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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Cabo Verde

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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 Cabo Verde was held at the 3rd meeting, on 7 November 2023. The delegation of Cabo Verde was headed by the Minister of Justice, Joana Gomes Rosa. At its 10th meeting, held on 10 November 2023, the Working Group adopted the report on Cabo Verde.
2. On 11 January 2023, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Cabo Verde: Costa Rica, France and the Gambia.
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 Cabo Verde:
 - (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 Germany, 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 the United States of America was transmitted to Cabo Verde 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 asserted the status of Cabo Verde as a democratic country. It highlighted the country's modern Constitution, which safeguarded citizens' rights and freedoms and adhered to universal human rights principles. The delegation emphasized the Government's commitment to good governance, transparency, accountability, peace and social justice.
6. Referring to the government programme of the tenth legislature, the delegation emphasized that the promotion, respect and guarantee of human rights were integral to all sectors of governance. The national report, presented by the delegation, detailed the progress and efforts made by Cabo Verde to implement the 159 recommendations received during the previous review.
7. The delegation reported on the country's ratification of international instruments between 2018 and 2023, and steps taken to align the legal framework with those instruments. Notable ratifications had included the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction and the Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children.
8. In order to fulfil reporting commitments arising from those ratifications, the Government had established the Interministerial Commission for the Preparation of National

¹ [A/HRC/WG.6/44/CPV/1](#).

² [A/HRC/WG.6/44/CPV/2](#).

³ [A/HRC/WG.6/44/CPV/3](#).

Human Rights Reports in 2017. Reports on various conventions had been prepared and submitted, showcasing the Government's commitment to addressing human rights issues.

9. The Government consistently complied with reporting obligations and had addressed issues relating to, among others, the protection of children's rights, the defence of women's rights, trafficking in persons and recommendations from the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. The delegation emphasized the country's commitment to promoting and strengthening human rights through, among other actions, the dissemination of legal information, the provision of legal aid, adherence to international standards and implementation of the national human rights plan.

10. Cabo Verde had implemented various measures for prison reform, including raising the status of the Sal regional prison to that of a central prison, undertaking rehabilitation work in all prisons, and separating inmates based on various criteria. Videoconferencing equipment had been installed in prisons, and online inmate hearings had been introduced to enhance efficiency and reduce costs. The country prioritized inmate training, medical services and social reintegration, demonstrating a holistic approach to penitentiary issues.

11. The Government's social reintegration plan, approved in 2019, was aimed at combating crime and rehabilitating young prisoners. The creation of the Mobilization for the Acceleration of Social Inclusion programme and social reintegration offices across the country reflected the commitment to comprehensive rehabilitation.

12. Despite an increase in the prison population due to increased investment in security, the Government had reported a significant reduction in recidivism.

13. In its efforts to improve the justice system, the Government had invested in judicial infrastructure, human resources and technology, which had helped reduce the case backlog. In order to speed up services, a national plan to reduce the case backlog had been approved, and the Justice Information System and a digital platform – the "justice portal" – had been implemented. Legislative revisions aimed at improving the efficiency of the judicial inspection system had also been initiated.

14. The Government had affirmed its commitment to the 2030 Agenda and had vowed to eliminate extreme poverty and reduce absolute poverty by 2026, in line with the principle of leaving no one behind. The judicial system was a fundamental pillar of the rule of law and democracy; ongoing policies and legislative measures were expected to yield positive results in the future.

15. The Government had undertaken significant interventions across various social emergency fronts, focusing on income, child and adolescent care and protection, education, training, entrepreneurship, social and productive inclusion, health, housing and social security. The National Strategy for the Eradication of Extreme Poverty 2022–2026 was aimed at strengthening the social protection system by expanding the coverage of social programmes for families in extreme poverty.

16. To enhance transparency in the allocation of social support, the Government had implemented the single social register, in which about 324,500 people had been registered and classified in different groups on the basis of poverty level. Despite challenges, such as the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, inflation and drought, the Government had implemented various measures to support families, including mitigating fuel and food price increases, creating the social inclusion income and increasing the non-contributory social pension.

17. The Government had extended social pension coverage, introduced social energy and water tariffs and focused on improving access to education and health care. It also had implemented measures to support vulnerable families through income-generating activities; exemption from user fees; and the Mobilization for the Acceleration of Social Inclusion fund, aimed at granting social inclusion income.

18. With regard to the justice system, efforts had been made to reduce pending cases, increase the budget for legal aid services, strengthen legal information for citizens and modernize forensic sciences. Legislative measures, infrastructure development and the

implementation of digital platforms aimed at enhancing the efficiency of the judicial system had been introduced.

19. The delegation reported success in reducing the unemployment rate and the incidence of poverty, including extreme poverty. Various initiatives, such as the National Care Plan 2017–2019, supported the well-being of vulnerable populations. In terms of child protection, the Government had focused on implementing instruments such as the National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents.

20. Cabo Verde had demonstrated commitment to combating trafficking in persons, by ratifying international conventions, implementing the First National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons and establishing the national Observatory for Monitoring and Rapid Identification of Situations of Trafficking in Persons.

21. Efforts to combat child labour, increase birth registration rates and enhance paternity investigation processes were also highlighted. The Government had partnered with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to address child-related issues, including the implementation of a child governance model.

22. Cabo Verde had made strides in gender equality, through the implementation of the national gender equality plan, the Parity Act, and the Interministerial Commission for Gender Mainstreaming. The Government had achieved notable progress with regard to political representation, particularly in local and legislative elections.

23. The delegation emphasized the action taken by Cabo Verde in the areas of prevention of gender-based violence, support for victims and empowerment initiatives. The Government had demonstrated its commitment to tackling the “care crisis” associated with gender inequalities, and had implemented measures to support victims of gender-based violence.

24. Cabo Verde had implemented a comprehensive set of policies and actions to address social, economic and justice-related challenges, demonstrating a commitment to improving the well-being of its citizens and promoting inclusive and equitable development.

25. The Government had actively pursued efforts to realize its commitment to human rights across various fronts. The ratification process for the Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981 (No. 156), the Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183) and the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190), of the International Labour Organization, was under way. Cabo Verde had prioritized freedom as a fundamental value, emphasizing the prohibition of discrimination based on political convictions, beliefs, religion and sexual orientation.

26. In the fight against discrimination, the country adhered to international practices and standards, as reflected in its Constitution and its commitment to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Plans included the creation of a law against discrimination targeting minorities, such as LGBTQI persons and persons with disabilities.

27. Various initiatives had been implemented to prevent and combat discrimination, including information campaigns, awareness-raising and training on interculturality and cultural diversity. The High Authority for Immigration, established in 2020, coordinated immigration policies, while the national programme for the reception and social reintegration of returned migrants had been institutionalized. Legal frameworks had been updated to align with international standards; for example, the law on foreign nationals had been revised.

28. Cabo Verde actively participated in global efforts to realize the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons; it had joined the Equal Rights Coalition in 2018. The Government had taken steps to promote the rights of and include persons with disabilities, ensuring their free access to education and vocational training. The implementation of the national strategy for the inclusion of persons with disabilities was in progress; under the care plan, caregivers had been hired to assist older persons and persons with disabilities.

29. Significant strides had been made in health care, including in the area of vaccination against COVID-19, with over 70 per cent of the adult population fully vaccinated. The National Health Service had been strengthened with increased numbers of specialist doctors

and nurses. Investments were under way to enhance health-care facilities. Public security remained a priority, with actions being taken against crime and violence.

30. Despite resource constraints, the Government of Cabo Verde had focused on human rights, garnering recognition for good governance. The intention to present its candidacy for membership in the Human Rights Council for the period 2025–2027 underscored the country's commitment to furthering human rights on the global stage; it sought support from all Member States.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

31. During the interactive dialogue, 79 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

32. Gabon noted the legislative and institutional measures taken to eradicate trafficking in persons, poverty and gender-based violence, and efforts to promote gender equality.

33. The Gambia commended Cabo Verde for its proactive measures to tackle discrimination and its commitment to promoting a more inclusive and equitable society.

34. Ukraine noted the practical measures taken to prevent violence in places of deprivation of liberty, and positive steps taken to strengthen the national child protection system, promote gender equality and protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

35. Germany commended Cabo Verde for measures taken in the areas of police administration and the judicial system. It remained concerned about the duration of judicial proceedings. It also remained concerned about domestic violence and issues in the areas of gender equality and inclusion of persons with disabilities.

36. Ghana commended Cabo Verde for drafting the National Plan for Equality between Men and Women 2021–2026 and encouraged it to put in place strategic measures and funding for the effective implementation of the plan.

37. Morocco welcomed awareness-raising activities that had been implemented to prevent and combat discrimination and racism and to disseminate information on the rights of migrants.

38. Honduras recognized the efforts of Cabo Verde aimed at combating gender-based violence and ensuring decent and equitable work.

39. Israel commended the approval of the law on prevention and the rehabilitation and participation of persons with disabilities.

40. India noted the country's ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. It noted with interest that Cabo Verde was considering a new model for the composition of the national commission for human rights and citizenship, based on international best practices.

41. Indonesia commended Cabo Verde for the establishment of the single social register, as recommended by Indonesia, and expressed hope that it could contribute further in supporting the social protection system and improving the lives of members of vulnerable populations.

42. Iraq welcomed the plans and policies aimed at enhancing the role and empowerment of women, and promoting the rights of children, persons with disabilities and older persons.

43. Ireland welcomed the approval of new instruments to ensure the protection of children from sexual exploitation, and commended Cabo Verde for the steps taken to address gender-based violence. It expressed concern that further progress was needed to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women.

44. Iceland made recommendations.

45. Italy welcomed the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and the adoption of the law on prevention and the rehabilitation and participation of persons with disabilities.

46. Kenya commended Cabo Verde for human rights courses provided to its law enforcement agencies and for the ratification of several conventions of the International Labour Organization on child protection.
47. Lesotho commended Cabo Verde for bringing its legal framework into line with the provisions of core international human rights instruments.
48. Lithuania welcomed the progress made by Cabo Verde in combating gender-based violence and in the promotion of gender equality since its previous review. The National Care Plan was of particular importance in that regard.
49. Luxembourg welcomed the efforts of the Government to implement the recommendations it had received during its third review.
50. Madagascar welcomed the country's ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. Madagascar encouraged Cabo Verde to strengthen efforts to combat stereotypes concerning girls and women.
51. Malawi commended Cabo Verde for ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.
52. Malaysia commended Cabo Verde for the implementation of its plans on education and health for 2022–2026, which demonstrated the country's commitment in promoting human rights through the principles of universality, accessibility and non-discrimination.
53. Maldives welcomed the efforts of the Government to enhance quality education, to empower women in public life and to combat gender-based violence.
54. Mali noted the efforts of the authorities to combat poverty, improve the quality of life of the population and ensure economic and social development in rural areas. Mali encouraged the authorities to implement the Strategic Plan for Education.
55. The Marshall Islands commended the Government for pursuing sustainable development alongside the advancement of human rights and for the emphasis on the right to education to ensure sustainable development and the realization of human rights.
56. Mauritania commended Cabo Verde for its firm interest in strengthening the rule of law and democratic values, and its efforts to combat discrimination. It welcomed the project to enhance women's participation in democratic processes.
57. Mauritius commended Cabo Verde for the steps taken to consolidate assistance for victims of gender-based violence and for making investigations into cases of violence more robust.
58. Mexico welcomed the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and efforts to promote and improve public health, including sexual and reproductive health.
59. Montenegro commended Cabo Verde for ensuring universal free primary education and for the adoption of a strategic plan on the rights of persons with disabilities. It noted gaps in the Government's response to address violence against women.
60. Greece welcomed the improved institutional and law enforcement response against torture, especially the implementation of a national mechanism for the prevention of torture.
61. Mozambique commended Cabo Verde for the presentation of its national report and congratulated it on the country's achievements and progress since the previous review.
62. Namibia commended Cabo Verde for measures aimed at enhancing the rights of women and girls, including the adoption of the National Plan for Equality between Men and Women 2021–2026 and the establishment of the Interministerial Commission for Gender Mainstreaming in October 2018.

63. Nepal expressed appreciation for the ratification of human rights instruments, and positively noted the adoption of the National Strategy for the Elimination of Extreme Poverty 2022–2026 and the National Plan for Equality between Men and Women 2021–2026, among others.
64. The Kingdom of the Netherlands commended Cabo Verde for adopting the national gender equality plan for 2021–2026 and the National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents 2022–2024.
65. The Niger congratulated Cabo Verde in particular for the remarkable progress achieved since the previous review, and for its ratification of several international instruments.
66. Nigeria commended Cabo Verde for the initiatives adopted, including the National Plan for Equality between Men and Women, the National Care Plan 2017–2019 and measures to combat corruption and trafficking in persons.
67. Pakistan appreciated the ratification by Cabo Verde of several human rights international instruments, and measures taken to tackle money laundering, to prevent corruption, to modernize criminal investigations and to protect children.
68. Panama greeted the delegation of Cabo Verde and thanked it for the presentation of the national report.
69. Paraguay welcomed the establishment of the Interministerial Commission for the Preparation of National Human Rights Reports and the ratification of international human rights instruments.
70. The Philippines commended Cabo Verde on its efforts to implement accepted and noted recommendations, and noted the establishment of the Commission to Combat and Prevent Violence and support centres for victims of gender-based violence.
71. Portugal welcomed the commitment of Cabo Verde to gender equality, particularly the establishment of the fund for victims of gender-based violence and the approval of the Parity Act.
72. The Russian Federation noted that the efforts of Cabo Verde were insufficient to address long-standing problems, such as widespread gender inequality, domestic violence, police brutality, systematic xenophobia and intolerance of migrants.
73. Senegal welcomed progress made by Cabo Verde, particularly concerning the protection of women and children, as well as the ratification of international instruments and efforts to combat trafficking in persons and prevent torture.
74. Sierra Leone commended Cabo Verde for several institutional infrastructure and policy measures aimed at enhancing democratic good governance and advancing and strengthening the realization of human rights in the country.
75. Slovenia appreciated the progress made in implementing both of its recommendations, and encouraged Cabo Verde to continue its efforts to prevent and respond to gender-based discrimination and violence against women.
76. South Africa welcomed the diagnostic study on the social and legal situation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in Cabo Verde commissioned by the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship and published in 2021.
77. Spain welcomed the creation in August 2022 of the Cabo Verde network of human rights defenders, as well as the progress made in the protection of children's rights and gender equality.
78. Timor-Leste welcomed the high rate of children being enrolled in basic education (96 per cent) and in secondary education (about 70 per cent), and the good gender parity in access.
79. Togo welcomed the notable progress since the previous review. It expressed concerns about the question of police brutality against minors suspected of delinquency and about the professional integration of migrants.

80. Tunisia commended Cabo Verde on the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.
81. Georgia positively noted the measures taken to promote gender equality and protect women's rights, and the preparation of the National Plan for Equality between Men and Women.
82. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland urged the Government to improve implementation of legislation in the area of gender-based violence by increasing the number of cases taken to court and successful prosecutions, and recognized the steps already taken to tackle child abuse.
83. The United Republic of Tanzania highlighted the measures taken to improve the standard of living and the economic climate in the country through, among others, the creation of economic and social opportunities.
84. The United States of America applauded Cabo Verde for respecting the rule of law and its dedication to promoting the rights of the LGBTIQI+ community, and expressed concern about prison conditions.
85. Uruguay commended the efforts made by Cabo Verde to comply with its commitments regarding human rights, for example, through the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.
86. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela highlighted the human rights training for law enforcement officers provided by the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship, to support the performance of their functions in accordance with international standards.
87. Viet Nam welcomed the progress made by Cabo Verde in ratifying relevant human rights conventions and optional protocols, and in bringing its legal framework into line with the various international instruments on human rights.
88. Algeria commended the commitment of Cabo Verde to protecting and promoting human rights, as demonstrated by, among other steps, the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Education (2022–2026) and the Safe School Programme.
89. Angola welcomed the progress made by Cabo Verde in implementing the recommendations received during the previous cycle, and the Government's efforts in realizing economic, social and cultural rights.
90. Argentina congratulated Cabo Verde for the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the adoption of a strategic plan on the rights of persons with disabilities.
91. Australia commended the continued leadership of Cabo Verde in protecting and promoting LGBTQIA+ rights, such as in its draft legislation criminalizing acts of discrimination based on any grounds, and acknowledged the country's efforts to achieve gender equality.
92. The Bahamas commended Cabo Verde for addressing extreme poverty through the elaboration of its national strategy to eliminate extreme poverty and for human rights advances made since the previous review cycle.
93. Botswana noted with appreciation that the recommendations it had made to Cabo Verde during the previous review cycle had enjoyed the support of Cabo Verde, and encouraged the implementation of those recommendations.
94. Brazil commended Cabo Verde for its efforts to promote gender equality and combat gender-based violence, and for increasing the participation of women in political life.
95. Burkina Faso congratulated Cabo Verde for its ratification of additional conventions and an optional protocol relating to the rights of the child.

96. Burundi welcomed the adoption of the national plans for gender equality in all sectors of governance, on mental health and on combating gender-based violence.
97. Cameroon noted with satisfaction the progress made by Cabo Verde for the development of human rights in the country.
98. Canada congratulated Cabo Verde on its efforts to strengthen human rights, notably among the most marginalized groups.
99. Chad congratulated Cabo Verde for its commitment to taking the measures necessary to work towards the application of almost all of the recommendations accepted during its previous review.
100. Chile congratulated Cabo Verde for its ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and for the preparation of the national gender equality plan for 2021–2026.
101. China commended Cabo Verde for its efforts and progress in promoting and protecting human rights, and noted that Cabo Verde had formulated several national strategies and action plans to protect various human rights.
102. The Congo noted the efforts deployed by Cabo Verde to improve the human rights situation since its previous review, in particular to strengthen the legal and institutional framework in favour of human rights.
103. Costa Rica expressed appreciation for the progress made in social inclusion with the integration of gender perspectives; in the area of disability rights; and in anti-corruption efforts. It commended Cabo Verde for its laws strengthening employment rights, gender parity and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, which reflected a sustainable development policy.
104. Côte d'Ivoire commended Cabo Verde for ratifying conventions and enacting laws for human rights, particularly in the areas of child protection, preventing disappearances, ensuring fair employment and combating gender-based violence.
105. Cuba acknowledged efforts to implement the Sustainable Development Goals and recommendations from the previous review cycle that had been accepted, and acknowledged the country's commitment to the universal periodic review process.
106. Djibouti acknowledged the commitment of Cabo Verde to human rights, commended the participatory process and welcomed measures that strengthened and enhanced the country's legal and institutional framework and that were aimed at improving democracy and the rule of law.
107. The Dominican Republic welcomed the delegation of Cabo Verde and thanked the members for the presentation of the national report.
108. Egypt commended Cabo Verde for the ratification of relevant human rights instruments, particularly relating to the rights of the child, as well as the implementation of human rights action plans.
109. Finland expressed appreciation for the engagement of Cabo Verde with the universal periodic review process and the comprehensive report presented.
110. France welcomed efforts by the authorities of Cabo Verde in implementing the recommendations made in 2018.
111. The delegation of Cabo Verde expressed appreciation for the various statements made during the interactive dialogue that recognized the country's progress since 2018 on a number of fronts, including: combating poverty with public policies aimed at the most disadvantaged groups; taking steps to protect women and children in vulnerable situations; and pursuing cross-cutting public policies in close partnership with the country's civil society, municipalities and churches and the nation as a whole.
112. The delegation reiterated that Cabo Verde was governed by the rule of law and that there was deep respect for human rights in the country. It acknowledged the progress made since accepting the vast majority of the recommendations in 2018 and noted that it would be

in a favourable position with regard to recommendations received during the forty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, owing to its continuous efforts to address outstanding challenges and progresses as a democracy.

113. The delegation underscored the process undertaken to strengthen the rule of law and constitutional safeguards, in particular with regard to the judiciary and a clear separation of powers. Cabo Verde cooperated with other countries on the basis of international law, and worked on the basis of the legal framework in force.

114. Cabo Verde ensured fair trials and defence guarantees. Extradition decisions were made by domestic courts, not the Government, ensuring constitutional safeguards.

115. Internal efforts to ratify protocols related to refugees and to stateless persons, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, were ongoing. While the country had not acceded to all international instruments, a number of internal measures had allowed Cabo Verde to make significant progress in human rights, in the integration and regularization of migrants and in engagement with persons with disabilities.

116. Regarding the right to education, social protection measures to ensure the right to education from primary level to university level were ongoing. Measures to improve equal access and services for persons with disabilities had been taken, and a proposed amendment to the Nationality Act was aimed at granting Cabo Verdean nationality to children of stateless persons in the territory of Cabo Verde, in line with international standards. Cabo Verde had ratified several relevant instruments, and had been holding meetings with representatives of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees about the situation of children of stateless persons.

117. The Parity Act of 2019 had created a legal framework for equal participation of men and women, which had been actively implemented, and progress had been made in increasing women's presence in politics. Despite the significant efforts and progress, it was true that Cabo Verde still faced challenges.

118. Addressing concerns over police brutality and situations involving minors, the delegation stated that no such cases had been recorded by the Ombudsman's Office or by law enforcement agencies. There were appropriate legal proceedings for minors in conflict with the law and efforts had been made to improve prison conditions, including renovations and the use of alternative penalties to reduce the number of inmates. Cabo Verde had made progress in those areas through its efforts to implement the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) in its prisons, demonstrated by the social rehabilitation programme for prisoners, which included the provision of training, and steps taken to make prisons more humane. Living conditions in many prisons had considerably improved following renovations and as a result of efforts in the areas of social reintegration, vocational training, medical assistance, special programmes for young detainees and dignified treatment. The delegation stated that statements made by other delegations regarding those areas were not supported by domestic data and thus did not reflect the reality in Cabo Verde.

119. The delegation presented statistics indicating a decrease in the number of cases of gender-based violence, and attributed the positive trend to cross-cutting policies involving multiple ministries and active collaboration with civil society. Efforts in that area, including projects for women's empowerment and societal awareness initiatives, were ongoing.

120. The delegation, speaking on the issue of ill-treatment, emphasized the transparency in institutional operations. The delegation also highlighted measures and investigations undertaken by internal authorities, and the absence of reports of ill-treatment. The delegation referred to efforts to modernize the justice system, increase judicial efficiency and reduce the backlog of cases, noting that plans covering a period up to 2026 had been outlined and that a considerable budget had been allocated to recruit more judges and police officers.

121. The delegation emphasized the collaborative approach taken with civil society, local authorities and religious groups to bring justice closer to the people. Members of the delegation noted the country's political stability, functional institutions and partnerships, which contributed to social peace in Cabo Verde and neighbouring countries.

122. Addressing one of the recommendations concerning freedom of the press, the delegation stated that Cabo Verde had a media regulation agency, and that the agency representatives were elected by the parliament with a five-year mandate.

123. With regard to poverty reduction, the delegation stated that Cabo Verde was aiming to eliminate it by 2026, through the implementation of the National Strategy for the Eradication of Extreme Poverty 2022–2026. The delegation highlighted the Government's vision of addressing poverty comprehensively and guaranteeing the full enjoyment of economic, social, civil and political rights.

124. In conclusion, the delegation expressed readiness to consider recommendations and solutions proposed during the session, and stated that Cabo Verde was willing to spare no effort in promoting and protecting the rights of all its citizens. The delegation underlined the country's dedication to addressing poverty, examining proposed solutions and maintaining a democratic, stable nation.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

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

125.1 **Ratify and implement the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Germany) (Luxembourg) (Ukraine);**

125.2 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Honduras) (Madagascar);**

125.3 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Montenegro);**

125.4 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Burundi) (Chile) (Gabon) (Ghana);**

125.5 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (South Africa);**

125.6 **Consider ratifying the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Chad);**

125.7 **Continue strong cooperation and engagement with national and international human rights mechanisms (Ukraine);**

125.8 **Intensify the training of police officers on their human rights responsibilities and put in place mechanisms that can measure the effectiveness of their work (Togo);**

125.9 **Take proactive measures to ensure full compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Gambia);**

125.10 **Further efforts towards bringing the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship into line with the Paris Principles (Ukraine);**

125.11 **Ensure that the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship functions in accordance with the Paris Principles (Timor-Leste);**

125.12 **Continue efforts to strengthen the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship, in order to guarantee full compliance with the Paris Principles (Uruguay);**

125.13 **Strengthen the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship to ensure full compliance with the Paris principles (Namibia);**

- 125.14 Continue the alignment of the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship's by-laws with international best practices and promote transparency and effectiveness in its operations (Indonesia);
- 125.15 Continue to strengthen the national human rights commission to realize its objectives, including through provision of a relevant and sustainable budgetary allocation for the promotion and protection of human rights (Kenya);
- 125.16 Step up efforts in developing a new model for the composition of the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship, in accordance with international best practices (Malaysia);
- 125.17 Reinforce the independence of the national human rights commission by guaranteeing that the reform project to merge it with the institution of the Ombudsman is carried out in compliance with the Paris Principles (Spain);
- 125.18 Strengthen the work of the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship so that it works in accordance with its mandate and in line with the Paris Principles (Costa Rica);
- 125.19 Consider taking necessary measures to ensure that the office of the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship fully complies with the Paris Principles (Finland);
- 125.20 Continue efforts to strengthen the national monitoring, reporting and follow-up mechanism, in order to address the backlog of outstanding State party reports (Lesotho);
- 125.21 Continue strengthening its Interministerial Commission for the Preparation of National Human Rights Reports as a national mechanism for implementation, reporting and monitoring of international human rights recommendations and consider the possibility of receiving cooperation for this purpose (Paraguay);
- 125.22 Effectively implement the National Plan for Equality between Men and Women (India);
- 125.23 Ensure full implementation and monitoring of the National Plan for Equality between Men and Women 2021–2026 (Indonesia);
- 125.24 Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law prohibiting all forms of discrimination (Iceland);
- 125.25 Finalize the national action plan for equality between men and women to achieve gender equality (Kenya);
- 125.26 Adopt a comprehensive law prohibiting all forms of discrimination, including gender-based discrimination and indirect discrimination (Luxembourg);
- 125.27 Step up the adoption of legislation that fully and effectively prohibits and protects against all forms of discrimination, including on the basis of gender, and adopt concrete measures to implement the Parity Act to ensure the full, meaningful and equal participation of women in policymaking, public administration, disaster risk response and reduction and economic development (Mexico);
- 125.28 Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law prohibiting all forms of discrimination, including gender-based and indirect discrimination (Montenegro);
- 125.29 Keep up its significant efforts for the promotion of gender equality by continuing to adopt comprehensive legislation prohibiting all forms of discrimination and gender-based violence (Greece);

- 125.30 Continue to strengthen efforts to address gender-based discrimination and violence by providing further training to the judiciary, legal professionals and law enforcement personnel on human rights obligations (Sierra Leone);
- 125.31 Continue efforts to strengthen the legal framework to prohibit all forms of discrimination, including gender-based discrimination (Georgia);
- 125.32 Urge the National Assembly to debate and approve the anti-discrimination draft law presented by the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship in 2021 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 125.33 Continue with awareness-raising programmes to prevent all forms of discrimination, including gender-based discrimination (United Republic of Tanzania);
- 125.34 Approve the anti-discrimination draft law presented by the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship in 2021 (United States of America);
- 125.35 Continue its efforts in applying and reinforcing programmes and public policies on inclusion, poverty reduction, equality promotion and non-discrimination, paying particular attention to women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, among other vulnerable groups (Algeria);
- 125.36 Continue and strengthen awareness-raising aimed at better understanding the role of women in leadership and their fundamental rights (Burundi);
- 125.37 Strengthen the fight against all forms of racial discrimination (Cameroon);
- 125.38 Continue efforts to recognize, reduce and redistribute unpaid care work, carried out disproportionately by women and girls, and for State care of young children, elderly people and people living with disabilities in order to alleviate the socioeconomic challenges of women (Canada);
- 125.39 Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law that prohibits all forms of discriminatory treatment and contains a list of prohibited grounds of discrimination, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Chile);
- 125.40 Continue efforts aimed at combating all forms of discrimination (Egypt);
- 125.41 Continue taking steps towards the training of law enforcement officials on human rights responsibilities to avoid the use of extensive force (Ghana);
- 125.42 Strengthen the national mechanism for the prevention of torture by ensuring regular visits to places of detention, producing reports and implementing its recommendations (Indonesia);
- 125.43 Adopt further measures to improve conditions of detainees (Italy);
- 125.44 Stop human rights violations by law enforcement (Russian Federation);
- 125.45 Improve prison conditions by increasing the number of officers and the use of alternatives to prison, such as bail, home arrest and plea bargaining, and improving sanitary conditions (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 125.46 Improve prison conditions by adding corrections officers, reduce crowding with appropriate alternatives to incarceration where permissible by law, separate inmates by sex and age and repair ageing detention facilities (United States of America);

- 125.47 **Improve prison conditions and reduce rates of incarceration (Australia);**
- 125.48 **Reduce prison overcrowding (France);**
- 125.49 **Continue the efforts undertaken to combat torture, including by sharing more information about the measures taken (Greece);**
- 125.50 **Provide more financial and human resources to digitalize and simplify judicial procedures (Germany);**
- 125.51 **Expand the provision of victim assistance offices to all police stations (Ireland);**
- 125.52 **Provide legal training for police, prosecutors and judges on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, substantive gender equality, combating gender-based violence and the elimination of gender stereotypes (Iceland);**
- 125.53 **Pursue reform efforts aimed at further strengthening the judiciary (Mauritius);**
- 125.54 **Adopt measures to strengthen human rights training for law enforcement to prevent excessive use of force, and develop protocols to address cases involving children who are victims, witnesses or in conflict with the law (Mexico);**
- 125.55 **Provide legal training, in a sustained and structured manner, to members of the judiciary, legal professionals and law enforcement personnel on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, substantive gender equality, combating gender-based violence, and the elimination of gender stereotypes (Panama);**
- 125.56 **Continue efforts to improve alternatives to custodial sentences, in particular through placement under electronic surveillance (Senegal);**
- 125.57 **Adopt effective measures aimed at reducing pending judicial cases that seriously hamper the protection of human rights (Spain);**
- 125.58 **Strengthen complaint mechanisms in the judicial sector, so that they are effective, inclusive and accessible and provide reparation to victims (Costa Rica);**
- 125.59 **Keep up its efforts for the promotion of freedom of expression and the safety of journalists (Greece);**
- 125.60 **Adopt standards and carry out awareness campaigns, for the population and companies, focused on the fight against the sexual exploitation of minors in the context of tourism (Costa Rica);**
- 125.61 **Raise the minimum age of marriage to 18 years (Iceland);**
- 125.62 **Revise its legislation by setting the minimum age for marriage at 18 and remove all provisions that allow the marriage or cohabitation of minors (Nigeria);**
- 125.63 **Revisit the Civil Code to raise the minimum age of marriage to 18 years (South Africa);**
- 125.64 **Consider amending legislation to remove exceptions allowing marriage of persons under 18 years old (Chad);**
- 125.65 **Reform legislation to establish 18 years as the minimum age for marriage, eliminate all provisions that make underage marriage or de facto unions possible, and develop awareness and education campaigns to inform about the harm caused by child marriage (Chile);**
- 125.66 **Repeal all exceptions allowing marriage to people under 18 years old (Congo);**

- 125.67 Redouble national efforts for the approval and implementation of the national action plan against human trafficking (Honduras);
- 125.68 Take steps to increase efforts to tackle trafficking in persons, including by providing accessible and effective complaints mechanisms (Israel);
- 125.69 Allocate additional resources to combat human trafficking and child sexual exploitation (Lesotho);
- 125.70 Increase support for the rehabilitation and integration of survivors of human trafficking, including by providing effective remedies that include compensation and guarantees of non-repetition (Luxembourg);
- 125.71 Adopt a successor plan to the First National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons 2018–2021 (Malawi);
- 125.72 Strengthen the prevention of and fight against trafficking in children, especially in the islands of the archipelago (Mali);
- 125.73 Step up efforts towards combating trafficking in persons (Nepal);
- 125.74 Scale up efforts towards combating human trafficking, and ensure the protection of the rights of victims of trafficking, particularly children (Nigeria);
- 125.75 Take further measures to strengthen the First National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons (Pakistan);
- 125.76 Step up efforts to implement the national action plan to prevent trafficking in persons, especially children in vulnerable situations, including by allocating adequate resources for law enforcement to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases (Philippines);
- 125.77 Expedite the development and implementation of the second national action plan to combat trafficking in persons (Sierra Leone);
- 125.78 Continue efforts to combat all forms of trafficking in persons in the framework of the national strategy and national action plan to be developed for this purpose (Tunisia);
- 125.79 Continue adopting measures to combat human trafficking, particularly of women and children, guaranteeing mechanisms for investigation and punishment of those responsible, as well as assistance to victims (Argentina);
- 125.80 Strengthen protection against and the combating of sexual exploitation and trafficking of children (Cameroon);
- 125.81 Continue efforts to eradicate human trafficking, particularly of women and children, including by increasing efforts to raise awareness about human trafficking in the country and strengthening accountability by investigating allegations and prosecuting (Canada);
- 125.82 Strengthen efforts to fight impunity in human trafficking by establishing accessible and effective complaint mechanisms and ensuring effective accountability (Chile);
- 125.83 Intensify efforts to combat human trafficking (Congo);
- 125.84 Continue efforts undertaken to combat human trafficking, particularly of children and women, by strengthening the fight against traffickers in accordance with the National Strategy and the National Action Plan against Trafficking in Persons (2023–2026) (Djibouti);
- 125.85 Continue measures aimed at reducing the unemployment rate among young graduates in both urban and rural areas (Iraq);
- 125.86 Invest further in developing vocational training to create more job opportunities for young people (Mozambique);

- 125.87 Continue to expand the coverage of national professional internship programmes and vocational training programmes to reduce unemployment among young graduates, especially young women, in both urban and rural areas (Viet Nam);
- 125.88 Intensify efforts to reduce informal work and increase full youth employment, in line with target 8.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (Angola);
- 125.89 Remove all barriers to access to safe, legal and effective abortion services for all, and collect disaggregated data on all forms of termination of pregnancies (Iceland);
- 125.90 Strengthen measures under National Strategy for the Eradication of Extreme Poverty to protect the most vulnerable groups (Pakistan);
- 125.91 Redouble efforts to combat poverty and ensure adequate resources for the national programme to fight poverty and the Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development (Paraguay);
- 125.92 Consolidate its social programmes in order to increase the quality of life of the population, particularly the most needy (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 125.93 Continue to strengthen national programmes for the fight against poverty in order to lift children and households out of poverty (Viet Nam);
- 125.94 Allocate adequate resources for the implementation of the national programme to combat poverty and the Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development (Angola);
- 125.95 Ensure access to adequate and affordable housing, including through the provision of assistance tailored to the needs of persons and families with low incomes (Bahamas);
- 125.96 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, reduce the poverty rate and narrow the gap between urban and rural development (China);
- 125.97 Continue ongoing efforts aimed at eradicating extreme poverty, implementing the approved national strategy to eliminate inequality and inequity gaps (Cuba);
- 125.98 Take the necessary measures to combat hunger and ensure food security for women in rural areas, taking into account the effects of climate change (Dominican Republic);
- 125.99 Continue efforts to eradicate extreme poverty (France);
- 125.100 Continue efforts to improve the conditions of people living with HIV/AIDS (Iraq);
- 125.101 Take effective measures to improve public health literacy, particularly regarding chronic non-communicable diseases (Malaysia);
- 125.102 Continue measures to implement the National Strategic Plan for Mental Health 2021–2025 (Pakistan);
- 125.103 Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD25) to end preventable maternal mortality and to contribute to the achievement of the sustainable development goals in the area of maternal health, at the national, regional and local levels, as well as reduce child mortality by ensuring adequate care and essential health care for all (Panama);
- 125.104 Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 to end preventable maternal death and to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the area of maternal health at the national,

regional and local levels, as well as reducing infant mortality by ensuring essential health care for all (South Africa);

125.105 Continue efforts aimed at improving health services (Egypt);

125.106 Strengthen the education system by introducing legislation to make pre-primary education free and compulsory (Malaysia);

125.107 Continue efforts to enhance access to and continuation of education (Mauritania);

125.108 Accelerate the review process of the statute on children and adolescents, with special emphasis on improving access to health and education, guaranteeing the right to identity and the protection of their best interests, and prohibit corporal punishment in all areas (Paraguay);

125.109 Increase efforts to introduce into its legislation free primary and secondary education (Georgia);

125.110 Continue its endeavours to increase the quality and availability of education at all levels (Algeria);

125.111 Take steps to address the disparity in adult literacy rates between men and women by ensuring access to quality education at all levels for girls and women, including those in rural areas (Bahamas);

125.112 Develop targeted programmes to encourage increased participation of girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields (Bahamas);

125.113 Consider making preschool and lower primary school education free and compulsory and ensure equal access to quality education across all regions of Cabo Verde (Botswana);

125.114 Increase input in education to promote school attendance rates, and reduce regional disparities (China);

125.115 Continue to develop mechanisms and systems to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, including through educational initiatives to raise greater awareness of the negative impacts of climate change and to improve disaster preparedness (Marshall Islands);

125.116 Continue to ensure that women are meaningfully engaged in the development of legislation, national policies and programmes on climate change, disaster response and disaster risk reduction (Marshall Islands);

125.117 Ensure the effective participation of women in the development of national laws, policies and national programmes on climate change, disaster response and disaster risk reduction (Dominican Republic);

125.118 Reform the collection and treatment of waste through a professionalizing and inclusive approach for people who live off informal work in this sector (France);

125.119 Continue the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights (Cameroon);

125.120 Continue efforts to improve the business environment and incentives for investment and national production on the basis of the inclusion of microfinance in the national financial system (Morocco);

125.121 Continue its efforts to promote the access of women to decision-making positions in the political, administrative and diplomatic spheres (Gabon);

125.122 Intensify efforts to increase the representation of women at decision-making levels in governance to foster a balanced and inclusive societal growth (Gambia);

125.123 Appoint the focal point concerning women's rights on maternal health and domestic violence (Germany);

- 125.124 Take necessary measures to ensure the passage into law of the gender parity bill and its effective implementation to increase women's participation in all spheres of public and private life (Ghana);
- 125.125 Continue the positive efforts to promote the participation of women in democratic processes, with a view to strengthening their role in leadership (Morocco);
- 125.126 Take further measures to increase the participation of women in political and public life (Israel);
- 125.127 Strengthen its actions to fight against stereotypes concerning women and girls by implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Madagascar);
- 125.128 Ensure the enactment of the gender parity law (Malawi);
- 125.129 Expedite the approval of the bill that seeks to guarantee equal representation between women and men in elective bodies and in public administration (Paraguay);
- 125.130 Continue the work to improve national legislation to ensure equality between men and women (Russian Federation);
- 125.131 Increase public education with the aim of combating stereotypes against women and girls, which will contribute to diminishing gender-based violence (South Africa);
- 125.132 Ensure effective compliance with the gender parity law of 2019, especially with regard to the hiring of women for senior management positions in the public administration and State-owned companies (Spain);
- 125.133 Fully implement the national action plan for gender equality (Australia);
- 125.134 Continue to develop national plans for the promotion of gender equality and the eradication of all forms and manifestations of violence against women (Cuba);
- 125.135 Address the existing gaps in the nation's response to violence against women by strengthening preventive measures, victim support and legal frameworks to ensure the protection of all women (Gambia);
- 125.136 Ensure that allegations of crimes related to gender-based violence are independently and thoroughly investigated and that perpetrators are brought to justice (Israel);
- 125.137 Provide training on combating gender-based violence, supporting and assisting victims and survivors of gender-based violence and eliminating gender stereotypes to members of the judiciary, legal professionals and law enforcement personnel (Ireland);
- 125.138 Re-establish the domestic violence hotline and provide shelters for survivors of violence in all municipalities (Iceland);
- 125.139 Continue the efforts against all forms of discrimination and violence against women, and for access by women to decent employment (Italy);
- 125.140 Strengthen measures to combat gender-based violence (Lesotho);
- 125.141 Enhance efforts to ensure that all allegations of all forms of violence against women and girls are thoroughly and effectively investigated, perpetrators are prosecuted, and victims are given all the necessary support (Lithuania);
- 125.142 Conduct a thorough and independent investigation of all allegations of crimes related to gender-based violence (Montenegro);

125.143 Take further steps to combat violence against women and gender-based violence (Mozambique);

125.144 Continue its commitments to combat gender-based violence by providing training to professionals, particularly professionals working in the police force and in the health and justice systems, to enhance their skills in assisting victims of gender-based violence (Kingdom of the Netherlands);

125.145 Take effective measures, including legislative ones, to prevent and combat violence against women (Russian Federation);

125.146 Continue implementing effective public policies to effectively combat the high rates of gender violence, early pregnancies among adolescents and school dropout (Spain);

125.147 Continue efforts to prevent and combat all forms of violence and discrimination against women, and promote gender equality within the framework of the national plan for gender equality (2021–2026) (Tunisia);

125.148 Improve training for professionals in law enforcement and the judiciary to respond to sexual abuse of children and gender-based violence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

125.149 Provide adequate training for law enforcement and judiciary professionals to respond effectively to survivors of gender-based violence, including victims of sexual abuse and child exploitation (United States of America);

125.150 Enact legislative measures to reduce and criminalize gender-based violence (Australia);

125.151 Develop measures to make information about investigations, prosecutions and convictions of perpetrators of violence against women available to victims and provide remedies, such as psychosocial support, to victims (Botswana);

125.152 Strengthen the reception and care capacity of support centres for victims of gender-based violence in order to ensure better protection of victims (Burkina Faso);

125.153 Strengthen the fight against violence against women (Cameroon);

125.154 Pursue efforts to prevent sexual and gender-based violence, including violence and harassment in the workplace and in public spaces, by conducting awareness and education campaigns aimed at facilitating a better understanding of the concept of gender equality and increasing access to holistic care services (Canada);

125.155 Intensify the collection of sex-disaggregated data on cases of gender-based violence and remove barriers to access to justice for women and girls (Costa Rica);

125.156 Intensify the fight against violence against women and children, particularly intrafamily sexual abuse (France);

125.157 Take adequate executive measures to strengthen capacities to investigate and prosecute cases of sexual abuse of and domestic violence against minors (Germany);

125.158 Ensure that relevant laws and policies respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents, legal guardians or other persons legally responsible for the child (Côte d'Ivoire);

125.159 Strengthen and institutionalize cooperation with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society in the field of the protection of minors, for example, conclude partnerships between relevant NGOs and civil society actors with State social services or include seminars on child protection with

NGOs and civil society actors in the mandatory training programmes for police forces (Germany);

125.160 Continue the effort to prevent and combat sexual and labour exploitation against children (Italy);

125.161 Review article 128 of the Civil Code, article 133 of the Criminal Code and article 31 of the law on the status of children and adolescents to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, including the home, schools, institutions for children, alternative care facilities and the administration of justice, and in all circumstances, including for disciplinary purposes (Luxembourg);

125.162 Develop and implement a comprehensive policy and plan of action to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence (Maldives);

125.163 Prohibit explicitly corporal punishment without exception in all areas and circumstances, and raise awareness about the harm it causes (Mexico);

125.164 Continue efforts to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women and children (Nepal);

125.165 Undertake awareness-raising campaigns in the tourism sector and among the public at large on the prevention of sexual exploitation of children in the context of travel and tourism (Panama);

125.166 Continue to enhance legislation and public policies to prevent and combat situations of rape, abuse and sexual exploitation of children and young persons (Portugal);

125.167 Improve comprehensive care programmes aimed at children in order to strengthen the protection of the rights of boys and girls in situations of poverty, marginalization or social exclusion, children with disabilities and children who are victims of violence in the family environment (Spain);

125.168 Review national legislation to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including schools, childcare institutions, alternative care settings and the administration of justice (Uruguay);

125.169 Continue its efforts to increase awareness about child rights among children, as well as among all professionals working with and for children, and introduce mechanisms for systematic monitoring of progress in this regard (Algeria);

125.170 Accelerate efforts to promote and protect the rights of the child, combating all forms of exploitation of children, and increase schooling rates in secondary education, with particular attention to girls (Brazil);

125.171 Intensify its efforts to guarantee children's right to identity and allocate the necessary resources to continue to promote responsible parenthood (Burkina Faso);

125.172 Maintain actions aimed at achieving better health indicators among older persons and greater integration and social participation of this population group (Cuba);

125.173 Strengthen legal and policy frameworks and allocate adequate resources to ensure that the special needs of persons with disabilities are met, aiming to provide them with better access to education, health care, housing, employment and information (Lithuania);

125.174 Continue to take all measures to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities (Malawi);

125.175 Continue training sessions and workshops for women with disabilities for the purposes of strengthening women's leadership roles, raising awareness of

the Parity Act and promoting greater inclusivity of women in the society (Maldives);

125.176 Improve the accessibility of public places to persons with disabilities following adaptation (Mali);

125.177 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Namibia);

125.178 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Niger);

125.179 Reinforce the implementation of the strategic plan on the rights of persons with disabilities 2022–2026 (Portugal);

125.180 Redouble efforts to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities, in particular by taking measures to guarantee general access to the health system, education, information and public transport, as well as more inclusive communication (Argentina);

125.181 Further strengthen systems for vulnerable groups, including children, the elderly and persons with disabilities (China);

125.182 Adopt a holistic approach to the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, which promotes their autonomy, legal capacity and the full enjoyment of their human rights, especially to education, employment, health and justice (Costa Rica);

125.183 Promote training of public sector personnel in the field of human rights and strengthen national bodies responsible for guaranteeing the rights of persons with disabilities (Djibouti);

125.184 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as a complementary step to the recent approval of the law on prevention and rehabilitation and participation of persons with disabilities and the adoption of the strategic plan on the rights of persons with disabilities for 2022–2026, which guaranteed greater inclusion and participation of people with disabilities (Dominican Republic);

125.185 Consider accepting individual complaints procedures under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Finland);

125.186 Continue efforts to accelerate the procedures for issuing the anti-racial discrimination law (Tunisia);

125.187 Develop public awareness-raising campaigns on the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons and reinforce legislative frameworks to ensure their rights are upheld (Ireland);

125.188 Adopt a law that explicitly promotes and protects the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and raise public awareness of their rights and those of defenders protecting their rights (Iceland);

125.189 Intensify public education, through education programmes and public campaigns, on respect for human rights for all, including LGBTIQ+ persons, and fight against all forms of discrimination (Kingdom of the Netherlands);

125.190 Reinforce specific programmes and the legislative framework necessary for the enjoyment of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, including defenders protecting their rights, and their protection against any form of discrimination, and raise public awareness of the situation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Slovenia);

125.191 Intensify efforts to guarantee the recognition of the right to gender identity in childhood, with respect for children's physical and psychological

integrity, autonomy, development and growing capacity to make decisions (Argentina);

125.192 Promote and protect the rights of the LGTBQIA+ community, with specific programmes that combat discrimination and stigmatization and promote the integration of that community into Cabo Verdean social, economic and political life (Brazil);

125.193 Accelerate the effective implementation of the National Reception and Social (Re)integration Programme for Returning Migrants 2022–2026 by, inter alia, considering best practices from similarly situated bilateral partners (Philippines);

125.194 Intensify efforts to improve the situation of socially vulnerable groups, especially migrant workers, including their protection from discrimination (Russian Federation);

125.195 Join the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Niger);

125.196 Ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Paraguay);

125.197 Consider joining the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Senegal);

125.198 Establish an institutional body in charge of issues for asylum-seekers and refugees, especially those relating to their socioprofessional integration (Togo);

125.199 Enact national legislation on asylum and establish a procedure, in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, that guarantees easy access to refugee status for those people who meet the requirements established in the current international and national regulations on the matter (Uruguay);

125.200 Adhere to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Chad);

125.201 Consider ratifying the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Honduras);

125.202 Adopt a national action plan to end statelessness that includes the collection of disaggregated information in the next census (Mexico);

125.203 Consider ratifying the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Sierra Leone);

125.204 Continue its efforts to ensure birth registration for all children (Timor-Leste);

125.205 Ratify the conventions relating to the status of refugees and stateless persons (Côte d'Ivoire).

126. 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.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Cabo Verde was headed by Her Excellency Madame Joana GOMES ROSA, Ministre de la Justice, and composed of the following members:

- Her Excellency Madame Clara DELGADO JESUS, Ambassadeur, Représentant permanent ;
 - Mme. Carla MIRANDA SPÍNOLA, Ministre plénipotentiaire à la Mission permanente ;
 - Mr. Pedro Graciano GOMES DE CARVALHO, Ministre plénipotentiaire à la Mission permanente ;
 - M. João GOMES DUARTE, Secrétaire Exécutif à la Commission interministérielle pour l'élaboration des rapports sur les droits de l'homme ;
 - Mme. Margarida LOPES BORGES ANDRADE, Directrice du Cabinet du Ministre de la Famille, inclusion et développement social ;
 - Mme. Melany FERREIRA RAMOS, Conseillère de la Ministre de la Justice.
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