.239 Take measures to protect children, including tackling the situation that is hindering them from receiving education (Japan);
- 132.240 Continue efforts to protect children from all forms of exploitation, particularly sexual and through trafficking (Lebanon);
- 132.241 Guarantee the rights of the child, including the right to education and to psychophysical integrity, and adopt all necessary measures to protect children during military operations in accordance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law (Argentina);
- 132.242 Take robust measures to address crimes against children, especially child marriage, female genital mutilation and child labour (Gambia);
- 132.243 Combat child labour (Cameroon);
- 132.244 Continue efforts to combat child marriage and child labour (Mozambique);
- 132.245 Continue efforts to combat child labour and protect children from all forms of exploitation and trafficking (Tunisia);

132.246 Better address the needs of persons with disabilities and provide them with basic social welfare services and social and professional integration services (Poland);

132.247 Strengthen mechanisms to promote the employment of persons with disabilities in public and private services (Togo);

132.248 Continue efforts to fully realize the rights of persons with disabilities in the fields of education, social welfare and health (Tunisia);

132.249 Continue the effective implementation of development programmes aimed at promoting the rights of persons with disabilities (United Republic of Tanzania);

132.250 Increase efforts to improve the regulatory and administrative frameworks to facilitate the receipt by persons with disabilities of basic services for social and professional integration (Bulgaria);

132.251 Continue efforts to integrate persons with disabilities into development programmes (Mauritania);

132.252 Review article 1 of the Constitution to include sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);

132.253 Review the provisions of article 1 of the Constitution to ensure protection for LGBTQI+ persons from all forms of violence and discrimination (Ireland);

132.254 Approve a law to protect LGBTQI+ persons against all forms of discrimination (Chile);

132.255 Take measures to ensure that the human rights of LGBTQI+ persons are respected and protected, including protection against discrimination and violence and the rights to freedom of expression and association (Argentina);

132.256 Take effective measures to combat hate speech and acts of hate relating to sexual orientation and gender identity (Sweden);

132.257 Allow identity-based organizations to register with the Directorate of Civil Liberties, freely stating their names and missions, to ensure an open civic space for LGBTQI+ organizations to organize, participate and communicate freely and without hindrance (Iceland);

132.258 Promote training on gender identity and sexual orientation in the study plans and training of health and law enforcement personnel (Mexico);

132.259 Continue efforts to ensure the rights of migrants, children, women and civilians (Nepal);

132.260 Redouble efforts to ensure protection of the homeless and refugees and reduce the risks of statelessness due to forced displacement (Honduras);

132.261 Continue actions to secure the national territory in order to allow internally displaced persons who wish to do so to return to their localities of origin (Niger);

132.262 Continue securing the national territory in order to allow internally displaced persons who wish to do so to return to their localities of origin (Mali);

132.263 Strengthen the implementation of the National Strategy for the Recovery of Internally Displaced Persons and Host Communities 2023–2025 by ensuring access to education and health care for all internally displaced persons (Indonesia);

132.264 Establish a specific framework for internally displaced persons to address human rights abuses and violations, including sexual violations, and to prevent impunity for perpetrators (Indonesia);

132.265 Revitalize civil registration services so that the 2 million people who are at risk of statelessness can obtain identity documents (Togo).

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

III. Voluntary pledges and commitments

134. Burkina Faso pledged to submit its midterm report by 30 June 2026.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Burkina Faso was headed by le Ministre de la Justice et des Droits Humains, chargé des Relations avec les Institutions, Garde des Sceaux, Maître Edasso Rodrigue Bayala, and composed of the following members:

- SEM. Dieudonné W. Désiré Sougouri, Ambassadeur Représentant Permanent du Burkina Faso à Genève ;
- Mme Eliélé Nadine Traoré/Bazié, Ambassadeur Représentante Permanente Adjointe ;
- Honorable Lassina Guiti, Député, président de la Commission des Affaires générales Institutionnelles et des Droits humains (CAGIDH), représentant l'Assemblée législative de Transition ;
- M. Djiguemdé Ziwindniga Joël Aristide, Conseiller technique du Ministre de la Justice, Garde des Sceaux ;
- Mme Hassana Traoré, Magistrate, Conseiller technique du Ministre de la Santé et de l'Hygiène publique ;
- Mme Hadjaratou Zongo/Sawadogo, Directrice générale des Droits Humains ;
- Mme Hawa Kafando/Kanazué, Directrice générale des Etudes et des Statistiques Sectorielles, Ministère de la Justice ;
- M. Ousmane Bélem, Directeur général des études et des statistiques sectorielles, Ministère de l'Action Humanitaire ;
- Lieutenant-colonel Thomas Savadogo, Commandant de la Brigade de Volontaires pour Défense de la Patrie ;
- Magistrat Capitaine Ahmed Ferdinand Sountoura, Substitut du Procureur militaire/Conseiller juridique du Commandant de la Brigade de Volontaires pour la Défense de la Patrie ;
- M. Adama Ouédraogo, Directeur du partenariat et du suivi des accords internationaux ;
- M. Théophile Guéré, Deuxième Conseiller près l'Ambassade Mission permanente du Burkina Faso à Genève ;
- M. Cyril Savadogo, Magistrat, membre de la Direction de la justice pénale et du sceau ;
- M. Abdoulaye Bancé, Chef du service du suivi des accords internationaux relatifs aux droits civils et politiques ;
- M. Lassina Bitié, Chef du service Organisation des Nations Unies, Ministère des Affaires Etrangères ;
- M. Pio Daouda Ouattara, Chef du service des relations internationales du travail à la Direction générale du travail ;
- M. Adama Coulibaly, Chef du service de l'unité de service à la clientèle à la Direction des affaires juridiques et du contentieux ;
- Mme Agnès Daho/Compaoré, Cheffe du service de la Coopération avec les institutions Multilatérales Européenne et Asiatiques à la Direction Générale de la Coopération ;
- M. Karamogo Diabagaté, Chef du service de la Communication et des Relations publiques ;

- M. Jeano Nadembèga, Commissaire principale en service à la Direction de la Police judiciaire ;
 - Sibiri Charles Simporé, Journaliste-reporter à la Radio-Télévision du Burkina ;
 - Sébastien Zongo, journaliste-reporter image (JRI) à la Radio-Télévision du Burkina ;
 - M. Germain Zong Naba Pimé, Conseiller juridique près l'Ambassade Mission permanente du Burkina Faso à Genève ;
 - M. Pambary Cyril Pascal Bonzi, Premier Secrétaire.
-