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Agenda item 1

Organizational and procedural matters

Report of the Human Rights Council on its forty-sixth session

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Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Part One: Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its forty-sixth session	5
I. Resolutions	5
II. Decisions	6
Part Two: Summary of proceedings	8
I. Organizational and procedural matters.....	8
A. Opening and duration of the session	8
B. Attendance	9
C. High-level segment.....	9
D. General segment	13
E. Agenda and programme of work	13
F. Organization of work	13
G. Meetings and documentation	14
H. Decision on the report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee.....	14
I. Selection and appointment of mandate holders	15
J. Adoption of the report on the session	15
II. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.....	16
A. Reports and oral updates of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.	16
B. Interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.....	18
C. Interactive dialogue on the oral update by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea	19
D. Interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka	19
E. Interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Nicaragua	20
F. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Belarus.....	21
G. Interactive dialogue on the oral update of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen	21
H. Reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.....	22
I. Consideration of and action on draft proposals	23
III. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.....	26
A. Panel discussions	26
B. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders	30
C. General debate on agenda item 3	41
D. Consideration of and action on draft proposals	45

IV.	Human rights situations that require the Council's attention	53
A.	Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	53
B.	Interactive dialogue on the oral update of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	53
C.	Interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi	54
D.	Interactive dialogue with the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan	55
E.	Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic	55
F.	Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders	56
G.	General debate on agenda item 4	58
H.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	61
V.	Human rights bodies and mechanisms	71
A.	Forum on Minority Issues	71
B.	Social Forum	71
C.	Special procedure mandate holders	71
D.	Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	71
E.	General debate on agenda item 5	71
VI.	Universal periodic review	73
A.	Consideration of the universal periodic review outcomes	73
B.	General debate on agenda item 6	146
C.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	146
VII.	Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories	148
A.	Reports of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General	148
B.	General debate on agenda item 7	148
C.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	149
VIII.	Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action	151
A.	General debate on agenda item 8	151
IX.	Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action	153
A.	Debate on the midterm review of the International Decade for People of African Descent	153
B.	General debate on agenda item 9	154
C.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	155
X.	Technical assistance and capacity-building	157
A.	Enhanced interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	157
B.	Interactive dialogue with a special procedure mandate holder	157
C.	Interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in Ukraine	158
D.	High-level interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic	159

E.	General debate on agenda item 10.....	159
F.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	161
Annexes		
I.	Attendance.....	163
II.	Agenda	169
III.	Documents issued for the forty-sixth session.....	170
IV.	Special procedure mandate holders and members of subsidiary expert mechanisms appointed by the Human Rights Council at its forty-sixth session.....	196

Part One

Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its forty-sixth session

I. Resolutions

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
46/1	Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka	23 March 2021
46/2	Promotion and protection of human rights in Nicaragua	23 March 2021
46/3	Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the obligation to ensure accountability and justice	23 March 2021
46/4	Human rights, democracy and the rule of law	23 March 2021
46/5	The negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights	23 March 2021
46/6	Freedom of religion or belief	23 March 2021
46/7	Human rights and the environment	23 March 2021
46/8	Effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights	23 March 2021
46/9	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights	23 March 2021
46/10	Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights	23 March 2021
46/11	The negative impact of the non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin to the countries of origin on the enjoyment of human rights, and the importance of improving international cooperation	23 March 2021
46/12	Mandate of Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism	23 March 2021
46/13	Promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of human rights	23 March 2021
46/14	Ensuring equitable, affordable, timely and universal access for all countries to vaccines in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic	23 March 2021
46/15	Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment: the roles and responsibilities of police and other law enforcement officials	23 March 2021
46/16	Mandate of Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy	23 March 2021
46/17	Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	23 March 2021

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
46/18	Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran	23 March 2021
46/19	The right to food	24 March 2021
46/20	Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath	24 March 2021
46/21	Situation of human rights in Myanmar	24 March 2021
46/22	Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic	24 March 2021
46/23	Situation of human rights in South Sudan	24 March 2021
46/24	Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan	24 March 2021
46/25	Right of the Palestinian people to self-determination	24 March 2021
46/26	Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan	24 March 2021
46/27	Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief	24 March 2021
46/28	Technical assistance and capacity-building for Mali in the field of human rights	24 March 2021
46/29	Technical assistance and capacity-building for South Sudan	24 March 2021
46/30	Cooperation with Georgia	24 March 2021

II. Decisions

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
46/101	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Belarus	16 March 2021
46/102	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Libya	16 March 2021
46/103	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Malawi	16 March 2021
46/104	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Panama	16 March 2021
46/105	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Mongolia	16 March 2021
46/106	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Maldives	16 March 2021
46/107	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Andorra	16 March 2021
46/108	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Honduras	16 March 2021
46/109	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Bulgaria	17 March 2021
46/110	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Marshall Islands	17 March 2021
46/111	Outcome of the universal periodic review: United States of America	17 March 2021
46/112	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Croatia	17 March 2021
46/113	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Liberia	17 March 2021
46/114	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Jamaica	17 March 2021

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
46/115	High-level panel discussion on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the Work of the Human Rights Council	24 March 2021

Part Two

Summary of proceedings

I. Organizational and procedural matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Human Rights Council held its forty-sixth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 22 February to 24 March 2021. The President of the Human Rights Council opened the session.
2. In accordance with rule 8 (b) of the rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council, as contained in part VII of the annex to Council resolution 5/1, the organizational meeting on the forty-sixth session was held on 8 February 2021.
3. At the 1st meeting, on 22 February 2021, the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Federal Councillor and Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, Ignazio Cassis, addressed the Human Rights Council in plenary session.
4. At its 22nd meeting, on 5 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered the Bureau's recommendation to cancel the interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy at the forty-sixth session.
5. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, China, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Poland, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements on the recommendation.
6. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council decided to cancel the interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy at the forty-sixth session.
7. At the same meeting, following the Human Rights Council's decision, the representatives of Argentina, Austria, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Poland, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements on procedural matters relating to the decision.
8. At the 23rd meeting, on the same day, in accordance with rule 118 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the representative of the Russian Federation moved to suspend the meeting.
9. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council approved the proposed modalities for a virtual roll-call vote via Zoom on the motion to suspend the meeting.
10. Also at the same meeting, under the same rule, a roll-call vote was taken on the motion to suspend the meeting. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Eritrea, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Gabon, Libya, Mauritania, Nepal, Pakistan

11. The Human Rights Council rejected the motion to suspend the meeting by 31 votes to 6, with 9 abstentions.¹

12. At the 24th meeting, on 8 March 2021, the Human Rights Council observed International Women's Day. At the same meeting, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Mexico (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, the Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and the State of Palestine) made a statement. At the same meeting, the representative of the non-governmental organization Women's International League for Peace and Freedom made a statement.

13. At the 29th meeting, on 11 March 2021, the Human Rights Council observed a minute of silence in memory of the late Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein, Peter Matt.

14. Due to extraordinary modalities of the forty-sixth session, adopted at the 1st meeting, on 22 February 2021, participation in person was limited and all statements were made by video teleconference (see chap. I, sect. F), unless indicated otherwise in the present report. The non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and national human rights institutions with A status were invited to submit pre-recorded video statements for all debates.

B. Attendance

15. The session was attended by representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States of the Council, observers for non-Member States of the United Nations and other observers, and observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations, intergovernmental organizations and other entities, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations (see annex I).

C. High-level segment

16. At its 1st to 7th meetings, from 22 to 24 February 2021, the Human Rights Council held a high-level segment, at which 130 dignitaries addressed the Council in plenary session, including six heads of State, three prime ministers, 12 deputy prime ministers, 84 ministers, 16 deputy ministers and nine representatives of observer organizations.

17. The following dignitaries addressed the Human Rights Council during the high-level segment, in the order in which they spoke:

(a) At the 1st meeting, on 22 February 2021: President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev; President of Colombia, Iván Duque Márquez; President of Lithuania, Gitanas Nausėda; President of Afghanistan, Mohammad Ashraf Ghani; President of Poland, Andrzej Duda; President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro Moros; Prime Minister of Finland, Sanna Marin; Prime Minister and Minister for iTaukei Affairs, Sugar Industry, and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Fiji, Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama; Acting Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova, Aureliu Ciocoi; Vice Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia, David Zalkaliani; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Mukhtar Tileuberdi; Third Deputy Prime Minister in charge of Human Rights of Equatorial Guinea, Alfonso Nsue Mokuy; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam, Pham Binh Minh; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Affairs and Foreign Trade and the Federal Cultural Institutions of Belgium, Sophie Wilmes; Minister of State for

¹ The delegation of Cuba did not cast a vote.

Human Rights of Morocco, Mustafa al Ramid; Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina, Felipe Carlos Solá; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Montenegro, Đorđe Radulović; Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, Heiko Maas; Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta, Evarist Bartolo; Minister for Foreign Affairs, Justice and Culture of Liechtenstein, Katrin Eggenberger; Minister for Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade of the Republic of Mauritius, Alan Ganoo; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Jeppe Kofod;

(b) At the 2nd meeting, on the same day: First Secretary of State and Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Dominic Raab; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria, Alexander Schallenberg; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, Hishammuddin Tun Hussein; Minister for State and for Foreign Affairs of Portugal, Augusto Santos Silva; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Angola, Tété António; Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia, Ivan Korčok; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Palestine, Riad al-Malki; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Slovenia, Anže Logar; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chile, Andrés Allamand; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Syrian Arab Republic, Fayssal Mekdad; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Czechia, Tomáš Petříček; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, Jeyhun Bayramov; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Norway, Ine Eriksen Søreide; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Brazil, Ernesto Henrique Fraga Araújo; Minister for Women, Family and Human Rights of Brazil, Damares Alves; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey, Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Andorra, Maria Ubach Font; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica, Rodolfo Solano Quirós; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uganda, Sam Kutesa; Minister for Foreign Affairs of North Macedonia, Bujar Osmani; Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie, Louise Mushikiwabo; Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, Martha Delgado Peralta;

(c) At the 3rd meeting, on the same day: State Councillor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, Wang Yi; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, Ann Christin Linde; Deputy Minister for International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa, Alvin Botes; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Stef Blok; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Armenia, Ara Alvazian; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Maldives, Abdulla Shahid; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Estonia, Eva-Maria Liimets; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay, Francisco Bustillo; Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar, Lolwah Rashid al-Khater; President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Peter Maurer;

(d) At the 4th meeting, on 23 February 2021: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, Don Pramudwinai; Minister for External Affairs of India, S. Jaishankar; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Romania, Bogdan Aurescu; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad of Senegal, Aïssata Tall Sall; Executive Secretary of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, Francesco Ribeiro Telles; Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Patricia Scotland; Minister for Law and Justice of Lesotho, Nqosa Mahao; Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);

(e) At the 5th meeting, on the same day: Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan, Ruslan Kazakbaev; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belarus, Vladimir Makei; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain, Aráncha González Laya; Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development Cooperation of Iceland, Gudlaugur Thór Thórdarson; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nigeria, Geoffrey Onyeama; Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See, Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher; Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania, Palamagamba Kabudi; Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Luxembourg, Jean Asselborn; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Motegi Toshimitsu; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Latvia, Edgars Rinkēvičs; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, Pedro Brolo Vila; Vice-Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs of Albania, Agron Tare; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Rogelio Mayta Mayta; Minister of Home Affairs and Cultural Heritage and Acting Minister for Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs of Zimbabwe, Kazembe Kazembe; Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA);

(f) At the 6th meeting, on the same day: Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Governance of Guyana, Gail Taxeira; Minister of Human Rights of Pakistan, Shireen Mazari; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, Abdul Momen; High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, Josep Borrell Fontelles; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal, Pradeep Kumar Gyawali; Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia, Gordan Grlić-Radman; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, Retno Lestari Priansari Marsudi; Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Economic Cooperation and Telecommunications of San Marino, Luca Beccari; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, Nikos Christodoulides; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, Luis Gallegos Chiriboga; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia, Othman Jerandi; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Serbia, Nikola Selaković; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba, Bruno Eduardo Rodríguez Parrilla; Minister for Foreign Affairs of New Zealand, Nanaia Mahuta; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka, Dinesh Gunawardena; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, Fuad Mohammad Hussein; Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador, Alexandra Hill Tinoco; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, Péter Szijjártó; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Dmytro Kuleba; Head of the Human Rights Commission of Saudi Arabia, Awwad bin Saleh al-Awwad; Second Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, Choi Jong-moon; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Alaa Roushdy; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Paraguay, José Antonio Dos Santos; Grand Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta, Albrecht Freiherr von Böselager; Director General of the Pacific Community, Stuart Minchin; Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Yousef al Othaimen; Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, Marija Pejčinović Burić;

(g) At the 7th meeting, on 24 February 2021: Deputy Prime Minister for Judicial Reform and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria, Ekaterina Zaharieva; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, Demeke Mekonnen Hassen; Minister for Justice of Malawi (in-person statement), Titus Songiso Mvalo; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland, Simon Coveney; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Sergey Lavrov; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece, Nikos Dendias; Secretary of State of the United States of America, Anthony J. Blinken; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Darren Allan Henfield; Minister for Justice of Namibia, Yvonne Dausab; Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain, Abdullah bin Faisal bin Jabural-Doseri; Minister for Justice and Human Rights, in charge of human rights of Côte d'Ivoire, Aimée Gbakrehonon Zebeyoux; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of Lebanon, Charbel Wehbe; Minister for Justice, Human Rights and Civic Promotion of Burkina Faso, Victoria Ouédraogo Kibora; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Canada, Marc Garneau; Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Mali, Zeyni Moulaye; Minister for Justice and Keeper of the Seals, in charge of human rights of Gabon, Erlyne Antonela Ndembet Damas; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Marshall Islands, Casten N. Nemra; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cameroon, Lejeune Mbella Mbella; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Libya, Mohamed T.H. Siala; Minister for European and Foreign Affairs of France, Jean-Yves Le Drian; Minister for Justice and Attorney General of Rwanda, Johnston Busingye; Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, Luigi Di Maio; Minister for Justice of the Philippines, Menardo I. Guevarra; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Haiti, Claude Joseph; Deputy of International Affairs of the Judiciary of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Secretary of the High Council for Human Rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ali Bagheri Kani; Secretary of State in the Office of Human Rights of Honduras, Jacqueline Ancheta; Vice-Minister of Multilateral Affairs and Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama, Ana Luisa Castro; Assistant High Commissioner for Protection of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); Director General of the International Development Law Organization, Jan Beagle; Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum, Meg Taylor; President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Joel Hernández.

High-level panel discussion on human rights mainstreaming

18. At the 4th meeting, on 22 February 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 16/21, an annual high-level panel discussion to interact with heads of

governing bodies and secretariats of United Nations agencies within their respective mandates on specific human rights themes with the objective of promoting the mainstreaming of human rights throughout the United Nations system, with a focus on “the state of play in the fight against racism and discrimination 20 years after the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action and the exacerbating effects the COVID-19 pandemic has had on these efforts”.

19. The President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made opening statements for the panel discussion.

20. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women); Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO); Assistant Director General for Social and Human Sciences of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

21. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan² (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahamas (also on behalf of Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago), Brazil (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries) (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), Finland² (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola (video statement), Portugal (video statement), Qatar (video statement), South Africa (video statement);

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Commission on Human Rights (Indonesia);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Al-Haq, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Habitat International Coalition, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling and Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH)), Franciscans International.

22. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Indonesia (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium (video statement), Ecuador, Iraq, Morocco (video statement);

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Aid Organization, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iuventum, eV, World Vision International.

23. At the same meeting, the Director of the United Nations Women Liaison Office in Geneva, the Assistant Director General for Emergency Response of WHO and the Director for Policies and Programmes of the Social and Human Sciences sector at UNESCO made concluding remarks on behalf of the panellists.

² Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

D. General segment

24. At the 8th meeting, on 24 February 2021, a general segment was held, during which the following addressed the Human Rights Council:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Somalia, Sudan;
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Botswana, Cambodia, Israel, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mozambique, United Arab Emirates;
- (c) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;
- (d) Invited members of civil society: Hisashi Saito, Silvia Perel Levin, Zina Jalal, María José Abad.

25. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Mauritius, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

26. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mauritius, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

E. Agenda and programme of work

27. At its 1st meeting, on 22 February 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted the agenda and programme of work of the forty-sixth session.

28. At its 42nd meeting, on 19 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted the revised programme of work of the forty-sixth session.

F. Organization of work

29. At its 1st meeting, on 22 February 2021, the Human Rights Council approved the extraordinary modalities recommended by the Bureau of the Council, as detailed in the annex to the minutes of the Bureau meeting of 18 February 2021, similar to those applied at the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. The measures included enabling the delivery of statements by pre-recorded video messages, the virtual exercise of the right of reply and the participation of special procedure mandate holders, members of investigative mechanisms and panellists via video messages and videoconference.

30. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted a decision to allow, exceptionally, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and national human rights institutions with A status the opportunity to submit pre-recorded video messages for all debates. The number of non-governmental organizations to be included in the list of speakers for each of the general debates of the forty-sixth session was set in line with the average number of non-governmental organizations that had participated in each of the general debates in the previous three March sessions of the Council.

31. Also at the same meeting, the President outlined the speaking time limits for the high-level segment, which would be seven minutes for each dignitary.

32. At the 8th meeting, on 24 February 2021, the President outlined the speaking time limits for the general segment, which would be five minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council and three minutes for observer States and other observers.

33. At the same meeting, the President referred to the procedure for the online tabling of resolutions. The President also referred to the modalities concerning the tabling of draft proposals after the tabling deadline. At the organizational meeting of the forty-sixth session, the Human Rights Council had agreed that an extension of the deadline for the submission of draft proposals would be granted only once, under exceptional circumstances, for a maximum of 24 hours.

34. At the 36th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Vice-President outlined the speaking time limits for the consideration of the outcomes of the universal periodic review under agenda item 6, which would be 20 minutes for the State concerned to present its views; up to 20 minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and United Nations agencies to express their views on the outcome of the review; and up to 20 minutes for stakeholders to make general comments on the outcome of the review.

35. During the forty-sixth session, the speaking time limit for the interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders was one minute and 30 seconds for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and other observers. The speaking time limit for the general debates was two minutes and 30 seconds for States members of the Council and one minute and 30 seconds for observer States and other observers. The speaking time limit for the panel discussions was two minutes for States members of the Council, observer States and other observers.

36. At its 40th meeting, on 18 March 2021, in view of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Human Rights Council approved the extraordinary modalities for electronic voting and the exceptional use of the “e-Recorded votes” module on the e-deleGATE platform for taking action on draft proposals during the forty-sixth session, proposed by the Bureau of the Council and as articulated in the annex to the minutes of the Bureau meeting of 17 March 2021.

37. At its 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the Human Rights Council approved the extraordinary modalities, recommended by the Bureau of the Council, for the upcoming thirty-eighth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, similar to those applied at the thirty-sixth and the thirty-seventh sessions of the Working Group in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. The measures included enabling the delivery of statements by pre-recorded video messages, the virtual exercise of the right of reply, and the participation of special procedure mandate holders, members of investigative mechanisms and panellists via video messages and videolink.

G. Meetings and documentation

38. The Human Rights Council held 51 fully serviced meetings during its forty-sixth session.³

39. The list of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council is contained in part one of the present report.

H. Decision on the report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

40. At its 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the Human Rights Council decided to endorse the request of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee to extend the deadline for the submission of the report of the Committee on the negative effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of human rights, mandated by Council resolution 34/8, until the forty-eighth session of the Council.

³ The proceedings of the forty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council can be followed through the United Nations archived webcasts of the Council sessions at <http://webtv.un.org>.

I. Selection and appointment of mandate holders

41. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the President of the Human Rights Council presented the list of candidates to be appointed for the six vacancies for special procedure mandate holders.

42. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council appointed six special procedure mandate holders in accordance with Council resolution 5/1 (see annex IV).

J. Adoption of the report on the session

43. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the Vice-President and Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council made a statement on the draft report of the Council on its forty-sixth session.

44. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted ad referendum the draft report (A/HRC/46/2) and entrusted the Rapporteur with its finalization.

45. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Australia, Belarus (video statement), Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia (video statement), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Maldives, Qatar (video statement), South Sudan, Switzerland (video statement), Turkey and the United States of America made statements as observer States on the adopted decisions and resolutions.

46. At the same meeting, the representative of Kyrgyzstan (video statement) and the observer for the International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Franciscans International, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Lesbian and Gay Association and International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism) (video statement) made statements on the session.

47. Also at the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council made a closing statement.

II. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

A. Reports and oral updates of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

48. At the 12th meeting, on 26 February 2021, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement providing an oral update on the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

49. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented her reports on the situation of human rights in Guatemala (A/HRC/46/74), the situation of human rights in Honduras (A/HRC/46/75), the situation of human rights in Colombia (A/HRC/46/76), the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the enjoyment of human rights around the world (A/HRC/46/19) and the report of OHCHR on the question of human rights in Cyprus (A/HRC/46/23), as well as her oral updates on the situation of human rights in Eritrea and the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

50. At the 13th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Cyprus, Eritrea and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements as the States concerned.

51. During the ensuing general debate, at the 13th meeting, on the same day, and at the 14th and 15th meetings, on 1 March 2021, the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Austria (video statement), Azerbaijan⁴ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain (video statement), Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil (video statement), Brunei Darussalam⁴ (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)), Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China (video statement), China (also on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Burundi, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe), Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czechia (video statement), Denmark (video statement), Estonia⁴ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, Gabon (also on behalf of Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Guatemala, Guinea, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and the United Arab Emirates) (video statement), Germany (video statement), Germany (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) (video statement), India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan (video statement), Libya (video statement), Namibia, Nepal (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Netherlands (also on behalf of the European Union, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mali, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom

⁴ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay) (video statement), Pakistan (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, with the exception of Cameroon) (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Poland (video statement), Portugal⁴ (on behalf of the European Union), Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Senegal (also on behalf of France, Malawi, Mexico, Nepal, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uzbekistan), Sudan (video statement), Timor-Leste⁴ (also on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Cuba, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe) (in-person statement), Togo (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Uruguay (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Albania (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Australia, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Botswana, Burundi (in-person statement), Cambodia (video statement), Canada (video statement), Chad, Chile (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Greece (video statement), Guinea (in-person statement), Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait (video statement), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Maldives, Malta (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Nicaragua (video statement), Niger, Nigeria, Norway (video statement), Panama (video statement), Paraguay, Portugal (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Slovakia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), South Africa, South Sudan, Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Sweden (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand (video statement), Tunisia (video statement), Turkey, Uganda (video statement), United Arab Emirates (video statement), United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu (video statement), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (video statement), UN-Women (video statement);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action of Human Movement, African Green Foundation International, American Association of Jurists (also on behalf of Asociación Española para el Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos (AEDIDH), Habitat International Coalition, Right Livelihood Award Foundation and World Peace Council), Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation and International Service for Human Rights), Caritas Internationalis – International Confederation of Catholic Charities, Center for Justice and International Law, Centre Europe-tiers monde (also on behalf of Friends of the Earth International), Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (also on behalf of Conectas Direitos Humanos and Corporación Centro de Estudios de Derecho, Justicia y Sociedad), Chinese Association for International Understanding, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Conselho Indigenista Missionário, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, ESCR-Net – International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Inc., Friends World Committee for Consultation, Human Rights Watch, IDPC Consortium (also on behalf of NoBox Transitions Foundation), Il Cenacolo, Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos (also on behalf of Gestos Soropositividade Comunicação e Gênero, Justiça Global and Terra de Direitos), International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT), International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Lesbian and Gay Association (also on behalf of International Service for Human Rights, OutRight Action International and Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights (RFSL)), International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial

Discrimination, International Planned Parenthood Federation, International Service for Human Rights, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Juventum, eV, Jubilee Campaign, ODHACO, Bureau international des droits humains – action Colombie, Partners for Transparency, Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Presse emblème campagne, Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH), Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Swedish Association for Sexuality Education, United Nations Association of China, VIVAT International (also on behalf of Franciscans International), Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, World Evangelical Alliance, World Organization against Torture.

52. At the 16th meeting, on 2 March 2021, the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Ethiopia, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Morocco, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

53. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

B. Interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

54. At the 8th meeting, on 24 February 2021, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/3, her report on ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem (A/HRC/46/22).

55. At the same meeting, the representatives of Israel and the State of Palestine made statements as the States concerned.

56. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 9th meeting, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, China (video statement), Cuba, Indonesia (video statement), Libya (video statement), Libya (on behalf of the Group of African States) (video statement), Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Jordan, Kuwait (video statement), Lebanon, Luxembourg (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Oman (video statement), Qatar, Saudi Arabia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), South Africa, Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia (video statement), Turkey;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Al-Haq (also on behalf of Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights), Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Defence for Children International, Ingénieurs du monde, Institute for NGO Research, Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), Norwegian Refugee Council, United Nations Watch, Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling.

57. At the 9th meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks on behalf of the High Commissioner.

C. Interactive dialogue on the oral update by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea

58. At the 9th meeting, on 24 February 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea, Mohamed Abdelsalam Babiker, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council Resolution 41/1, an oral update.

59. At the same meeting, the representative of Eritrea made a statement as the State concerned.

60. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria (video statement), China (video statement), Cuba, Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti (video statement), Ethiopia, Ireland (video statement), Nicaragua, South Sudan, Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Center for Global Nonkilling, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Elizka Relief Foundation, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Jubilee Campaign, Reporters sans frontières international/Reporters without Borders International.

61. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

D. Interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka

62. At the 9th meeting, on 24 February 2021, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 40/1, a written report on promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka (A/HRC/46/20).

63. At the same meeting, the representative of Sri Lanka made a statement as the State concerned.

64. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 10th meeting, on 25 February 2021, the following made statements and asked the High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon, China (video statement), Cuba, Eritrea, France, Gabon, Germany (video statement), India (video statement), Japan (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Norway⁴ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden) (video statement), Pakistan, Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Canada (video

statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland (video statement), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Montenegro (video statement), Nicaragua, North Macedonia (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Society for Threatened Peoples.

65. At the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks on behalf of the High Commissioner.

E. Interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Nicaragua

66. At the 10th meeting, on 25 February 2021, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/2, a written report on the situation of human rights in Nicaragua (A/HRC/46/21).

67. At the same meeting, the representative of Nicaragua made a statement as the State concerned.

68. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Canada⁴ (also on behalf of Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru) (video statement), Cuba, Eritrea, France, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sweden⁴ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway) (video statement), Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Luxembourg, Peru (video statement), Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka, Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Center for Justice and International Law, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Human Rights Watch, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (also on behalf of International Service for Human Rights), International Service for Human Rights, Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH), Right Livelihood Award Foundation (also on behalf of Center for Justice and International Law), World Organization against Torture.

69. At the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks on behalf of the High Commissioner.

F. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Belarus

70. At the 11th meeting, on 25 February 2021, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/1, a written report on the situation of human rights in Belarus in the lead-up to, during and after the 2020 presidential election (A/HRC/46/4).

71. At the same meeting, the representative of Belarus made a statement as the State concerned.

72. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria (video statement), China (video statement), Cuba, Czechia (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) (video statement), Eritrea, France, Germany (video statement), Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Poland (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belgium (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Canada (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (video statement), Estonia (video statement), Finland (video statement), Greece (video statement), Iceland (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland (video statement), Kazakhstan (video statement), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia (video statement), Lebanon, Liechtenstein (video statement), Lithuania (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Malta (video statement), New Zealand (video statement), Nicaragua (video statement), Norway (video statement), Romania (video statement), Slovakia, Slovenia (video statement), Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United States of America;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women (video statement);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Human Rights House Foundation, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Lawyers for Lawyers, Reporters sans frontières international/Reporters without Borders International, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, World Organization against Torture.

73. At the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks on behalf of the High Commissioner.

G. Interactive dialogue on the oral update of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen

74. At the 11th meeting, on 25 February 2021, the Chair of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen, Kamel Jendoubi, provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/15, an oral update.

75. At the same meeting, the representative of Yemen made a statement as the State concerned.

76. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria (video statement), Bahrain (video statement), Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) (video statement), Cameroon, China (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Ireland⁴ (also on behalf of Belgium, Canada, Luxembourg and the Netherlands) (video statement), France, Germany, Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Pakistan, Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Egypt (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait (video statement), Maldives, Morocco (video statement), New Zealand (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), United Arab Emirates (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, ArabEuropean Forum for Dialogue and Human Rights, Baha'i International Community, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project and International Federation for Human Rights Leagues), Human Rights Information and Training Center, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Reporters sans frontières international/Reporters without Borders International, Save the Children International, Villages unis/United Villages, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

77. At the same meeting, the Chair and members of the Group of Eminent Experts, Melissa Park and Ardi Imseis, answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

H. Reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

78. At the 26th meeting, on 9 March 2021, the Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR presented the thematic reports of the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner (A/HRC/46/24, A/HRC/46/25, A/HRC/46/41, A/HRC/46/42, A/HRC/46/43, A/HRC/46/44, A/HRC/46/45, A/HRC/46/47 and A/HRC/46/48) under agenda items 2 and 3.

79. At its 26th and 28th meetings, on 9 and 10 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 3, including on the thematic reports presented by the Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR (see chap. III, sect. C).

80. At the 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2021, the Director of the Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division of OHCHR presented the report of the High Commissioner on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations made by the group of independent experts on accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (A/HRC/46/52).

81. At the same meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations provided, on behalf of the Secretary-General, an oral update on the Secretary-General's initiative to take concrete action based on the recommendations contained in the report entitled "A brief and independent inquiry into the involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar from 2010 to 2018", and on the progress made in the implementation of follow-up

action to enable more effective work in the future and to strengthen the prevention capacity of the United Nations system.

82. At the same meeting, on 12 March 2021, and at the 34th meeting, on 15 March, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 4, including on the oral update provided by the Assistant Secretary-General for Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations and the report presented by the Director of the Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division of OHCHR (see chap. IV, sect. G).

83. At the 41st meeting, on 18 March 2021, the High Commissioner presented her reports and the report of the Secretary-General under agenda items 2 and 7.

84. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 7, including on the reports prepared by the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General (see chap. VII, sect. B).

85. At the 44th meeting, on 22 March 2021, the High Commissioner provided an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, during an enhanced interactive dialogue (see chap. X, sect. A).

86. At the 45th meeting, on 22 March 2021, the Deputy High Commissioner provided an oral update on the situation of human rights in Ukraine, followed by an interactive dialogue (see chap. X, sect. C).

87. At the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner provided an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic, during a high-level interactive dialogue (see chap. X, sect. D).

88. At the 46th meeting, on 22 March 2021, the Officer in Charge of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR presented the report of the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and made the annual oral presentation of the High Commissioner on technical cooperation.

89. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 10, including on the report presented and the presentation made by the Officer in Charge of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR (see chap. X, sect. E).

I. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka

90. At the 47th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of Canada, Germany, Malawi, Montenegro and North Macedonia, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.1/Rev.1, sponsored by Canada, Germany, Malawi, Montenegro, North Macedonia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Austria withdrew its original co-sponsorship of the draft resolution. Subsequently, Austria, Costa Rica and Honduras joined the sponsors.

91. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the Philippines made general comments on the draft resolution.

92. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Sri Lanka made a statement as the State concerned.

93. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

94. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil (video statement), China, Cuba, India, Japan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

95. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of China and Pakistan, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Against:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Eritrea, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Somalia, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Senegal, Sudan, Togo

96. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 22 votes to 11, with 14 abstentions (resolution 46/1).

Promotion and protection of human rights in Nicaragua

97. At the 48th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Colombia (video statement), also on behalf of Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.8, sponsored by Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru, and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United States of America. Subsequently, Czechia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland withdrew their original co-sponsorship of the draft resolution. Subsequently, Albania, Czechia, Denmark, Iceland, Japan, the Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Poland and Slovenia joined the sponsors.

98. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made a general comment on the draft resolution.

99. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Nicaragua (video statement) made a statement as the State concerned.

100. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

101. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Cuba, Czechia (video statement), Mexico (video statement), the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

102. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Against:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Eritrea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Somalia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

103. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 20 votes to 8, with 18 abstentions (resolution 46/2).⁵

Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the obligation to ensure accountability and justice

104. At the 48th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.31, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Chile, Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Cuba, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Namibia, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

105. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made a general comment on the draft resolution.

106. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Israel (video statement) and the State of Palestine made statements as the States concerned.

107. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil (video statement), Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

108. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Brazil, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Eritrea, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Malawi, Togo

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Czechia, India, Marshall Islands, Nepal, Philippines, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

109. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 32 votes to 6, with 8 abstentions (resolution 46/3).⁵

110. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Indonesia, Nepal and the Republic of Korea made general comments and statements in explanation of vote after the vote on the resolutions adopted under agenda item 2.

⁵ The delegation of Bahrain did not cast a vote.

III. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

A. Panel discussions

High-level panel discussion on the question of the death penalty

111. At the 4th meeting, on 23 February 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 42/24, a high-level panel discussion on the question of the death penalty to address the human rights violations related to the use of the death penalty, in particular with respect to whether the use of the death penalty has a deterrent effect on crime rates.

112. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel discussion.

113. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Minister for Justice of Chad, Djimet Arabi; Commissioner of the International Commission against the Death Penalty, Tsakhia Elbegdorj; member of the Human Rights Committee, Christopher Arif Bulkan; professor of Criminology at the University of Oxford, Carolyn Hoyle.

114. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Liechtenstein⁶ (also on behalf of Austria, Slovenia and Switzerland), Mexico (video statement), Singapore⁶ (also on behalf of Afghanistan, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Maldives, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Zimbabwe), Sweden⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway) (video statement), Switzerland⁶ (also on behalf of Belgium, Benin, Costa Rica, France, Mexico, the Republic of Moldova and Mongolia) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Croatia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), South Africa (video statement);

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Commission on Human Rights (Philippines);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT), International Lesbian and Gay Association.

115. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Burkina Faso, Fiji (video statement), Italy, Namibia (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

⁶ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

(b) Representatives of observer States: Botswana (video statement), Cabo Verde (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries) (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Iraq, Portugal (video statement), Spain (video statement), Timor-Leste;

(c) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Human Rights Council (Morocco);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Center for Global Nonkilling.

116. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Meeting on the role of poverty alleviation in promoting and protecting human rights

117. At the 12th meeting, on 26 February 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 43/21, a meeting on the role of poverty alleviation in promoting and protecting human rights, in particular with respect to advancing mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of human rights.

118. The Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR made an opening statement.

119. At the same meeting, the following presenters made statements: Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, Kung Phoak; Director General of the General Affairs Department and Spokesperson of the National Administration of Rural Revitalization of China, Su Guoxia; Director of the Demographic, Health and Social Statistics Division and Head of Research and Innovation at Statistics Sierra Leone, Sonnia-Magba Bu-Buakei Jabbi; Chief Economist at FAO.

120. The ensuing discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Brunei Darussalam⁶ (on behalf of ASEAN), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States) (video statement), Germany (video statement), Libya (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Norway⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal;

(b) Representative of an observer State: Australia;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of American Association of Jurists, Foundation for the Social Promotion of Culture, International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES), Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, VIVAT International and World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), International Service for Human Rights, Make Mothers Matter.

121. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the presenters questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan (video statement), Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Egypt (video statement), Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Viet Nam;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities (also on behalf of International Youth and Student

Movement for the United Nations), Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association.

122. At the same meeting, the presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Annual full-day meeting on the rights of the child

123. At its 14th and 15th meetings, on 1 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolutions 7/29 and 45/30, its annual full-day meeting on the rights of the child. The meeting focused on the theme “Rights of the child and the Sustainable Development Goals”. The annual full-day meeting was divided into two panel discussions.

124. The first panel discussion was held at the 14th meeting, on 1 March 2021. The topic of the first panel discussion was “Securing a future for today’s children and generations to come: building back better with children’s rights upfront”. The High Commissioner made an opening statement for the panel discussion.

125. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Executive Director of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); a child human rights defender, Fred; Chief Executive Officer of She Says and President of the Steering Committee of the Paris Peace Forum, Trisha Shetty; Chair of The Elders, Mary Robinson. The Human Rights Council divided the first panel discussion into two speaking slots, held at the same meeting.

126. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan⁶ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) (video statement), Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States) (video statement), Croatia⁶ (also on behalf of Austria and Slovenia) (video statement), Estonia⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Libya (video statement), Luxembourg⁶ (also on behalf of Belgium and the Netherlands) (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: North Macedonia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement);

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: FAO;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: Office of the Ombudsman (Argentina);

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, World Vision International.

127. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: India (video statement), Poland (video statement), Uruguay;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Chad, Georgia (video statement), Maldives, Malta (video statement), Niger, Qatar (video statement), Thailand (video statement), United Arab Emirates (video statement), Viet Nam;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: China Family Planning Association, China Soong Ching Ling Foundation, Chinese Association for International Understanding.

128. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

129. The second panel discussion was held at the 15th meeting, on 1 March 2021. The topic of the second panel discussion was “The gaps and barriers affecting children: following up on commitments through the Decade of Action and delivery on the Sustainable Development Goals”.

130. The following panellists made statements for the second panel discussion: Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children; member of the Network of Children’s and Adolescent Correspondents of the Americas and the Caribbean from the Inter-American Institute of the Child, Claudia; member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Benyam Dawit Mezmur; Children and Young People’s Commissioner of Scotland, Bruce Adamson. The Human Rights Council divided the second panel discussion into two speaking slots, held at the same meeting.

131. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Barbados⁶ (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago), Canada⁶ (on behalf of States members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie), Gabon, Latvia⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Marshall Islands, Republic of Korea, Ukraine;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Hungary, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNFPA;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Child Rights Connect, Consortium for Street Children, Edmund Rice International.

132. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bahrain, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Fiji, Indonesia, Nepal, Russian Federation, Sudan;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Greece, Iraq, Israel, Timor-Leste;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Planned Parenthood Federation, Plan International, Inc., Save the Children International.

133. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Annual interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities

134. At its 23rd meeting, on 5 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolutions 7/9 and 43/23, its annual interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities in the form of a panel discussion. The focus of the panel discussion was on participation in sport under article 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The panel discussion was informed by the OHCHR report thereon (A/HRC/46/49).

135. The High Commissioner (video statement) made an opening statement for the panel discussion.

136. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, Gerard Quinn (video statement); Governing Board member of the International Paralympic Committee, Rita van Driel (video statement); member of Inclusion International, Jaime Cruz Juscamaita; Sustainability Director of the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, Bodour Almeer (video statement).

137. The Human Rights Council divided the panel discussion into two speaking slots, which were held at the 23rd meeting. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bahrain (video statement), Guyana⁶ (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Barbados, Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago) (video statement), Lithuania⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Malaysia⁶ (on behalf of ASEAN) (video statement), Mexico (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Greece (video statement), Israel (video statement), Monaco, Thailand (also on behalf of Algeria, Ecuador and Sweden) (video statement);

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union (video statement), European Union (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Organization of American States (video statement);

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Human Rights Council (Morocco);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, International Disability Alliance.

138. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil (video statement), Bulgaria (video statement), France, Marshall Islands (video statement), Mauritania (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Egypt (video statement), Jamaica, Serbia (video statement), Uganda (video statement), Vanuatu (video statement);

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(e) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Sikh Human Rights Group.

139. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

B. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders

Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material

140. At the 16th meeting, on 2 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, Mama Fatima Singhateh, presented her report (A/HRC/46/31) and the visit report of her predecessor, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio (A/HRC/46/31/Add.1).

141. At the same meeting, the representative of the Gambia made a statement (in-person statement) as the State concerned.

142. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon, China, Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Fiji (video statement), France, Gabon, India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Uruguay (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and Peru) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Australia, Belgium (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (video statement), Iraq, Israel (video statement), Lesotho (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Malta (video statement), Panama (video statement), Paraguay, South Africa, South Sudan, United States of America;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women, UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asociación HazteOir.org, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Caritas Internationalis – International Confederation of Catholic Charities, China Foundation for Human Rights Development, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (also on behalf of Edmund Rice International, International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES), Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and VIVAT International), Consortium for Street Children, Edmund Rice International, Il Cenacolo, Jubilee Campaign.

143. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the right to food

144. At the 17th meeting, on 2 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Michael Fakhri, presented his report (A/HRC/46/33).

145. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Cameroon, China, Cuba (video statement), Ecuador⁶ (also on behalf of Argentina, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay), Fiji (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Nepal, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Togo (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Angola (video statement), Cambodia, Djibouti, Ecuador (video statement), Egypt (video statement), El Salvador, Ghana (video statement), Guatemala, Iran (Islamic Republic of) (video statement), Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia (video statement), Maldives (video statement), Morocco (video statement), North Macedonia (video statement), Norway (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), South Africa, Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Holy See, State of Palestine;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: FAO, UNICEF, World Food Programme;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), Centre Europe-tiers monde, FIAN International, Habitat International Coalition, Human Rights Advocates, Inc., Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Sikh Human Rights Group, Terra de Direitos.

146. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

147. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil and Saudi Arabia made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

148. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism

149. At the 17th meeting, on 3 March 2021, the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism, Ikponwosa Ero, presented her reports (A/HRC/46/32 and Add.1).

150. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil made a statement as the State concerned.

151. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 18th meeting, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Burkina Faso (video statement), Cameroon, China, Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Fiji (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Senegal, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Djibouti (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Israel (video statement), Kenya, Lesotho (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Nigeria, Panama (video statement), Portugal (video statement), South Africa, Uganda (video statement), United Republic of Tanzania (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women, UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Liberation, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Standing Voice, World Barua Organization, World Jewish Congress.

152. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

153. At the 18th meeting, on 3 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, Gerard Quinn, presented his report (A/HRC/46/27).

154. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Bahrain (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Brazil (video statement), Bulgaria (video statement), Burkina Faso (video statement), Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba (video statement), Ecuador⁶ (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay), Eritrea, Fiji (video statement), Finland⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, Gabon, India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Malawi, Marshall Islands (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Poland (video statement), Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Botswana (video statement), Cambodia, Canada (video statement), Chad, Chile (video statement), Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti (video statement), Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland (video statement), Israel (video statement), Lesotho (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives (video statement), Malta (video statement), Montenegro (video statement), Morocco, New Zealand (video statement), Panama (video statement), Paraguay, Qatar (video statement), Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain (video statement), Thailand (video statement), United Arab Emirates (video statement), United Republic of Tanzania (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNHCR, UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observer for a national human rights institution: Canadian Human Rights Commission (also on behalf of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions Working Group on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities);

(g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, European Disability Forum, HelpAge International, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Disability Alliance, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, Minority Rights Group, South Youth Organization, VIVAT International.

155. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

156. At the 19th meeting, on 3 March 2021, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

157. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights

158. At the 18th meeting, on 3 March 2021, the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, Yuefen Li, presented her report (A/HRC/46/29).

159. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 20th meeting, on 4 March 2021, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon (also on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Cuba (video statement), Fiji (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (video statement), Marshall Islands (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Pakistan, Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Chad, Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives (video statement), South Africa, Tunisia (video statement), Holy See (video statement);

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Caritas Internationalis – International Confederation of Catholic Charities, Center for China & Globalization, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Human Rights Advocates, Inc., World Barua Organization.

160. At the 20th meeting, on 4 March 2021, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights

161. At the 19th meeting, on 3 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Karima Bennouna, presented her reports (A/HRC/46/34 and Add.1).

162. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Fiji (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Marshall Islands (video statement), Nepal, Norway⁶ (also in behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Pakistan, Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Botswana (video statement), Cambodia, Cyprus (video statement), Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), El Salvador, Georgia (video statement), Greece (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (video statement), Iraq, Israel (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Morocco, Peru (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), South Africa, United States of America, Vanuatu (video statement), Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNESCO;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture, Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Freemuse: The World Forum on Music and Censorship, International Humanist and Ethical Union (also on behalf of Freemuse: The World Forum on Music and Censorship and Minority Rights Group), International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education (also on behalf of Catholic International Education Office), International PEN, Promotion du développement économique et social, Redress Trust, Sikh Human Rights Group.

163. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

164. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Indonesia made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment

165. At the 19th meeting, on 3 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, David R. Boyd, presented his report (A/HRC/46/28).

166. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 21st meeting, on 4 March 2021, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Cameroon (also on behalf of the Group of African States) (video statement), China, Costa Rica⁶ (also on behalf of Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement), Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Fiji, Finland⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, Gabon, Germany, India, Indonesia, Jamaica⁶ (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Fiji, Guyana, Haiti, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Singapore and Vanuatu) (video statement), Libya (video statement), Marshall Islands, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines (video statement), Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sudan, Togo (video statement), Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Botswana, Chile, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malaysia (video statement), Maldives, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Panama, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia (video statement), Spain, Switzerland (video statement), United States of America, State of Palestine;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: FAO, UNESCO, UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Conselho Indigenista Missionário, Earthjustice, Franciscans International, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Lutheran World Federation, Make Mothers Matter, Universal Rights Group, VIVAT International, Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling.

167. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

168. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

169. At the 21st meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Brazil made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

170. At the 20th meeting, on 4 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, Ahmed Shaheed, presented his report (A/HRC/46/30).

171. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 22nd meeting, on 5 March 2021, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Bahrain (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Brazil (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Colombia, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Togo, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ukraine and the United States of America) (video statement), Bulgaria (video statement), Cameroon, China, Cuba (video statement), Eritrea, Fiji (video statement), France, Iceland⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Italy, Libya (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video

statement), Mauritania (video statement), Nepal, Netherlands (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Poland (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan (video statement), Togo, Ukraine (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belgium (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Canada (video statement), Croatia (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Greece (video statement), Hungary (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (video statement), Iraq, Ireland (video statement), Israel (video statement), Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia (video statement), Malta (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Sierra Leone, Slovakia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United Arab Emirates (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Holy See (video statement), State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: British Humanist Association, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland, Freemuse: The World Forum on Music and Censorship, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Minority Rights Group, Universal Rights Group, World Evangelical Alliance, World Jewish Congress.

172. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

173. At the 21st meeting, on 4 March 2021, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan and China made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

174. At the 24th meeting, on 8 March 2021, the representative of Sri Lanka made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

175. At the 21st meeting, on 4 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, presented her report (A/HRC/46/36).

176. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 22nd meeting, on 5 March 2021, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Burkina Faso (video statement), Belgium⁶ (also on behalf of Luxembourg and the Netherlands) (video statement), Cameroon, China, Cuba (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Fiji, France, India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Mexico (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement), Pakistan (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Azerbaijan, Egypt (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Greece (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Kazakhstan (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives (video statement), Malta (video statement), Morocco, Nigeria, Panama (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Singapore,

Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia (video statement), United Arab Emirates (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF (video statement), UN-Women (video statement);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, Ensemble contre la peine de mort, Freemuse: The World Forum on Music and Censorship, International PEN, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Society for Threatened Peoples, World Organization against Torture.

177. At the 21st and 22nd meetings, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

178. At the 21st meeting, the representative of Armenia made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

179. At the 24th meeting, on 8 March 2021, the representative of Burkina Faso made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders

180. At the 22nd meeting, on 5 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Mary Lawlor, presented her reports (A/HRC/46/35 and Add.1) and the visit report of her predecessor, Michel Forst (A/HRC/46/35/Add.2).

181. At the same meeting, the representative of Peru made a statement as the State concerned.

182. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the national human rights institution, the Office of the Ombudsman (Peru), made a statement.

183. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 24th meeting, on 8 March 2021, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Austria (video statement), Belarus⁶ (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, the Congo, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Brazil (video statement), Burkina Faso (video statement), Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba (video statement), Czechia (video statement), Fiji (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Iceland⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Indonesia, Italy, Libya (video statement), Marshall Islands (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Mexico, Namibia (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Pakistan (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Poland (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Uruguay (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Albania (video statement), Australia, Belgium (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Canada (video statement), Chad, Chile (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Costa

Rica (video statement), Croatia (video statement), Ecuador, Egypt, Georgia (video statement), Honduras (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland (video statement), Kyrgyzstan (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Malta (video statement), Montenegro (video statement), Norway (video statement), Peru (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Sierra Leone, Slovenia (video statement), Spain (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), United Republic of Tanzania (video statement), United States of America (video statement), State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women (video statement);

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union (video statement), Organization of American States;

(e) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Association of Jurists, Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgêneros, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Conselho Indigenista Missionário, International Service for Human Rights, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality, Terra de Direitos (also on behalf of Justiça Global), World Organization against Torture.

184. At the 22nd meeting, on the same day, and at the 24th meeting, on 8 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

185. At the 24th meeting, the representative of Israel made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

186. At the 25th meeting, on 8 March 2021, the representatives of Brazil and Indonesia made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

187. At the 24th meeting, on 8 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Nils Melzer, presented his reports (A/HRC/46/26 and Add.1).

188. At the same meeting, the representative of Maldives made a statement as the State concerned.

189. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 24th meeting, and at the 26th meeting, on 9 March 2021, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Burkina Faso (video statement), Cameroon, Chile⁶ (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement), China, Cuba, Czechia (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Fiji (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Indonesia, Japan (video statement), Libya (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan (video statement), Philippines, Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belgium (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Cyprus (video statement), Ecuador (video statement), Egypt, Georgia (video statement), Ghana (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (video statement), Iraq, Malaysia (video statement), Paraguay, South Africa, South Sudan, Switzerland (video statement), United States of America, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(d) Observers for national human rights institutions: Human Rights Defender (Armenia), National Human Rights Council (Morocco);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Centro de Apoio aos Direitos Humanos “Valdício Barbosa dos Santos”, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Conectas Direitos Humanos, Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Reporters sans frontières international/Reporters without Borders International, Society for Threatened Peoples, World Organization against Torture.

190. At the 24th meeting, on 8 March 2021, and at the 26th meeting, on 9 March, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

191. At the 27th meeting, on 9 March 2021, the representatives of Brazil and Chile made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children

192. At the 25th meeting, on 8 March 2021, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children, Najat Maalla M’jid, presented her report (A/HRC/46/40).

193. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Representative questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Austria (video statement), Brazil, Bulgaria (video statement), Burkina Faso (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Cuba (video statement), Fiji (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Indonesia, Italy, Libya (video statement), Lithuania⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Marshall Islands (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Uruguay (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belgium (video statement), Chad, Croatia (video statement), Cyprus (video statement), Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Ghana (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia (video statement), Malta (video statement), Monaco, Montenegro (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Panama (video statement), Paraguay, Qatar (video statement), Sierra Leone, Slovenia (video statement), South Africa, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Tunisia (video statement), United Republic of Tanzania (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF, UN-Women (video statement);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Arigatou International, China Soong Ching Ling Foundation, Consortium for Street Children, Defence for Children International, Edmund Rice International, European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l’homme, International Humanist and Ethical Union, Law Council of Australia, Lutheran World Federation, Terre des hommes fédération internationale.

194. At the same meeting, the Special Representative answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

195. Also at the same meeting, the representative of South Sudan made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

196. At the 25th meeting, on 8 March 2021, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Virginia Gamba, presented her report (A/HRC/46/39).

197. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 25th and 27th meetings, on 9 March 2021, the following made statements and asked the Special Representative questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina (also on behalf of Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement), Armenia (video statement), Belgium⁶ (also on behalf of Armenia, Australia, Austria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg, Malta, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay) (video statement), Cameroon (also on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Estonia⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Fiji (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Indonesia, Italy, Libya (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Poland (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belgium (video statement), Chad, Colombia (video statement), Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (video statement), Iraq, Ireland (video statement), Israel, Kazakhstan (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Malta (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Niger, Nigeria, Panama (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia (video statement), United States of America, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF (video statement);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Human Rights Council (Morocco);

(g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center, Defence for Children International, Il Cenacolo, Institute for NGO Research, Justiça Global, Next Century Foundation, Palestinian Return Centre, Ltd., Plan International, Inc., Promotion du développement économique et social, Save the Children International.

198. At the 27th meeting, the Special Representative answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

199. At the 25th meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Saudi Arabia and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

200. At the same meetings, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Saudi Arabia made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on minority issues

201. At the 35th meeting, on 15 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Fernand de Varennes, presented his reports (A/HRC/46/57 and Add.1 and A/HRC/46/58).

202. At the same meeting, the representative of Kyrgyzstan made a statement as the State concerned.

203. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Austria (video statement), China, Cuba (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Nepal, Norway⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Pakistan, Russian Federation (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Ecuador, Georgia (video statement), Greece (video statement), Hungary (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Paraguay, Romania (video statement), Saudi Arabia, Serbia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Tunisia (video statement), United States of America, Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF (video statement);

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union (video statement), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (video statement);

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland, Friends World Committee for Consultation, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, Jubilee Campaign, Minority Rights Group, World Evangelical Alliance, World Jewish Congress.

204. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

205. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Israel and Latvia made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

206. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

C. General debate on agenda item 3

207. At the 26th meeting, on 9 March 2021, the Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR presented the thematic reports of the Secretary-General, of the High Commissioner and of OHCHR (A/HRC/46/24, A/HRC/46/25, A/HRC/46/41, A/HRC/46/42, A/HRC/46/43, A/HRC/46/44, A/HRC/46/45, A/HRC/46/47 and A/HRC/46/48) under agenda items 2 and 3.

208. At the same meeting, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 37/24, the Deputy Permanent Representative of Thailand, Rongvudhi Virabutr, on behalf of the former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand, as the Chair of the third intersessional meeting for dialogue and cooperation on human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sek Wannamethee, presented the report of the intersessional meeting, held on 14 January 2021 (A/HRC/46/48).

209. Also at the same meeting, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 26/9, the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Ecuador, Emilio Izquierdo, as the Chair-Rapporteur of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights, with the mandate

of elaborating an international legally binding instrument, presented the report on the working group's sixth session, held from 26 to 30 October 2020 (A/HRC/46/73).

210. At the same meeting, and at the 28th meeting, on 10 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on the thematic reports under agenda item 3, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Australia⁶ (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) (video statement), Azerbaijan⁶ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahamas (also on behalf of Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago), Bangladesh (also on behalf of Albania, Afghanistan, Algeria, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, the Comoros, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Fiji, France, Germany, Haiti, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, the Niger, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, the Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, Canada⁶ (also on behalf of Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (video statement), Chile⁶ (also on behalf of Denmark, Fiji, Ghana, Indonesia and Morocco) (video statement), China, China (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, the Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, the United Arab Emirates, Uganda, Uzbekistan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Fiji, Luxembourg, Portugal, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Uruguay) (video statement), Egypt⁶ (also on behalf of Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chile, the Comoros, Djibouti, Ecuador, Eswatini, Fiji, Guinea, Hungary, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Fiji (video statement), France, Georgia⁶ (also on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Norway, Peru, Switzerland and the United States of America) (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Iraq⁶ (also on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, the Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, the Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Japan (video statement), Malaysia⁶ (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bahrain,

Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina-Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Maldives⁶ (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Austria, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Cabo Verde, the Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, the Niger, North Macedonia, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, Uruguay, Vanuatu and the State of Palestine), Mexico (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, the Comoros, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Netherlands (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Netherlands (also on behalf of Belgium and Luxembourg) (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Poland (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cabo Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, the Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius,

Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Portugal⁶ (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic⁶ (also on behalf of Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cambodia, China, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe), United Arab Emirates⁶ (also on behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Chad, Croatia (video statement), Ecuador, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (video statement), Ethiopia, Georgia (video statement), Greece (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Montenegro (video statement), Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Rwanda, South Africa, Sweden (video statement), Tunisia (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women (video statement), United Nations Environment Programme (also on behalf of the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, OHCHR, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN-Women and WHO) (video statement), UNFPA;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (video statement);

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observers for national human rights institutions: Office of the Ombudsman (Argentina), National Human Rights Commission (India);

(g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Action Canada for Population and Development, Action of Human Movement (AHM), Advocates for Human Rights, Africa culture internationale, African Green Foundation International, Al-Ayn Social Care Foundation, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Alliance Creative Community Project, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain, Inc., Amnesty International (also on behalf of Justiça Global, Terra de Direitos and World Organization against Torture), Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asociación HazteOir.org, Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgêneros, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Association internationale pour l'égalité des femmes, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association Thendral, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, British Humanist Association, Center for International Environmental Law, Center for Justice and International Law, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre Europe-tiers monde, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture, China Foundation for Human Rights Development, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen

Participation, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (also on behalf of Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches), Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, Corporate Accountability International, Earthjustice (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Center for International Environmental Law, Child Rights Connect, Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Minority Rights Group, Quaker Earthcare Witness, Soka Gakkai International, Universal Rights Group, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and World Future Council Foundation), Edmund Rice International, ESCR-Net - International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Inc., European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme, European Union of Jewish Students, Family Health Association of Iran, Federation for Women and Family Planning, FIAN International, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Center for International Environmental Law, FIAN International, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Indian Treaty Council, International Movement ATD Fourth World, International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific and Soka Gakkai International), Geo Expertise Association, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Human Rights Advocates, Inc., Il Cenacolo, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Institute for NGO Research, Institute for Policy Studies, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG), International Action for Peace & Sustainable Development, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Disability Alliance, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International-Lawyers.org, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (also on behalf of Al-Haq, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Center for Reproductive Rights, Conectas Direitos Humanos, Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland and International Lesbian and Gay Association), Iuventus, eV, Jeunesse étudiante tamoule, Justiça Global, Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty, Partners for Transparency, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Promotion du développement économique et social, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Sikh Human Rights Group, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Tamil Uzhagam, Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development, Tourner la page, Union of Northwest Human Rights Organisations, United Nations Association of China, United Nations Watch, Universal Rights Group, Villages unis/United Villages, VIVAT International (also on behalf of Edmund Rice International), Women's Human Rights International Association, World Barua Organization, World Evangelical Alliance, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

211. At the 29th meeting, on 10 March 2021, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, China, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Ukraine made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

212. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

D. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Human rights, democracy and the rule of law

213. At the 48th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Romania (video statement), also on behalf of Morocco, Norway, Peru, the Republic of Korea and Tunisia,

introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.2, sponsored by Morocco, Norway, Peru, the Republic of Korea, Romania and Tunisia, and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Albania, Armenia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Panama, the Philippines, the Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand and Timor-Leste joined the sponsors.

214. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines made a general comment on the draft resolution.

215. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/4).

The negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights

216. At the 48th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Azerbaijan, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, except Colombia and Peru, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.4, sponsored by Azerbaijan, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, except Colombia and Peru. Subsequently, the Russian Federation joined the sponsor.

217. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, Cuba, the Russian Federation, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement) made general comments on the draft resolution.

218. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia (video statement), Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Brazil (video statement), Mexico (video statement) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In the statement, the representative of Armenia disassociated the member State from the consensus on the eighteenth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution.

219. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Eritrea, Fiji, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Abstaining:

Armenia, Mexico

220. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 30 votes to 15, with 2 abstentions (resolution 46/5).

Freedom of religion or belief

221. At the 48th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Portugal (video statement), on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.5,

sponsored by Portugal, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Fiji, Georgia, Israel, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, San Marino, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Andorra, Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Japan, the Marshall Islands, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Tunisia joined the sponsors.

222. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba made a general comment on the draft resolution.

223. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/6).

Human rights and the environment

224. At the 48th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Costa Rica (video statement), also on behalf of Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia and Switzerland, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.6/Rev.1, sponsored by Costa Rica, Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia and Switzerland, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Fiji, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Nepal, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Andorra, Angola, the Bahamas, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Canada, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, the Marshall Islands, the Niger, Norway, Panama, Poland, the Republic of Korea, the Sudan, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Tunisia and Vanuatu joined the sponsors.

225. At the same meeting, the representatives of Germany and Indonesia made general comments on the draft resolution.

226. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

227. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/7).

Effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights

228. At the 48th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.10, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Belarus, Egypt, Fiji, Namibia, the Philippines and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, the Dominican Republic, Eswatini, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Qatar, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

229. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

230. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Eritrea, Fiji, Gabon, India,

Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Marshall Islands, Mexico

231. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 28 votes to 14, with 4 abstentions (resolution 46/8).⁷

Mandate of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights

232. At the 48th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.12, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Austria, Belarus, Chile, China, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Greece, Luxembourg, Mexico, Paraguay, the Philippines, Portugal, Spain, the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Algeria, Andorra, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eswatini, Guatemala, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Qatar, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Uruguay, Vanuatu and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

233. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

234. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/9).

Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights

235. At the 48th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Portugal (video statement) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.13, sponsored by Portugal and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Paraguay, Peru, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Ukraine and the United States of America. Subsequently, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Canada, Costa Rica, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Honduras, Iceland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Maldives, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, the Republic of Moldova, South Africa, the Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Uruguay, Vanuatu and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

236. At the same meeting, the representatives of China and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

237. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/10).

⁷ The delegation of Mauritania could not cast a vote due to a technical problem. Subsequently, the representative of Mauritania stated that the delegation had intended to vote in favour of the draft text.

The negative impact of the non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin to the countries of origin on the enjoyment of human rights, and the importance of improving international cooperation

238. At the 49th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.14, sponsored by Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Ecuador and Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States). Subsequently, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Dominican Republic and Pakistan joined the sponsors.

239. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cuba, Libya, Mauritania, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and the Sudan made general comments on the draft resolution.

240. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

241. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Japan, Mexico (video statement) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

242. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Japan, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Eritrea, Fiji, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Mexico

243. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 31 votes to 14, with 2 abstentions (resolution 46/11).

Mandate of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism

244. At the 49th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.15, sponsored by Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America. Subsequently, Albania, Andorra, Brazil, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Japan, Lithuania, Panama, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Timor-Leste, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

245. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

246. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/12).

Promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of human rights

247. At the 49th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of China introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.22, sponsored by China and co-sponsored Belarus, Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cambodia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Dominican Republic, Eritrea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Thailand joined the sponsors.

248. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil (video statement), Cuba, Eritrea and the Russian Federation made general comments on the draft resolution.

249. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

250. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), India, Japan, Mexico (video statement) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

251. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Eritrea, Gabon, Indonesia, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Fiji, Libya, Malawi, Uzbekistan

252. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 26 votes to 15, with 6 abstentions (resolution 46/13).

Ensuring equitable, affordable, timely and universal access for all countries to vaccines in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic

253. At the 49th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representatives of Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) and Ecuador introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.25/Rev.1, sponsored by Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) and Ecuador, and co-sponsored by Paraguay. Subsequently, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

254. At the same meeting, the representative of Azerbaijan orally revised the draft resolution.

255. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), China, India, Mexico (video statement), the Philippines and Uruguay made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

256. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

257. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In the statement, the representative of Armenia disassociated the member State from the consensus on the twelfth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution as orally revised.

258. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 46/14).

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment: the roles and responsibilities of police and other law enforcement officials

259. At the 49th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Denmark (video statement) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.27, sponsored by Denmark and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Andorra, Costa Rica, Eswatini, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Somalia, the Sudan, Timor-Leste and Tunisia joined the sponsors.

260. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a general comment on the draft resolution.

261. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/15).

Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy

262. At the 49th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representatives of Brazil (video statement) and Germany (also on behalf of Austria, Liechtenstein and Mexico) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.28, sponsored by Austria, Brazil, Germany, Liechtenstein and Mexico, and co-sponsored by Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Albania, Armenia, Australia, Botswana, Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Iceland, Maldives, New Zealand, Panama, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America joined the sponsors.

263. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines made a general comment on the draft resolution.

264. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

265. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/16).

The right to food

266. At the 50th meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.11, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Belarus, China, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Algeria, Andorra, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eswatini, Greece, Indonesia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Monaco,

Mongolia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Qatar, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Vanuatu and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

267. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba orally revised the draft resolution.

268. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

269. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 46/19).

High-level panel discussion on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the Work of the Human Rights Council

270. At the 50th meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Switzerland, also on behalf of Australia, the Bahamas, Barbados, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Guyana, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mauritius, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Senegal, Singapore, the Sudan, Togo, Turkey and Vanuatu, introduced draft decision A/HRC/46/L.23, sponsored by Australia, the Bahamas, Barbados, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Guyana, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mauritius, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Senegal, Singapore, the Sudan, Switzerland, Togo, Turkey and Vanuatu, and co-sponsored by Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Haiti, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Montenegro, Paraguay, the Philippines, Romania, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, the Niger, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of Korea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, the United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Zambia joined the sponsors.

271. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cuba, India, Indonesia, the Philippines and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made general comments on the draft decision.

272. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft decision.

273. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft decision without a vote (decision 46/115).

274. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), India and Nepal made general comments and statements in explanation of vote after the vote on all of the resolutions adopted under agenda item 3.

IV. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

A. Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

275. At the 29th meeting, on 10 March 2021, the Chair of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Marta Valiñas, provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/20, an oral update.

276. At the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement as the State concerned.

277. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria (video statement), Brazil (video statement), China, Cuba (video statement), Czechia (video statement), Denmark (video statement), Eritrea, France, Germany (video statement), Japan (video statement), Marshall Islands (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Peru⁸ (also on behalf of Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama and Paraguay) (video statement), Poland (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus (video statement), Burundi, Colombia (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Iceland (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua (video statement), Peru (video statement), Portugal (video statement), Spain (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Human Rights Watch, International Bar Association, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Service for Human Rights, United Nations Watch, World Organization against Torture.

278. At the same meeting, the member of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission, Francisco Cox, answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

B. Interactive dialogue on the oral update of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

279. At the 30th meeting, on 11 March 2021, the High Commissioner provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/20, an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

280. At the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement as the State concerned.

281. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina (video statement), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil (video statement), China, Cuba (video statement), Japan (video statement), Peru⁸ (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus,

⁸ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Uruguay;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua (video statement), Peru (video statement), Slovakia (video statement), Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Amnesty International, Asociación HazteOir.org, Caritas Internationalis – International Confederation of Catholic Charities, Center for Justice and International Law, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Ingénieurs du monde, International Commission of Jurists, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, United Nations Watch.

282. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

C. Interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi

283. At the 30th meeting, on 11 March 2021, the Chair of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, Doudou Diène, gave, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/19, an oral briefing.

284. At the same meeting, the representative of Burundi made a statement (in-person statement) as the State concerned.

285. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the members of the Commission of Inquiry questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon, China, Cuba (video statement), France, Netherlands (video statement), Norway⁸ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), South Sudan, Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), United Republic of Tanzania (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Amnesty International, Centre pour les droits civils et politiques (Centre CCPR), CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, International Service for Human Rights, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

286. At the same meeting, the Chair and a member of the Commission of Inquiry, Françoise Hampson, answered questions and made concluding remarks.

D. Interactive dialogue with the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan

287. At the 30th meeting, on 11 March 2021, the Chair of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, Yasmin Sooka, presented the Commission's report (A/HRC/46/53).

288. At the same meeting, the representative of South Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.

289. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2021, the following made statements and asked the Chair and the members of the Commission questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon, China, Eritrea, France, Germany (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Norway⁸ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Australia, Belgium (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (video statement), Ethiopia, Ireland (video statement), Kenya, New Zealand (video statement), Sierra Leone, Switzerland (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Elizka Relief Foundation, Human Rights Watch, Legal Action Worldwide, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

290. At the same meeting, the Chair and members of the Commission, Barney Afako and Andrew Clapham, answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

E. Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic

291. At the 31st meeting, on 11 March 2021, the Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 43/28 and 44/21, the reports of the Commission (A/HRC/46/54 and A/HRC/46/55).

292. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

293. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair and the members of the Commission of Inquiry questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Austria (video statement), Bahrain (video statement), Brazil (video statement), China, Cuba (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Italy, Japan (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Philippines, Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Uruguay (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Australia (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Chile (video statement), Croatia (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Costa Rica and Liechtenstein) (video statement), Cyprus (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Greece (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Israel (video statement), Jordan, Kuwait (video statement), Malta (video statement), Nicaragua, Qatar (video statement), Romania

(video statement), Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Turkey, United Arab Emirates (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Institute for NGO Research, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Palestinian Return Centre, Ltd., Physicians for Human Rights, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Evangelical Alliance, World Jewish Congress.

294. At the 31st meeting, on 11 March 2021, the Chair and a member of the Commission of Inquiry, Hanny Megally, answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

295. At the same meeting, the representatives of Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

F. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

296. At the 27th meeting, on 9 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Javaid Rehman, presented his report (A/HRC/46/50).

297. At the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement as the State concerned.

298. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Czechia (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Australia (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Burundi (in-person statement), Canada (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ireland (video statement), Israel (video statement), New Zealand (video statement), Nicaragua, North Macedonia (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America (video statement);

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Baha'i International Community, British Humanist Association, Ensemble contre la peine de mort, International Bar Association, International Federation of Journalists, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International PEN, Iran Human Rights Documentation Center, Right Livelihood Award Foundation.

299. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

300. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Saudi Arabia and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

301. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Saudi Arabia made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

302. At the 29th meeting, on 10 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Tomás Ojea Quintana, presented his report (A/HRC/46/51).

303. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China, Cuba (video statement), Czechia (video statement), France, Indonesia, Japan (video statement), Republic of Korea, Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Burundi, Cambodia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland (video statement), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua (video statement), Norway (video statement), South Sudan, Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America (video statement), Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Center for Global Nonkilling, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Jubilee Campaign, People for Successful Korean Reunification, United Nations Watch, US Committee for Human Rights in North Korea.

304. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

305. At the 31st meeting, on 11 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Thomas Andrews, presented his report (A/HRC/46/56).

306. At the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar made a statement as the State concerned.

307. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 33rd meeting, on 12 March 2021, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), China, Czechia (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Italy, Japan (video statement), Libya (video statement), Lithuania⁸ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Malawi, Marshall Islands (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Australia (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Canada (video statement), Croatia (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives (video statement), New Zealand (video statement), Romania (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Sierra Leone, Singapore (video statement), Spain (video statement), Sweden (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Thailand (video statement), Turkey (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Physicians for Human Rights.

308. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

G. General debate on agenda item 4

309. At the 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2021, the Director of the Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division of OHCHR presented, pursuant to Council resolution 43/25, the report of the High Commissioner on promoting accountability in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (A/HRC/46/52).

310. At the same meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/26, an oral update on the Secretary-General's initiative to take concrete action based on the recommendations contained in the report entitled "A brief and independent inquiry into the involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar from 2010 to 2018", and on progress made in the implementation of follow-up action to enable more effective work in the future and to strengthen the prevention capacity of the United Nations system.

311. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar made a statement as the State concerned.

312. At the same meeting, and at the 34th meeting, on 15 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 4, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Austria (video statement), Azerbaijan⁸ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Belarus⁸ (also on behalf of Burundi, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Cameroon, China, China (also on behalf of Belarus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, the Russian Federation, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), China (also on behalf of Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cambodia, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe), Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba (also on behalf of Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, the Congo, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kiribati, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine), Cuba (video statement), Czechia (video statement), Denmark (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Eritrea, Finland⁸ (also on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia,

Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Indonesia, Japan (video statement), Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Mexico, Namibia (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Pakistan (video statement), Philippines, Poland (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) (in-person statement), Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Slovenia⁸ (also on behalf of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden) (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of Belarus, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic and Zimbabwe);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Canada (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Cyprus (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Egypt (video statement), Estonia (video statement), Finland (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Ghana (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland (video statement), Israel (video statement), Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Madagascar (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Malta (video statement), Norway (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), South Africa, South Sudan, Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Sweden (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United States of America (video statement), Vanuatu (video statement), Viet Nam, Zambia;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action of Human Movement (AHM), Africa culture internationale, African Green Foundation International, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain, Inc., Amnesty International (also on behalf of International Service for Human Rights), Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asociación HazteOír.org, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Association internationale pour l'égalité des femmes, Association Thendral, Baha'i International Community, Baptist World Alliance, British Humanist Association, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Amnesty International, East and Horn Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Freedom House, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Service for Human Rights, Lawyers for Lawyers and Minority Rights Group), Caritas Internationalis – International Confederation of Catholic Charities, Center for China & Globalization Limited, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, China NGO Network for International Exchanges, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Chinese Association for International Understanding, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la Charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples (CIRAC), Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), Conectas Direitos Humanos, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Conselho Indigenista

Missionário, Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, “Coup de pouce” Chaîne de l’espoir Nord-Sud, Earthjustice, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Edmund Rice International, Elizka Relief Foundation, European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l’homme, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches and VIVAT International), Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad, Geo Expertise Association, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Human Rights House Foundation, Human Rights Now, Human Rights Watch, Il Cenacolo, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Ingénieurs du monde (also on behalf of United Nations Watch), Institut international pour les droits et le développement, Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG), International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Career Support Association, International Commission of Jurists, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (also on behalf of Amnesty International, International Service for Human Rights and CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation), International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities (also on behalf of International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations), International Federation of Journalists, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International-Lawyers.org, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, New Humanity and International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES International)), International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Iraqi Development Organization, Iuventum, eV, Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnat Va Salamat Iranian, Japan Society for History Textbook, Jeunesse étudiante tamoule, Jubilee Campaign, Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Le pont, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Next Century Foundation, Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development, Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, Peace Brigades International Switzerland (also on behalf of Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH)), Prahar, Presse emblème campagne, Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l’homme, Réseau international des droits humains, Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Sikh Human Rights Group, Society for Threatened Peoples, Soka Gakkai International (also on behalf of Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation), Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality, Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund (also on behalf of CIDSE and Conselho Indigenista Missionário), Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers, Franciscans International, International Service for Human Rights, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH) and World Organization against Torture), Tamil Uzhagam, Tourner la page, United Nations Association of China, United Nations Watch, US Committee for Human Rights in North Korea, Villages unis/United Villages, VIVAT International (also in behalf of Edmund Rice International), Women’s Human Rights International Association, World Barua Organization, World Evangelical Alliance (also on behalf of Christian Solidarity Worldwide and Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches), World Muslim Congress, World Organization against Torture.

313. At the 35th meeting, on 15 March 2021, the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil (video statement), Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China (video statement), Cuba, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, India (video statement), Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Japan, Lebanon, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation (video statement), Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Sudan, Thailand and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

314. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Japan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

H. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

315. At the 49th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Portugal (video statement), on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.7, sponsored by Portugal, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, Costa Rica, Georgia, Honduras, Iceland, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of) and the Republic of Moldova joined the sponsors.

316. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a general comment on the draft resolution.

317. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made a statement as the State concerned.

318. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

319. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, Cuba, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In the statements, the representatives of China, Cuba, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) disassociated the respective member States from the consensus on the draft resolution.

320. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/17).

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

321. At the 49th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the representative of Iceland (video statement), also on behalf of North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.9, sponsored by Iceland, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and the United States of America. Subsequently, Andorra, Costa Rica, the Marshall Islands, Monaco and Romania joined the sponsors.

322. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made a general comment on the draft resolution.

323. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement as the State concerned.

324. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

325. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil (video statement), China, Cuba, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

326. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Pakistan, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Eritrea, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Against:

Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay

327. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 21 votes to 12, with 14 abstentions (resolution 46/18).

Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath

328. At the 50th meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Portugal (video statement), on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.19, sponsored by Portugal, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Australia, Canada, Japan, Liechtenstein, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Albania, Costa Rica, Iceland and New Zealand joined the sponsors.

329. At the same meeting, the representative of Belarus (video statement) introduced amendments A/HRC/46/L.32, A/HRC/46/L.33, A/HRC/46/L.34, A/HRC/46/L.35, A/HRC/46/L.36 and A/HRC/46/L.37 to the draft resolution.

330. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendments A/HRC/46/L.38, A/HRC/46/L.39, A/HRC/46/L.40, A/HRC/46/L.41, A/HRC/46/L.42, A/HRC/46/L.43 and A/HRC/46/L.44 to the draft resolution.

331. At the same meeting, the representative of China introduced amendment A/HRC/46/L.45 to the draft resolution.

332. Amendments A/HRC/46/L.32, A/HRC/46/L.33, A/HRC/46/L.34, A/HRC/46/L.35, A/HRC/46/L.36 and A/HRC/46/L.37 were sponsored by Belarus and co-sponsored by China and the Russian Federation. Amendments A/HRC/46/L.38, A/HRC/46/L.39, A/HRC/46/L.40, A/HRC/46/L.41, A/HRC/46/L.42, A/HRC/46/L.43 and A/HRC/46/L.44 were sponsored by the Russian Federation and co-sponsored by Belarus and China. Amendment A/HRC/46/L.45 was sponsored by China and co-sponsored by Belarus and the Russian Federation.

333. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement on the proposed amendments to the draft resolution.

334. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay made general comments on the draft resolution, as well as on the proposed amendments.

335. At the same meeting, the representative of Belarus made a statement as the State concerned.

336. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution. The Chief of Programme Support and Management Services of OHCHR made a statement on the budgetary implications of the draft resolution.

337. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.32.

338. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.32. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan

339. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.32 by 20 votes to 7, with 20 abstentions.

340. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.33.

341. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.33. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Eritrea, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

342. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.33 by 19 votes to 7, with 21 abstentions.

343. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.34.

344. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.34. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Eritrea, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

345. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.34 by 19 votes to 7, with 21 abstentions.

346. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.35.

347. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.35. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

348. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.35 by 19 votes to 7, with 21 abstentions.

349. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.36.

350. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.36. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

351. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.36 by 19 votes to 11, with 17 abstentions.

352. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.37.

353. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.37. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

354. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.37 by 20 votes to 8, with 19 abstentions.

355. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.38.

356. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.38. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Indonesia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan

357. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.38 by 20 votes to 10, with 17 abstentions.

358. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.39.

359. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.39. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

360. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.39 by 19 votes to 11, with 17 abstentions.

361. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.40.

362. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.40. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan

363. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.40 by 20 votes to 8, with 19 abstentions.

364. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.41.

365. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.41. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

366. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.41 by 19 votes to 8, with 20 abstentions.

367. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.42.

368. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.42. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

369. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.42 by 19 votes to 8, with 20 abstentions.

370. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.43.

371. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.43. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

372. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.43 by 19 votes to 11, with 17 abstentions.

373. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.44.

374. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.44. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

375. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.44 by 19 votes to 10, with 18 abstentions.

376. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Cuba and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/46/L.45.

377. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/46/L.45. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Libya, Malawi, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

378. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/46/L.45 by 18 votes to 12, with 17 abstentions.

379. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, the Russian Federation (video statement) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

380. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Russian Federation, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Against:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Eritrea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan

381. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 20 votes to 7, with 20 abstentions (resolution 46/20).

Situation of human rights in Myanmar

382. At the 50th meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Portugal (video statement), on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.21/Rev.1, sponsored by Portugal, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Somalia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Andorra, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Costa Rica, Honduras, the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Korea joined the sponsors.

383. At the same meeting, the representative of Portugal, on behalf of the European Union, orally revised the draft resolution.

384. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Bangladesh and Indonesia made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

385. At the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar (video statement) made a statement as the State concerned.

386. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

387. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, Eritrea, Japan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In the statements, the representatives of China, Eritrea, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) disassociated the respective member States from the consensus on the draft resolution as orally revised.

388. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 46/21).

Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

389. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Qatar and Turkey, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.24, sponsored by France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Qatar, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and co-sponsored by Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and the United States of America. Subsequently, Albania, Andorra, Austria, Botswana, Costa Rica, Greece, Iceland, Japan, Libya, the Marshall Islands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

390. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

391. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic (video statement) made a statement as the State concerned.

392. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

393. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Armenia (video statement), Brazil (video statement), China, Cuba, Mexico (video statement), the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

394. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Russian Federation, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Italy, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Against:

Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Senegal, Sudan, Uzbekistan

395. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 27 votes to 6, with 14 abstentions (resolution 46/22).

Situation of human rights in South Sudan

396. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of Albania, Norway and the United States of America, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.29/Rev.1, sponsored by Albania, Norway, the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern

Ireland, and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Canada, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, New Zealand, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and Ukraine. Subsequently, Denmark and the Netherlands withdrew their original co-sponsorship. Subsequently, Andorra, Costa Rica, Denmark, Honduras, Hungary, Monaco, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

397. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland orally revised the draft resolution.

398. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution as orally revised.

399. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

400. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Denmark, Eritrea, the Netherlands, the Sudan, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

401. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

Against:

Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Eritrea, Gabon, Libya, Mauritania, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Somalia, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, India, Indonesia, Malawi, Namibia, Nepal, Senegal, Togo, Uzbekistan

402. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised by 20 votes to 16, with 11 abstentions (resolution 46/23).

403. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of the Philippines, the Russian Federation and Uruguay made general comments and statements in explanation of vote after the vote on all of the resolutions adopted under agenda item 4. In the statement, the representative of the Philippines disassociated the member State from the consensus on the draft resolution.

V. Human rights bodies and mechanisms

A. Forum on Minority Issues

404. At the 39th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Fernand de Varennes, presented the recommendations adopted by the Forum on Minority Issues at its thirteenth session, held on 28 and 29 November 2019 on the theme “Hate speech, social media and minorities” (A/HRC/46/58).

B. Social Forum

405. At the 39th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations and co-Chair-Rapporteur of the 2020 Social Forum, Vaqif Sadiqov, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 41/24, the report containing the conclusions and recommendations of the 2020 Social Forum, held on 8 and 9 October 2020, which focused on good practices, success stories, lessons learned and current challenges in combating poverty and inequalities (A/HRC/46/59).

C. Special procedure mandate holders

406. At the 39th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Chair of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures, Anita Ramasastry, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council decision 2/102, the report on the activities of special rapporteurs/representatives, independent experts and working groups of the special procedures of the Council (A/HRC/46/61 and Add.1) and the communications report of the special procedures (A/HRC/46/3).

D. Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

407. At the 39th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the President referred to the report submitted by the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on its thirteenth session, held from 30 November to 4 December 2020 (A/HRC/46/72).

E. General debate on agenda item 5

408. At its 39th meeting, on 17 March 2021, and its 40th meeting, on 18 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 5, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria (video statement), Azerbaijan⁹ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Cameroon (also on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Cuba (video statement), Germany (video statement), India (also on behalf of Belarus, Cambodia, China, Cuba, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe) (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Italy, Japan (video statement), Latvia⁹ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Luxembourg⁹ (also on behalf of Belgium and the Netherlands) (video statement), Morocco⁹ (also on behalf of Angola, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Georgia, Haiti, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Paraguay, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Seychelles, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia and Uruguay) (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Pakistan (video statement),

⁹ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Philippines (video statement), Philippines (on behalf of ASEAN) (video statement), Portugal⁹ (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Togo (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Costa Rica (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Jordan, Kazakhstan (video statement), South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNESCO (video statement);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Africa culture internationale, Amnesty International, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association Thendral, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Center for Africa Development and Progress, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), Elizka Relief Foundation, European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation, International Action for Peace & Sustainable Development, International Commission of Jurists, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iuventus, eV, Jeunesse étudiante tamoule, Jubilee Campaign, Le pont, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Minority Rights Group, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Organisation mondiale des associations pour l'éducation prénatale, Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development, Partners For Transparency, Prahar, Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Tamil Uzhagam, Universal Rights Group, World Muslim Congress.

409. At the 40th meeting, the representatives of China, Cuba and Ethiopia made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

VI. Universal periodic review

410. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/251, Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, Council decision 17/119 and President's statements 8/1 and 9/2 on modalities and practices for the universal periodic review process, the Council considered the outcome of the reviews conducted during the thirty-sixth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, held from 2 to 13 November 2020.

411. In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the President stated that all of the recommendations must be part of the final outcome of the universal periodic review and that, accordingly, the State under review should clearly communicate its position on all of the recommendations by indicating that it either "supported" or "noted" them.

A. Consideration of the universal periodic review outcomes

412. In accordance with paragraph 14 of President's statement 8/1, the section below contains a summary of the views expressed on the outcome of the review by the State under review and by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council, and general comments made by other stakeholders before the adoption of the outcome by the Council in plenary session. The statements of the delegations or other stakeholders that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Council.¹⁰

Belarus

413. The review of Belarus was held on 2 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Belarus in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/BLR/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/BLR/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/BLR/3).

414. At its 36th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Belarus (see sect. C below).

415. The outcome of the review of Belarus comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/5), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/BLR/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

416. The delegation stated that it was satisfied with the results of the universal periodic review of Belarus, in which representatives of 13 State structures in Belarus and of its Permanent Mission in Geneva had participated. It noted the high interest of States in the review of the human rights record of Belarus and it noted that the majority of the States had positively assessed the efforts of Belarus to implement the recommendations of the second

¹⁰ See <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/46session/Pages/default.aspx>.

cycle. That served as a good motivation to step up efforts further regarding the results of the third cycle.

417. Despite its call not to politicize the universal periodic review process and to formulate constructive recommendations, there were countries that had not done so. As a consequence, Belarus had had to reject many recommendations of a similar type, the formulation of which had been clearly motivated by political ambitions. With regard to those recommendations, the people and the Government of Belarus had all the necessary means and institutions to solve the issues of the country's political development on their own. That also applied to the national consensus on the future development of the country, including constitutional reform. External interference and pressure on Belarus, including through the United Nations, was counterproductive and had no prospects for improving the climate in the sphere of human rights. Some of the recommendations had not been supported because they contained factually incorrect statements.

418. Belarus would continue to explore the possibility of extending its international obligations in the area of international human rights treaties. Belarus was among the countries that had the lowest number of reservations to international human rights treaties.

419. Belarus had not supported the adoption of country-specific resolutions without the consent of the Governments of the States concerned. It firmly believed that country-specific initiatives did not represent long-term effective solutions to the promotion and protection of human rights. In that context, the delegation recalled that Belarus did not consider itself bound by politicized country-specific resolutions on Belarus, such as Human Rights Council resolutions 45/1 and 44/19, nor by similar decisions of regional organizations.

420. Belarus reaffirmed its interest in continuing to cooperate with OHCHR and the thematic special procedures of the Human Rights Council within the framework of their mandates and on the basis of national interests and priorities. It would continue to explore the possibility of expanding the list of mandates to which a standing invitation would be issued.

421. Belarus would continue to consider the need to establish a human rights institution in the country and the question of continuing the national dialogue on a moratorium on the death penalty or its abolition.

422. Belarus remained committed to its obligations under the human rights treaties to which it was a party and it would continue to maintain a broad expert dialogue with human rights treaty bodies, as well as develop its cooperation with United Nations agencies in order to strengthen its capacity and national capabilities.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review

423. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Belarus, 13 delegations made statements.

424. Ethiopia welcomed the acceptance by Belarus of the recommendation it had made on maintaining the best practice of providing compulsory education free of charge for all children and intensifying the State's follow-up on the implementation of the national plan of action with regard to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

425. Germany remained deeply concerned about the ongoing deterioration of human rights in Belarus and particularly about the lack of accountability for human rights violations, especially by the security forces. Germany reiterated its recommendation to conduct an independent investigation into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, including an effective and verifiable process for holding accountable all those who were responsible, and immediately and unconditionally release all political prisoners.

426. India (video statement) appreciated the constructive engagement of Belarus during the review process and the desire of Belarus to continue to consider the feasibility of establishing a human rights institution in the country in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).

427. The Islamic Republic of Iran recognized the Government's outstanding efforts to combat trafficking in persons and to support victims of trafficking.

428. Lithuania (video statement) encouraged Belarus to support a much bigger number of recommendations provided by States Members of the United Nations, including the five recommendations made by Lithuania. That might help, at least partially, to alleviate the unprecedented human rights crisis in Belarus, depicted in the most recent report by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/HRC/46/4).

429. Nepal welcomed the measures taken by Belarus towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through the establishment of institutional and coordination mechanisms for the effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. It welcomed the initiatives to increase the representation of women in Parliament and in public sectors.

430. Pakistan encouraged Belarus to continue its efforts to strengthen socioeconomic safety nets, including access to education and health care.

431. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted the progress achieved by Belarus in the promotion and protection of human rights, especially in the area of socioeconomic rights and the protection of the rights of women, children and other vulnerable groups.

432. Sri Lanka (video statement) welcomed the ratification by Belarus of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It commended the provision of free medical care and the implementation of the national preventive health-care project for students of higher education institutions. It also welcomed the measures taken to improve the system for protecting children from violence.

433. The Syrian Arab Republic considered that the expression of interest by Belarus to cooperate with OHCHR and the thematic special procedures of the Human Rights Council should be met by objective steps by OHCHR to continue a constructive dialogue.

434. The United Arab Emirates (video statement) noted the political will and efforts of Belarus to promote and protect all human rights and to give an impetus to achieve development and social justice in the country. It commended the national efforts to coordinate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

435. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement) was deeply concerned about the continuing human rights violations in Belarus and the Government's refusal to engage with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus. The report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made it clear that the human rights crisis was of a magnitude unprecedented in Belarus. The United Kingdom regretted that Belarus had not accepted its recommendations to remove restrictions on fundamental freedoms and independent media, to release those unjustly detained and investigate all reports of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and to fully implement the recommendations of the independent report by the Moscow Mechanism of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. It urged Belarus to take action to improve the human rights situation, to engage fully with the United Nations and the international community, and to implement the recommendations accepted during the universal periodic review.

436. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) appreciated the achievements made by Belarus during the period under review, especially in the field of economic, social and cultural rights, despite the interference in its internal affairs and the illegal unilateral coercive measures imposed by some Western powers.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

437. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Belarus, six other stakeholders made statements.

438. The Right Livelihood Award Foundation (video statement) stated that, since August 2020, more than 30,000 persons had been detained and over 2,400 criminal cases had been initiated on political grounds. About 1,000 of those persons were either in prison or under house arrest. The use of disproportionate force against peaceful protesters, as well as torture

and other forms of ill-treatment, was systematic and widespread. In recent months, the authorities had arbitrarily detained human rights defenders and journalists. Lawyers had had their licences revoked. The organization welcomed all of the universal periodic review recommendations that sought the full cooperation of Belarus with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus and OHCHR. It also welcomed those recommendations that urged the authorities to conduct impartial investigations into human rights violations committed after the elections, as well as those that called for accountability for the perpetrators of those crimes and the release of all political prisoners. In the absence of an effective, independent and impartial accountability mechanism to carry out investigations into all human rights violations, impunity would continue to be the norm and there would be no justice for the people of Belarus. The organization also echoed all of the recommendations relating to the protection of human rights defenders in order to ensure that they could carry out their legitimate activities without fear of retaliation and prosecution.

439. The Human Rights House Foundation (video statement) highlighted that Belarus actively pursued policies that exacerbated the already serious human rights violations. It emphasized that, if the recommendations from previous universal periodic review cycles had been implemented, it would have been unlikely that Belarus would now be facing the biggest human rights crisis in its post-independence history. Since 2015, there had been no significant changes in the legislative and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights. While legislative amendments had been made, they were not consistent with international human rights obligations. Despite repeated calls, Belarus had not established a national human rights institution, had refused to cooperate with the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus for nearly a decade, and had often shown contempt for the recommendations of the treaty bodies, including requests of the Human Rights Committee for urgent interim measures. The organization recommended that the Government stop criminal investigations of, and raids on the homes of, human rights defenders and their organizations, including Viasna and its employees, for carrying out their legitimate human rights work. It also recommended that the Government stop criminal investigations of and reprisals against organizations, such as the Office for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, for their cooperation with the United Nations office in Minsk. It furthermore recommended that the Government stop the coordinated and ongoing attacks against journalists, drop charges against those being prosecuted, and exonerate those journalists who had been sent to prison for having conducted their legitimate activities.

440. The International Bar Association (video statement) strongly condemned the numerous, widespread human rights violations committed in the aftermath of the presidential election in Belarus in 2020. It expressed particular concern about the disproportionate use of force by security forces against peaceful protestors, the arbitrary arrest and detention of thousands of people, who had been denied access to a lawyer, the systematic torture and ill-treatment following arrest or during detention, and reports of enforced disappearances. It was also concerned about the systematic control of the executive over the judiciary and the court system in general. The judiciary continued to use legislation selectively to intimidate dissenting voices, and the executive tightly controlled the licensing and activities of lawyers working under threat of being targeted. The organization was furthermore concerned about the illegal and arbitrary restrictions on fundamental rights and freedoms, including the right to peaceful assembly, free expression and access to information. It urged Belarus to immediately and unconditionally release all individuals arbitrarily detained and to stop any practices of torture and ill-treatment of detainees. It urged Belarus to undertake impartial, independent, effective and prompt investigations into allegations of human rights abuses. It also urged Belarus to bring perpetrators to justice and ensure effective remedy and reparations for victims. It urged Belarus to allow professionals, including legal and media professionals, to conduct their work without fear of targeting, and to ensure respect for and the practice of all human rights, including free expression, online and offline, and provide unconstrained access to information for all. It also urged Belarus to adopt all the measures necessary to prevent further human rights violations, without any further delay.

441. Amnesty International (video statement) noted that, after the presidential election in August 2020, protests had continued to be violently suppressed and an estimated 30,000 people had been arbitrarily arrested, often by armed, masked, unidentified men using excessive force. It urged Belarus to reconsider its rejection of the recommendations relating

to freedom of peaceful assembly and to respect that right, including by putting an end to police violence and immediately and unconditionally releasing all those arbitrarily arrested or imprisoned. It further noted that at least four protesters had died and hundreds of detainees had testified to having been subjected to or having witnessed torture and other ill-treatment, including sexual and gender-based violence. As yet, not a single criminal case had been brought against any law enforcement officer. It urged Belarus to reverse its rejection of the recommendations to investigate all allegations of torture or other ill-treatment and other human rights violations and to ensure that suspected perpetrators were brought to justice. In that regard, it emphasized that Belarus must investigate all such allegations of torture and other ill-treatment, without delay. Moreover, it regretted that Belarus had rejected the recommendations to lift restrictions on the right to freedom of expression. It noted that hundreds of opposition figures, human rights defenders, journalists and others expressing dissenting opinions continued to be detained on trumped-up charges or sentenced to prison terms following unfair trials in order to prevent them from carrying out their work, including the documentation of human rights violations. It called upon Belarus to bring its legislation and practice into line with its international obligations, and to immediately and unconditionally release all those imprisoned solely for having exercised their right to freedom of expression. It further urged Belarus to implement the rejected recommendations to cooperate fully with mandated reporting mechanisms and United Nations special procedures.

442. Advocates for Human Rights (video statement) expressed concern that domestic violence remained a problem in Belarus. In 2018, one out of three women murdered had been killed by family members. Domestic violence was not a crime and the President had vetoed stronger legislation. Victims might not report abuse for fear that their children would be taken away. Accountability was weak, as police often detained perpetrators for only a few days. Laws created obstacles for women to divorce their abuser if they were pregnant or had a child in common under 3 years of age. Protective orders lasted only 3 to 30 days. A victim must also experience two acts of violence within a single year before the court could issue a protective order. Emergency orders did not exist, and it took three days to issue a protective order, during which time the victim was unprotected and vulnerable. Victim services were inadequate. There were only five private shelters and a shortage of State-sponsored crisis rooms. A victim must have a referral to access those facilities. The organization further expressed concern about human rights abuses following the presidential elections in 2020. Women detained following the election had experienced sexual violence, threats of violence and verbal abuse. Furthermore, the Government had targeted several women human rights defenders. The organization recommended that Belarus amend the Criminal Code to criminalize domestic violence, including the breach of a protective order, and make those crimes subject to public prosecution. It recommended that Belarus allow victims to apply for emergency protective orders and increase access to shelters and crisis rooms for all victims by removing the referral requirement and by providing adequate funding. It also recommended that Belarus take steps to ensure the protection of freedom of expression and freedom from arbitrary deprivation of liberty for women human rights defenders.

443. United Nations Watch (video statement) stated that, in August 2020, after a rigged presidential election, hundreds of thousands of people had gone to the streets to demonstrate in protest. President Lukashenko had unleashed a crackdown with a level of brutality unseen in Europe for decades. The police had indiscriminately used tear gas and rubber bullets against peaceful protesters. Hundreds had been tortured in police precincts and detention centres. At least four people had been killed, 33,000 had been detained and 1,800 criminal cases had been opened against activists. After months of sustained repression, President Lukashenko had continued his violent crackdown on peaceful protesters, pro-democracy activists and journalists. Supporters of human rights worldwide objected to the adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

444. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 266 recommendations received, 137 had enjoyed the support of Belarus and 111 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another 18 recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations had been supported and which parts had been noted.

445. The delegation of Belarus stated that, during the third cycle, Belarus had shown that it continued to pay great attention to human rights issues as an integral part of its State policy. Belarus pursued a socially oriented policy that aimed to support individuals and socially vulnerable groups in society.

446. According to the UNDP Human Development Report 2020, Belarus was in the group of 66 countries with a high level of human development and it ranked fifty-third among 189 countries in the human development index.

447. Belarus did not agree with most of the assessments made by a number of non-governmental organizations. It would continue to urge them to take a broader look at human rights issues and to reach out to different representatives of civil society, not just those that considered themselves wronged.

448. Belarus acknowledged that there were human rights areas for further improvement and it was consistently working on them. That work would be undertaken by the Government outside the political pressure currently exerted on the country, including within the Human Rights Council, and attempts to interfere in its internal affairs. Belarus was open exclusively to respectful dialogue and cooperation.

Libya

449. The review of Libya was held on 11 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Libya in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/LBY/1 and Corr.1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/LBY/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/LBY/3).

450. At its 36th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Libya (see sect. C below).

451. The outcome of the review of Libya comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/17), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/17/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

452. The delegation (video statement) reaffirmed the firm commitment of Libya to respect and promote human rights as a matter of constitutional and religious obligation, stemming from the teachings of the Islamic law that necessitated respect for human dignity, and it took the opportunity to renew the State's commitment to take all legal and practical measures to promote human rights.

453. The delegation expressed the State's full support for the universal periodic review mechanism as an international platform that provided for an exchange of the best national practices and experiences in promoting respect for human rights, reflecting the spirit of cooperation among the international community within the framework of respecting the cultural specificity of each country in accordance with the provisions of Human Rights Council resolution 21/3 of 2012.

454. During the thirty-sixth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, Libya had received 285 recommendations, which had been discussed and considered by a number of relevant national bodies in order to develop policies to ensure their implementation, in accordance with constitutional principles. The delegation was pleased to announce that most of the recommendations had been accepted by Libya.

455. The conditions that Libya had been going through during the transitional phase, since the outbreak of the revolution on 17 February 2011, and the subsequent political and institutional divisions and foreign interference had impeded the ability of successive Governments to fulfil their human rights obligations and had resulted in increased human rights violations. In spite of all that, the State had renewed its determination to move forward with the implementation of previous pledges and recommendations accepted. To that end, the Government had been working to create a permanent national human rights mechanism that would be responsible for reporting and follow-up, while coordinating the Government's efforts to implement the recommendations accepted.

456. Many of the recommendations received during the review urged the Government to engage in a political process that would lead to a ceasefire and end political divisions. Since the universal periodic review in November 2020, Libya had witnessed major developments in the political and security arenas. A ceasefire had been reached the previous October and a military committee, known as the "5 + 5 committee", emanating from talks in Berlin, had begun its work and was about to take additional measures that contributed to strengthening security.

457. On the political level, consultations between the Libyan parties had culminated in the establishment of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum, sponsored by the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, whose sessions had taken place in Geneva from 13 to 16 January 2021.

458. The transitional justice process constituted an ideal platform for addressing human rights violations by providing judicial mechanisms, ensuring accountability for those responsible, providing redress mechanisms for victims and ensuring the non-recurrence of grave human rights violations. The Government had been working to remove all legal and material obstacles to the process of accountability, as was highlighted by the Council of Ministers' approval of the executive regulations stemming from Law No. 29 of 2013 on transitional justice.

459. Fighting impunity and holding accountable those responsible for crimes and violations was an important matter that would lead to the protection of human rights and the prevention of future violations. The Government had been working to ensure that the competent judicial authorities worked impartially and effectively, despite the difficult circumstances.

460. The hardships faced by Libya had adversely affected the capacities of the judicial and police authorities to exercise their competencies. In order to protect the rights of victims, including the right to justice and fairness, the Government had taken the initiative to request the Human Rights Council to establish a fact-finding commission to investigate human rights violations having taken place on Libyan territory. The Government looked forward to collaborating with that body.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

461. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Libya, 13 delegations made statements.

462. Qatar (video statement) commended Libya for its efforts to abide by its human rights commitments, welcomed the formation of the Government of National Unity and expressed the hope that it would lead to a comprehensive political solution and to presidential and legislative elections that would meet the expectations of the Libyan people for the unity of the country. Qatar encouraged the Government to accept the recommendations made during the interactive dialogue in a bid to strengthen the State's national vision and international commitments.

463. The Russian Federation (video statement) positively noted the acceptance by Libya of a great number of recommendations, including those made by the Russia Federation in relation to the improvement of the functioning of the penitentiary system and the alignment of national legislation with the provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Despite the difficult situation, Libya had taken steps aimed at the promotion of human rights, which showed the readiness of the country to work together with international monitoring mechanisms. In that respect, the Russian Federation expressed satisfaction with the release in May 2019 of Russian citizens detained in the country.

464. Senegal praised the commitment of Libya to human rights, as highlighted by the ratification of numerous international conventions, most notably the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Senegal commended the progress achieved by Libya to promote social and economic development in the country, despite the significant challenges the State faced. In that respect, Senegal encouraged Libya to continue its work, especially in strengthening the legal, judicial and administrative framework, and to provide the resources necessary for the protection of human rights.

465. Sierra Leone commended Libya for having sworn in the new unity Government and it welcomed the State's decision to accept the majority of the recommendations received during the third universal periodic review, including those made by Sierra Leone on reforming detention facilities to ensure the humane treatment of migrants and other detainees, as well as the greater participation of women and minorities. Sierra Leone expressed confidence that the new Government would remain committed in its efforts to strengthen human rights institutions and mechanisms, with the aim of promoting and protecting all human rights.

466. South Africa expressed its appreciation to Libya for having accepted the recommendation contained in paragraph 148.1 and it encouraged Libya to positively consider the recommendations contained in paragraphs 148.99 and 148.182, concerning the strengthening of the legislative and administrative measures on all forms of discrimination, in particular racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. South Africa further encouraged Libya to accelerate measures against smugglers, traffickers and slavers, and to end the sale of humans into slavery and forced labour.

467. The Sudan (video statement) thanked Libya for its continued cooperation with the Human Rights Council and the universal periodic review in particular. The Sudan positively noted the acceptance by Libya of the majority of the recommendations received during the review, which underscored the State's commitment to human rights.

468. Tunisia (video statement) commended Libya for its keenness to cooperate with the United Nations, expressed its satisfaction with the progress made on the path of implementing the road map emanating from the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum, held in Tunis in November 2020, and congratulated Libya on the new Government. Tunisia affirmed its full confidence in the ability of Libya to consolidate the foundations of peace and stability by establishing permanent institutions, which would open to the two countries broader prospects for cooperation and an integrated partnership.

469. UN-Women (video statement) welcomed the commitments of Libya to support gender equality and women's empowerment and it supported the recommendations to repeal discriminatory laws and to ratify all outstanding international human rights instruments and remove reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It encouraged full cooperation with the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya and the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). It expressed concerns about the threats and personal risks faced by Libyan women and it reiterated the need for the immediate protection of women participating in political forums.

470. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by Libya of the recommendations it had made and it called upon the Government to end the exploitation of migrants and refugees in detention centres and to work towards closing them. It urged Libya to work towards the full, equal and meaningful participation of women, including in conflict resolution and decision-making, and to cooperate fully with the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya, including by

facilitating unrestricted and unfettered access throughout Libya and by addressing the persistent climate of impunity.

471. UNFPA (video statement) commended the acceptance by Libya of several recommendations on gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls, and the rights of young people, and it expressed its willingness to support the Libyan authorities and civil society organizations in implementing the recommendations. It acknowledged the priority given to women's empowerment and protection and the development of the national strategy on reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health. UNFPA would remain a committed partner in the response and recovery relating to the COVID-19 pandemic for a more resilient, inclusive and equitable Libya for all.

472. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) stated that, in 2011, it had denounced the serious consequences of the military aggression of some powers against Libya to appropriate its resources, which had claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. Libya faced challenges due to the humanitarian situation derived from the prolongation of the armed conflict. It expressed the hope for the restoration of the conditions that would pave the way for lasting peace in Libya, with solutions in accordance with international law that guaranteed the end to the escalation of violence.

473. Viet Nam thanked Libya for having accepted its two recommendations, on promoting peace and security in order to facilitate the enjoyment of human rights of its people and on publicizing and realizing the right to development. Viet Nam positively noted the commitment of Libya to implement the State's pledges and to take an inclusive approach to promoting and protecting human rights, despite the many challenges, from political and institutional division to armed conflict.

474. Algeria (video statement) thanked Libya for working towards strengthening human rights protection and it supported the dialogue between different factions in the country and the restoration of the country's political institutions. Algeria encouraged Libya to continue its cooperation with human rights instruments and the treaty bodies in order to fully realize human rights in the country and it recommended the adoption of the report.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

475. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Libya, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

476. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (video statement) noted that the issue of women's meaningful participation in the State's formal decision-making processes had not been prioritized. It urged the Government and other actors to take meaningful measures to ensure the effective participation of women and young people in peace and in political and reform processes. It noted the continued violence against human rights defenders and women peacebuilders and it called for justice for all women peacebuilders who had been assassinated in Libya. It strongly regretted the State's noting of the recommendations calling for the ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty and other disarmament treaties, which were paramount to achieving sustainable peace.

477. The World Evangelical Alliance (video statement) regretted that none of the recommendations on freedom of religion or belief had been accepted, stressing the importance of respecting inalienable human rights and freedoms, including freedoms of conscience and of religion. It called upon Libya to recognize the right to freedom of religion or belief in line with article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. It also called for the repeal of article 291 of the Penal Code, which criminalized "public attacks on the official religion of the State" in unclear terms, leaving significant room for arbitrary interpretation, especially against Libyan Christian converts. It appealed to the Government to ensure freedom of conscience for all.

478. The Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (video statement) reiterated its support for the recommendations requesting Libya to cooperate with and give access to the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya and the International Criminal Court. It noted with concern the State's refusal of important recommendations such as lifting restrictions on civil society and protecting human rights defenders, the media and legal professionals. It

called upon Libya to urgently implement the recommendations on strengthening the legal protection of migrants, the protection of journalists and human rights defenders, the monitoring of the locations and legal status of all detainees and ending arbitrary detention for all.

479. The International Commission of Jurists (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by Libya of the recommendation to cooperate with and give full access to the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya. It regretted that Libya had only noted the recommendation to streamline its Penal Code with international standards, and the rejection of the recommendation to define clearly in the State's domestic legal system crimes under international law. It expressed concern about the immense impunity in Libya and the lack of the effective investigation and prosecution of crimes under international law, as well as the failure of Libya to accept the recommendations on the abolition of the death penalty.

480. The Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association (video statement) urged the new Government of Libya to use the next four years to focus on the serious implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations. It called upon the Government to cooperate with the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya and to facilitate visits to the detention centres for migrants and refugees. It stressed the importance of carrying out an immediate and transparent investigation into human rights violations, to ensure accountability and to end impunity.

481. The Next Century Foundation (video statement) welcomed the appointment of the new interim Government of National Unity and shared its eager anticipation of the national elections planned for the end of the year, adding that the new Government should ensure free and fair elections. It called for the inclusion of the State's minority groups in national peace and reform efforts, such as the constitutional drafting process. It recommended that the new Government consult all minority groups, especially the Amazigh, Tuareg and Tebu of southern Libya, so as not to leave anyone out of State-building and democratic processes.

482. Amnesty International (video statement) was alarmed by the frequency and seriousness of human rights abuses in Libya and the lack of accountability for the parties involved. It noted their failure to protect women and girls from assassinations, rape and other sexual and gender-based violence. It welcomed the acceptance by Libya of the recommendations on ending enforced disappearances, torture, including rape, arbitrary detention and the inhumane conditions of detention centres, and it called for their full implementation and holding those responsible for such crimes accountable. It called upon Libya to cooperate with and give access to the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya and the International Criminal Court and to review its position on acceding to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

483. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme (video statement) called upon all countries targeting oil and gas to end support for extremist militias and mercenary groups in order to respect the United Nations road map, and enable the new transitional Government to organize free and fair elections. It remained alarmed by the situation of African migrant workers who continued to suffer abuse and persecution in Libya and it called for measures to end such practices. It invited countries to decree a moratorium on executions and to permanently abolish the death penalty.

484. Ingénieurs du monde (video statement) was dismayed at the continued mistreatment of and lack of protection for refugees and migrants arbitrarily held in detention centres. It called upon Libya to ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and to protect the basic human rights of refugees. It was alarmed at the ongoing persecution of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens, with articles 407 and 408 of the Penal Code criminalizing same-sex relations and allowing for up to five years in prison. It called upon Libya to decriminalize homosexuality and to provide lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens with the legal freedoms they were entitled to under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

485. International-Lawyers.org (video statement) noted the need to establish an independent judicial mechanism to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of human rights violations. In addition, it shared extreme concern about the many arbitrary detentions without charges and the lack of independent complaint mechanisms for alleged torture in detention

centres. It encouraged Libya to take vigorous measures to end torture and ill-treatment. It highlighted the plight of refugees and migrants in detention centres who had been subjected to torture, abduction for ransom, trafficking and forced labour. It urged the Government of Libya to end those violations and to ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the Rome Statute and other human rights instruments.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

486. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 285 recommendations received, 181 had enjoyed the support of Libya and 104 had been noted.

487. In conclusion, the delegation of Libya (in-person statement) thanked all for their participation and contributions, promising to channel comments to the appropriate stakeholders for follow-up. Remarkable developments were taking place in the State's capital, where the internationally recognized Government was handing over power to the newly formed Government of National Unity in a peaceful political transition. That celebration marked the reunification of Libyans and the State's institutions since the conflict had started, following the successful ceasefire agreement negotiated in Geneva by the 5+5 Joint Military Commission to formally end the war. Those historic events would undoubtedly help to promote human rights.

488. Nonetheless, the delegation acknowledged that the task of bringing justice and true reconciliation to the Libyan people would be arduous. Accountability for violations of human rights laws and international humanitarian law would be at the forefront of the new Government, and the United Nations through its bodies and mechanisms would play a crucial role in supporting the new Government in accomplishing its goals.

489. The road map to sustainable peace in Libya would require strong efforts to ensure the exit of all foreign fighters and mercenaries from Libyan territories and the cooperation of neighbouring countries to secure the shared borders and to help to curb the flow of arms and terrorist activities.

490. In response to concerns raised during the adoption session, the delegation stated that the Libyan legal system prohibited discrimination on any grounds, especially against women, and allowed women to participate in political and economic life.

491. While acknowledging the challenges facing the Government in relation to mass migration and border control, the delegation stated that State policy protected the rights of all citizens and those living in the country and the Government had taken strong actions to combat those responsible for trafficking in persons and the mistreatment of migrants. The delegation made reference to the latest steps taken by the Government in that regard.

Malawi

492. The review of Malawi was held on 3 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Malawi in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MWI/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MWI/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MWI/3 and Corr.1).

493. At its 36 meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Malawi (see sect. C below).

494. The outcome of the review of Malawi comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/7), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/7/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

495. The delegation of Malawi stated that the universal periodic review had provided the opportunity to critically assess the progress that had been made in promoting and protecting human rights. It had also facilitated a self-assessment and reflection on the challenges faced in that regard.

496. During the review in November 2020, Malawi had conveyed its position on the many recommendations received. Those recommendations that the Government had been confident could be implemented due to their alignment with the country's values and virtues, the national agenda, and the constitutional, legal and institutional framework had enjoyed the support of Malawi.

497. Following the review, the position taken on each recommendation had been further examined through an open, transparent and inclusive process involving the constructive engagement of all stakeholders, including government ministries, departments and agencies, the Malawi Human Rights Commission and civil society organizations. That process had led to the State's support for the recommendations relating to sexual and reproductive health rights, which had been noted during the review.

498. A solid constitutional, legal, administrative and policy framework was key for the full enjoyment of human rights. As demonstrated during the review and in many State reports, Malawi had a solid and progressive Constitution ably supported by a wide range of legislation.

499. Malawi had embarked on a review of its laws to ensure their alignment with the Constitution and with international human rights standards. A review of some of the laws by the Malawi Law Commission had been completed and had resulted in the drafting of bills that were being submitted to Parliament. Those included a bill on adoption, a bill on sentencing guidelines, and bills harmonizing the age of the child in all laws and ensuring compliance with the definition of the child in the Constitution.

500. Malawi had strong, effective and accessible institutions, as envisaged in Sustainable Development Goal 16, which included the Malawi Human Rights Commission, the Malawi Law Commission, the Office of the Ombudsman, the Legal Aid Bureau and the Anti-Corruption Bureau. The Government remained committed to ensuring the progressive capacitation and continued effectiveness of those institutions. In addition, new institutions had been established, including the Independent Police Complaints Commission to provide oversight over the police, and the National Children's Commission to champion the rights of the child. The section on human rights in the Ministry of Justice would be transformed into a fully fledged national mechanism for reporting and follow-up.

501. As highlighted in the national report, many policies, action plans and strategic plans had been adopted and built on the constitutional, legal and institutional human rights framework. Recently, the Government had adopted the national action plan on rape and defilement.

502. Malawi had largely attained civil and political rights. There was a free press and a thriving civil society and people freely expressed themselves through protests, assemblies and demonstrations. Detention without trial was inconceivable and the judiciary was free and fiercely independent. However, challenges remained.

503. After more than 50 years of political independence, the focus of Malawi had now shifted to attaining economic independence for its people. The Government was working towards ensuring the enjoyment of social and economic rights in the country. In that regard,

a national development plan entitled “Malawi 2063” had been adopted and was aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

504. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Malawi, 13 delegations made statements.

505. The Sudan (video statement) thanked Malawi for its constructive engagement with the Human Rights Council, particularly the universal periodic review mechanism. It congratulated Malawi on having supported a large number of recommendations and it noted with satisfaction that the recommendations made by the Sudan had been supported. It wished Malawi success in implementing the recommendations supported.

506. Tunisia (video statement) noted with appreciation that Malawi had supported 192 recommendations out of the 232 recommendations received. It noted with satisfaction that Malawi had supported the recommendations made by Tunisia. It applauded Malawi for the steps taken in the areas of strengthening the human rights system, adopting national laws and strategies to combat trafficking in persons, regulating family relations, preventing child marriage and reducing poverty. The commitment of Malawi to cooperate with the universal periodic review mechanism reflected the country’s commitment to advancing reforms in accordance with the State’s international obligations.

507. UN-Women (video statement) welcomed the steps taken by Malawi to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment and it encouraged the Government to continue its efforts to accelerate transformative change for gender equality. It welcomed the efforts to advance the protection of the rights of girls and women through the revision of legislative and policy frameworks and the constitutional amendment that raised the minimum age of marriage and criminal responsibility from 16 to 18 years. It commended Malawi for the development of the national strategy on ending child marriage (2018 to 2023) and the Gender Equality Act implementation and monitoring plan.

508. UNFPA (video statement) stated that it was reassured that Malawi would continue to work on a number of crucial recommendations to further empower women and adolescent girls and advance their sexual and reproductive health and rights. A human rights-based approach to social development expanded opportunities for girls and women. UNFPA noted the strong commitment of the Government to maintain the continuity of sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning, during the COVID-19 pandemic. It looked forward to working with Malawi to implement the recommendations received.

509. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the cooperation of Malawi with the universal periodic review mechanism and the efforts made to implement the recommendations from the previous review. It welcomed the legislative reforms to strengthen the protection of human rights, including the enactment of the act on the National Children’s Commission, the law against trafficking in persons and the land law. It commended Malawi for its efforts to protect the rights of the child.

510. Botswana (video statement) noted that the Constitution of Malawi had been amended to increase the age of the child from 16 to 18 years and it commended the State for the continued efforts to protect the rights of children, including by ensuring birth registration and eradicating child marriage, trafficking in children and child labour. It welcomed the fact that Malawi had supported both recommendations made by Botswana and it encouraged Malawi to continue to work towards the implementation of all the recommendations supported.

511. Burkina Faso (video statement) thanked Malawi for the presentation and it welcomed the efforts made to implement the recommendations from the previous review, in particular those pertaining to legal reforms, increasing the age of majority, combating discrimination against persons with HIV and cracking down on crime. It commended Malawi for having established guidelines on gender equality and for having supported most of the recommendations received, including those made by Burkina Faso.

512. Burundi (in-person statement) commended Malawi for its determination to implement the recommendations the State had supported. It noted the efforts made by Malawi to combat

trafficking in persons, ensure compulsory birth registration and combat child marriage, improve access to justice and address violence against persons with albinism. Burundi commended Malawi for having increased the age of majority to 18 years in compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

513. Chad commended Malawi for having supported the majority of the recommendations received and it wished Malawi success in the implementation of the recommendations.

514. China welcomed the active participation of Malawi in the universal periodic review process. It commended Malawi for its growth and development strategy to promote economic and social development and gender equality, guarantee the rights of vulnerable groups, improve the quality of primary and secondary education, strengthen the health-care system and combat trafficking in persons. China expressed the hope that Malawi would continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, reduce poverty, improve peoples' living standards, combat child marriage, child labour and trafficking in children, and continue to implement the national strategy on community health.

515. Côte d'Ivoire thanked Malawi for the additional information provided. It congratulated Malawi on having supported many of the recommendations received and on the efforts made to strengthen the rule of law.

516. Cuba (video statement) congratulated Malawi on having supported a high number of recommendations, including the recommendations made by Cuba. It encouraged Malawi to continue to protect the rights of children and adolescents, and to continue to work towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment. It noted the commitment of Malawi to the universal periodic review mechanism and congratulated Malawi on the progress achieved, despite the challenges the State faced as a developing country. Cuba wished Malawi success in implementing the recommendations supported.

517. Egypt (video statement) noted that Malawi had supported most of the recommendations received during the review, including the three recommendations made by Egypt. That was indicative of the positive spirit of cooperation Malawi had with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, as well as the Government's determination to continue its relentless efforts to enhance respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Egypt wished Malawi success in implementing the recommendations supported.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

518. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Malawi, eight other stakeholders made statements.

519. Centre pour les droits civils et politiques (Centre CCPR) (video statement), highlighted some of the most pressing issues faced by the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community, including the criminalization of consensual same-sex sexual activity, hate crimes and physical violence. It expressed alarm at the mental health problems experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, which were attributed to stigmatization, and at the lack of legal recognition. It called upon Malawi to address those issues, in accordance with the State's obligations under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

520. The World Evangelical Alliance (video statement) welcomed the fact that Malawi had supported the recommendations on combating trafficking in persons and the adoption of the law against trafficking in persons of 2015 and the national plan of action against trafficking in persons for 2017–2022. It called upon Malawi to continue its efforts to tackle trafficking in persons and it urged the Government to involve key actors from communities, such as village leaders, in the fight against trafficking in persons.

521. Plan International, Inc. (video statement) noted that the Government had shown its commitment to disseminate the recommendations received, to hold several stakeholder sessions and to develop a plan to implement the recommendations. In liaison with the Ministry of Justice and other stakeholders, it was keen to support the process of ensuring the enactment of the bill on the harmonization of laws. It looked forward to working with the relevant government ministries on the implementation of those recommendations on

eliminating teenage pregnancy, child and forced marriage, trafficking in children and child labour.

522. Action Canada for Population and Development (video statement) regretted that Malawi had noted those recommendations on decriminalizing same-sex conduct. It expressed concern about the conditions of sex workers, which had worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic. It urged Malawi to ensure that the rights of all people were respected, to decriminalize all aspects of voluntary sex work and to repeal the laws that criminalized lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and those who worked with the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community.

523. The International Bar Association (video statement) expressed concerns about the systematic use of torture by the police, the death penalty and the criminalization of same-sex relations. It called upon Malawi to abolish the death penalty, criminalize torture and ill-treatment, and prohibit the use of forced confessions as evidence. It urged the State to decriminalize consensual same-sex sexual activity among adults, investigate allegations of torture and ensure effective reparation to the victims, and prosecute alleged perpetrators for attacks on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, in line with international human rights standards.

524. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (video statement) stated that Malawi had restricted freedoms of assembly, association and expression, and that human rights defenders were subjected to smear campaigns, judicial persecution and detention. The pledges made during the previous review to investigate all cases of the harassment and intimidation of journalists and human rights defenders had not been fulfilled. It called upon Malawi to ensure that there was civic space for human rights defenders, journalists and all members of civil society.

525. Amnesty International (video statement) regretted that Malawi had noted those recommendations concerning the abolition of the death penalty and the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. It encouraged Malawi to reconsider its position on the abolition of the death penalty. It expressed concern that Malawi had noted those recommendations on decriminalizing consensual same-sex relations and on prohibiting discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. It noted that prisons remained overcrowded and were dilapidated, and it urged Malawi to improve prison conditions, including by decongesting prisons and protecting detainees from torture and ill-treatment.

526. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme (video statement) remained concerned about the lack of implementation of the act on access to information. It was also concerned about trafficking in persons, and it urged Malawi to take appropriate measures in order to ensure the enactment of legislation to effectively address trafficking in persons. It encouraged Malawi to take further steps to strengthen laws against child labour in order to strengthen the protection of the rights of the child. It urged Malawi to fight against political abuse, gender-based violence and discrimination against, and the marginalization of, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

527. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 232 recommendations received, 192 had enjoyed the support of Malawi and 39 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on one recommendation, indicating which part of the recommendation had been supported and which part had been noted.

528. The delegation appreciated the thoughtful and constructive dialogue and it welcomed the honest assessment of the human rights record of Malawi by all participating delegations. In response to the comments received, the delegation stated that Malawi was a de facto abolitionist country and that there had been a moratorium on the death penalty since 1994. Malawi had overcome the challenges of guaranteeing civic space, the right to hold demonstrations and freedom of assembly. Although the act on access to information was to

have come into force in 2020, that had been delayed due to the lack of implementing guidelines, which were being drafted.

529. The delegation conveyed the commitment of Malawi to implement those recommendations that had enjoyed the State's support. The recommendations would be disseminated as soon as possible and a meeting with the stakeholders would be convened to develop an implementation plan, which would be aligned with existing human rights plans and initiatives. That plan would provide clear timelines and identify specific institutions responsible for the implementation of the recommendations.

530. The next cycle of the universal periodic review of Malawi would mark further progress in the promotion and protection of human rights in the country. The delegation thanked the Vice-President of the Human Rights Council, the secretariat and the troika with whom it had worked well to ensure the successful review of Malawi.

Panama

531. The review of Panama was held on 3 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Panama in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/PAN/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/PAN/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/PAN/3).

532. At its 37th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Panama (see sect. C below).

533. The outcome of the review of Panama comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/8), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/8/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

534. The delegation (video statement) stated that the protection of human rights was a fundamental principle to which all States had subscribed. In that regard, the main challenge for all States was how to convert the discourse of human rights into measurable public policies.

535. The recognition of rights was only the first step. It was essential to understand that human rights protection was not exhausted just by signing international conventions and local legislation that enshrined those principles. The recognition of human rights and the identification of their sphere or scope was only the first stage in the exercise of human rights protection. The second phase was the implementation of the guarantees for the protection of those rights – taking concrete measures aimed at guaranteeing that those rights were fully respected.

536. The third phase was the evaluation of those measures, in other words, to be accountable and responsible for the commitments that the State had acquired. Without a real enforceability mechanism to take responsibility for those human rights, it would be only halfway. That was why Panama valued the universal periodic review as a fundamental tool, which could ensure the analysis of the international obligations acquired in the field of human

rights, as well as the implementation of the measures aimed at guaranteeing respect for those rights.

537. The delegation reaffirmed that it was necessary to have governance systems in which all those responsible – institutions and organizations, public or private – should be held accountable and subject to laws that were promulgated and enforced in a manner consistent with international human rights standards. All countries faced challenges in order to comply with those international human rights standards. For instance, gaps in access to justice had persisted, especially for people who were victims of discrimination, and at the same time, much remained to be done to ensure the justiciability of human rights.

538. Equality and non-discrimination were two principles enshrined in numerous international instruments that emphasized equality in the enjoyment of all human rights and that forced States to develop specific approaches in public policies in relation to the most vulnerable groups, and especially those who were victims of multiple discriminations. That included women, persons with disabilities, people of different sexual orientations and gender identities, migrants, people in situations of poverty or social marginalization, people of African descent, those deprived of liberty, indigenous peoples, and persons belonging to ethnic, racial, national, linguistic, religious or rural groups, among others.

539. The delegation announced that Panama was promoting the ratification of the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Forms of Intolerance and of the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons. The international instruments would strengthen the legal system, aimed at preventing and correcting any type of discrimination, and would promote the fundamental guarantees of older persons in Panamanian domestic laws.

540. Another fundamental principle was the rights of the child, namely those rights to a dignified life free from all kinds of abuse and violence. As a State, Panama owed a debt to children and it was necessary to redouble efforts to find and ensure a system to prevent the violation of rights. The only way to deal with that debt was with a real, firm and measurable commitment, which should include coordinated actions, plans and budgets for different sectors in order to address the problem in a comprehensive manner.

541. All those principles, their approach and the measures that had been implemented and that were sought to be reinforced to guarantee respect for human rights required the clear commitment of the State.

542. During the third universal periodic review, 64 States Members of the United Nations had participated, making 181 recommendations, which had been examined with the support of the distinguished representatives of Chile, Nepal and Somalia, which had constituted the troika for the review of Panama. The delegation extended its deep appreciation to them for having accompanied and supported the delegation during the preparation of the report of the Working Group.

543. All of the recommendations received had been the subject of a process of internal consultations, which had the participation of the three State branches and various national institutions. Each recommendation had been examined and assessed in a comprehensive manner, and the State had recognized the need to coordinate national efforts.

544. After the 181 recommendations received had been examined, it had been identified that there had been congruence with the obligations established in internal legislation and with the existing policies, plans and programmes already being executed in the country. In that regard, Panama was committed as a nation to continue to advance in the implementation of the 146 recommendations accepted. The recommendations that the country had accepted were those whose spirit and principle coincided with those of the State, which were reflected in domestic legislation and on which Panama would be able to make progress; for the recommendations that had been noted, the State was still looking for the best way to follow up on them.

545. Panama had assumed the commitment to continue to progress on the follow-up and implementation of the recommendations accepted. The goal was to ensure that human rights were recognized and protected, and then that the measures to implement them were evaluated to ensure that they were being enforced and then to take the actions necessary.

2. General comments made by the national human rights institution of the State under review

546. The Office of the Ombudsman (Panama) (video statement) referred to the universal challenge regarding the full exercise of all human rights in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. It affirmed that it was necessary for the Government of Panama to adopt a protection mechanism and a number of public policies with specific actions aimed at favouring children, adolescents, women, people of African descent, indigenous peoples, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and migrants. In that regard, it referred to the required collaboration of all State entities and the unification of national efforts. It also referred to the necessity to have sufficient human and budgetary resources in order to be able to carry out those actions in a comprehensive manner and to effectively monitor each measure adopted. Lastly, it expressed its absolute willingness to work together with the State, other stakeholders and with the United Nations system in the country.

3. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

547. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Panama, 13 delegations made statements.

548. Oman (video statement) congratulated Panama on the report presented and on the methodology followed by the country regarding the third universal periodic review cycle. It welcomed the positive participation of Panama during the interactive dialogue and in general during the entire process. Oman thanked Panama for the positive acceptance of its recommendations. It expressed the hope that Panama would continue to achieve progress in the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations.

549. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted with satisfaction that Panama had accepted all of the recommendations made by the Russian Federation. They included improving the penitentiary system, adopting additional measures to address the problem of overcrowding in prisons, improving legislative mechanisms to protect the rights of indigenous peoples, and adopting and implementing programmes aimed at reducing the level of poverty. It noted that, despite the progress made, the human rights situation in the country had remained difficult.

550. Tunisia (video statement) renewed its appreciation for the steps taken by Panama since the previous review with the aim of further strengthening the human rights system, notably the legislation and public policies relating to supporting gender equality, protecting children and young people, the social integration of indigenous peoples, preventing ethnic and racial discrimination, reducing extreme poverty and supporting education and health services. Tunisia noted that the cooperation of Panama with the universal periodic review mechanism reflected the State's commitment to advance in accordance with its international obligations.

551. UNFPA (video statement) recognized the important progress that Panama had made in human rights, including in sexual and reproductive rights and the right to a life free from violence, and it reaffirmed that the commitments made at the Nairobi Summit on the International Conference on Population and Development in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development were an opportunity to advance in that regard. It expressed its willingness to assist Panama in areas such as the population and housing census, the United Nations Joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence.

552. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela appreciated that Panama had accepted the vast majority of the recommendations that it had constructively made; however, it noted the importance to reiterate the recommendation to ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169). It insisted that Panama end discrimination against indigenous peoples and guarantee the restitution of their ancestral lands. It encouraged Panama to reinforce its migration policies.

553. Belgium (video statement) noted with appreciation that Panama had accepted the recommendations to redouble efforts to reduce adolescent pregnancy through the implementation of a strengthened programme of comprehensive sexuality education and to

address the root causes of gender discrimination and stereotypical gender roles in the field of education. Belgium noted, however, that its recommendation to ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) had not been accepted and it invited Panama to reconsider that position.

554. Brazil (video statement) commended Panama for its openness and cooperation during the entire universal periodic review. It recognized the measures adopted by Panama to reduce poverty and social inequality and those taken in order to ensure the rights of vulnerable groups, such as indigenous peoples, children and persons with disabilities. Brazil welcomed the establishment of the national preventive mechanism against torture, as well as the information system aimed at identifying victims and perpetrators in cases of violence against women.

555. Botswana (video statement) commended Panama for the progress made in implementing recommendations from the previous universal periodic review, with several advances made, including the adoption of the Multidimensional Poverty Index, a public policy to prevent sexually transmitted diseases and the creation of the National Council for Gender Parity. Botswana commended Panama for having accepted many recommendations during the third cycle, in particular its two recommendations relating to racial discrimination and combating trafficking in persons.

556. Burkina Faso (video statement) commended Panama for the progress made and the implementation of universal periodic review recommendations from the second cycle, particularly those on enhancing national legislation and public policies. It commended Panama for its actions to combat discrimination and for the national strategy to eliminate violence against children and adolescents. Burkina Faso urged Panama to further promote awareness-raising campaigns on combating violence against women and girls.

557. China commended Panama for actively implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It also commended Panama for promoting socioeconomic development, for combating trafficking in persons, and for promoting the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. China also commended Panama for its measures to promote gender equality and social inclusivity.

558. Cuba (video statement) congratulated Panama on having accepted a large number of recommendations, including those made by Cuba. It encouraged Panama to continue to strengthen the health system and to promote the work of communities in areas relating to the rights of women, adolescents and children. Cuba also congratulated Panama on all of the achievements made since the previous universal periodic review, even in the challenging context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

559. India (video statement) appreciated that 146 recommendations had been accepted by Panama, including 4 recommendations made by India. It appreciated the constructive engagement by the delegation of Panama during the entire review, showing the strong commitment of the country regarding the universal periodic review. India noted the national strategic plan, with State Vision “Panama 2030”, for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. India commended the proactive actions taken by Panama to protect the rights of indigenous peoples.

560. Nepal appreciated that Panama had accepted most of the recommendations made during the third cycle, including the recommendations made by Nepal. It took positive note of the efforts made by Panama to introduce the Sustainable Development Goals into its public policies with the wider participation of different sectors of society. Nepal welcomed the State’s national strategic plan for 2019–2024, which focused on addressing new environmental challenges and updating policies on climate change and the conservation of biodiversity.

4. General comments made by other stakeholders

561. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Panama, six other stakeholders made statements.

562. The Center for International Environmental Law (video statement) noted that Panama had accepted some of the recommendations, but it was concerned that the State had left out

any commitment to ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169). It noted that the territories and rights of indigenous peoples were at risk because of energy, mining and tourism development, and especially the fourth line of the electric transmission project. As Panama failed to comply with its obligation to recognize indigenous peoples' lands, it violated the rights of the peoples whose lands were left outside and of those who lived in adjacent areas of the Comarca Ngäbe, Buglé and Campesinos, which had been created through Law No. 10 of 1997.

563. Alliance Defending Freedom (video statement) called upon Panama to continue to ensure adequate protection and respect for parental rights in education policies, including in determining the values and content of sex education programmes aimed at reducing early sexual debut and underage pregnancies. Those matters must be approached in a manner that did not undermine the primary role of parents. The organization, which was opposed to abortions, urged Panama to ensure the human rights of all people, including parents, children and the unborn. It noted that those rights should never be compromised in the name of any ideology, no matter how insistent its proponents.

564. Action Canada for Population and Development (video statement) stated that there was a lack of attention on the rights of sex workers with a comprehensive, intersectional perspective that recognized bodily autonomy. It asked for the full recognition of sex work as work, which would contribute to combating exclusion, discrimination and violence, affecting the rights to life, liberty, physical integrity, health and education. It called upon the Government of Panama to make legislative changes and to implement the necessary policies aimed at guaranteeing the human rights of all people, and especially those who suffered exclusion and discrimination and who were victims of systematic institutional violence, as in the case of sex workers.

565. The International Lesbian and Gay Association (video statement) respectfully requested Panama to consider the urgency of reviewing current policies in reference to the protection of the life and dignity of people of sexual diversity. It noted the urgency to design public policies and to create a law on anti-discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, seeking to reduce institutional violence, evidenced by the Supreme Court's lack of response to demands for the recognition of equal marriage and by excessive police violence, increased during the pandemic, against trans people.

566. The Center for Global Nonkilling (video statement) noted that intentional killings continued to be unacceptable and decisive policies were required for violence prevention, to allow for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 16. It recommended that Panama include the duty to prevent violence in the Constitution, as well as the human right to peace. It also recommended that Panama ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance without further delay.

567. Asociación HazteOír.org (video statement) noted that some countries had asked for the approval of so-called "gay marriage" without taking into account that Panamanian legislation had established marriage as the voluntary union between a man and a woman. It noted concern about the alleged discrimination against the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. It also stated that "comprehensive sexual education", requested by various States during the universal periodic review, would violate parental authority and the right of parents to educate their children.

5. Concluding remarks of the State under review

568. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 181 recommendations received, 146 had enjoyed the support of Panama and 35 had been noted.

569. The delegation (video statement) thanked everyone who had participated during the interactive dialogue, as well as the troika and the secretariat for their excellent work.

570. The delegation asserted that the Government of Panama maintained a firm and unequivocal interest in strengthening human rights at the national level and that the process emanating from the universal periodic review would continue to be a vital part of that work.

It reaffirmed that, since the previous universal periodic review, important steps had been taken to ensure full respect for all human rights in accordance with the State's international human rights obligations, but it recognized that there were still challenges. The work to achieve full respect for human rights was far from over, and Panama would continue to work tirelessly to achieve it. The promotion and protection of human rights was a priority for the Government of Panama.

571. The delegation concluded by stating that the universal periodic review process had provided a unique opportunity to address all human rights and to raise awareness of the importance of strengthening their national implementation.

Mongolia

572. The review of Mongolia was held on 4 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Mongolia in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MNG/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MNG/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MNG/3).

573. At its 37th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Mongolia (see sect. C below).

574. The outcome of the review of Mongolia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/9), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein, and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/9/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

575. The delegation (video statement) stated that Mongolia supported the universal periodic review as a vital instrument to undertake a review of, and to improve, the human rights situations at the national and international levels. Mongolia was a State party to eight of the core international human rights instruments, alongside the core ILO conventions on workers' rights. Mongolia would continue to fulfil its international human rights obligations consistently and actively contribute to strengthening the dialogue with international human rights mechanisms.

576. That year, Mongolia had scheduled the first visit of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and it looked forward to welcoming the Special Rapporteur to the country that spring.

577. During the review of Mongolia, which had taken place in November 2020, the State had received 190 recommendations, upon careful consideration of which Mongolia had supported 170 recommendations and noted 20 recommendations. Most of the recommendations supported were in the process of implementation or concurred with the broader policy objectives of the Government of Mongolia, and some of the recommendations had already been implemented.

578. Mongolia had noted 20 recommendations relating to: the recognition of the competence of the Committee against Torture to receive individual complaints; accession to international treaties such as the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of

All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its Protocol, the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness; giving legal recognition to same-sex couples; removing reference to the death penalty from the Constitution; and the adoption of a comprehensive anti-discrimination law. In that regard, some recommendations required further study and Mongolia would examine and give consideration to those recommendations, where feasible, at an appropriate time in the future.

579. Mongolia further updated the Human Rights Council on the developments that had taken place since the previous review. An open selection of the member of the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia in charge of torture prevention was announced by the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs of the State Great Hural (Parliament) on 10 December 2020 and the applications had been received over a period of 30 days until 10 January 2021. A total of six candidates had applied and the screening process was ongoing. The delegation underscored that the appointment of the commissioner in charge of torture prevention would constitute the establishment of the national preventive mechanism and enable the undertaking of independent action on torture prevention at the national level. Due priority would be accorded to strengthening the work of the national preventive mechanism. The draft law on the status of human rights defenders submitted to the State Great Hural in May 2020 had been discussed at a plenary meeting during the autumn session in 2020 and had been supported for listing for its initial hearing. Discussions would continue during its spring session in 2021. The revised law on courts had been approved by the State Great Hural on 15 January 2021 and had come into force on 1 March 2021. The revised law integrated four laws previously known as the “Judicial Package Law”, namely the Law on Courts, the Law on the Legal Status of Judges, the Law on Judicial Administration and the Law on the Legal Status of Judicial Citizens’ Representatives, adopted in 2012. The new law introduced a few important regulations aimed at improving the judiciary system, including by having set detailed selection procedures for the election of members of the Judicial General Council and the Judicial Disciplinary Committee, clarifying and expanding the rights and responsibilities of those institutions, and increasing the responsibility of judges while outlining more than 40 types of conduct that judges were prohibited from. The law established a balance of multi-stakeholder participation and oversight to prevent any political or business influence on the judiciary and its independence. The delegation emphasized that, with the adoption of the law, the goal of ensuring the right of citizens to a fair trial, to be free from torture and to create a system in which only the rule of law and ethics prevailed in the judiciary had progressed one step further.

580. The delegation underscored that the Government was developing a legal framework to ensure the right of citizens to information based on international best practices. Mongolia had drafted a revised law on information transparency and the right to information, which categorized data held by government organizations as public, limited and closed, with each one being regulated separately, and had set out detailed data protection regulations for public and limited data types. The Government had also prepared an initial draft of the law on personal data protection, pursuant to which the collection, processing and use of personal data would require permission from the owner, and personal data would be prohibited from being used for purposes other than their intended purpose when collected. The draft law also regulated relations between data collectors and providers, protected and prevented the disclosure of personal data, and provided a legal framework for organizations mandated to protect personal data.

581. The delegation highlighted that, currently, the State Great Hural was conducting, through its working group established at the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs, a review of the process of implementing the State’s international human rights obligations and of the recommendations provided by the treaty bodies. Policy recommendations and directions would be developed as a result of that endeavour in order to strengthen the national reporting and follow-up system and procedures, as well as for further legal reforms.

582. The Government was currently developing an action plan on the implementation of the recommendations supported, the process of which would further engage all the relevant stakeholders, including civil society, human rights non-governmental organizations and other

relevant entities. Mongolia was of the firm view that the promotion and protection of human rights could be achieved only through the active engagement of, and constructive dialogue among, all stakeholders at both the national and international levels.

583. Mongolia fully supported the work and competence of the human rights treaty mechanisms. It would continue to cooperate constructively with United Nations bodies, special procedures and mechanisms in the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations.

2. General comments made by the national human rights institution of the State under review

584. The National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia (video statement) commended the Government for the establishment of a national preventive mechanism in January 2020 in line with the obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. However, it regretted the absence of an independent party charged with the pacific investigation of allegations of torture. It welcomed the criminalization of all forms of discrimination by the new Criminal Code and it encouraged the Government to adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law that provided legal recognition and protection to same-sex couples. It stressed its strong intention to oppose any attempt to reintroduce the death penalty, which had been abolished *de jure* in 2015 but was still referenced in the Constitution of Mongolia.

3. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

585. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Mongolia, 13 delegations made statements.

586. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by Mongolia of its three recommendations, namely: to strengthen domestic legislation to ensure that all forms of modern slavery were criminalized, including criminalizing trafficking in persons in line with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; to adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections; and to protect freedom of expression by abolishing article 6.21 of the law on administrative offences. It also welcomed the commitment of Mongolia to implement activities aimed at protecting the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, migrant workers, stateless persons and persons with disabilities. It further commended the gender equality record of Mongolia and it supported the Government's efforts to end violence against women and girls and to increase women's economic empowerment. It underscored the importance of committing government resources to ensure that the existing anti-discrimination laws were fully implemented.

587. UNFPA (video statement) commended the Government of Mongolia for its commitment to protect the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls, including those with disabilities, by ensuring their access to sexual and reproductive health information, commodities and services, and to implement comprehensive sexuality education. It also commended the Government for its assurance to further implement the law against domestic violence, increasing the effectiveness of the law by allocating adequate resources and training programmes for the agents responsible for its implementation, and to promote greater cooperation between the sectors responsible for combating and reporting on domestic violence, which had become increasingly important during the COVID-19 pandemic. It emphasized that it would remain an entrusted partner in the recovery phase of COVID-19 to achieve the three zeros: zero preventable maternal mortality, zero unmet need for family planning and zero gender-based violence in Mongolia.

588. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that Mongolia had reduced its maternal mortality rate to 75 per cent, which had gone from 199 deaths to 26 per 100,000 live births, between 1990 and 2015. It also welcomed the successful implementation of the national open education programme "One Mongolia", with modern educational approaches and new

technology for lifelong learning through the Internet. It further recognized the efforts of the Government of Mongolia to comply with its human rights commitments, which had been reflected in the review.

589. Viet Nam (video statement) appreciated the acceptance by Mongolia of the two recommendations made by Viet Nam on welfare and social programmes to improve the quality of life of the people, particularly the most marginalized, and on the protection of the rights of the child. It commended Mongolia for the adoption and implementation of Vision 2050, a long-term policy that ensured human rights, freedom and equal opportunity for its citizens, and set forth various comprehensive goals to affirm the fundamental priorities set out in the State's sustainable development concept 2030.

590. Botswana (video statement) commended Mongolia for the progress made in various areas in the field of human rights, including the development of national human rights institutions, combating and preventing torture, and the promotion of children's rights. It also commended Mongolia for having accepted many recommendations of many delegations, including the two recommendations made by Botswana on the effectiveness of the mechanisms for the submission and investigation of complaints of torture, and on the prevention of the exploitation of child labour.

591. China welcomed the efforts of Mongolia to promote a sustainable economy, reduce poverty, strengthen social security, open rehabilitation centres for children, combat trafficking in persons, protect women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, and guarantee the rights to life and health for its people through the COVID-19 pandemic. It encouraged Mongolia to continue to promote economic development, reduce poverty, raise living standards and develop health-care provisions, including in rural areas.

592. Cuba (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by Mongolia of a large number of recommendations, including those made by Cuba. It encouraged Mongolia to make further progress in reducing poverty and strengthening public health-care services, in particular for women and children.

593. India (video statement) appreciated that Mongolia had accepted all three recommendations made by India. It also appreciated the constructive engagement of Mongolia during the review process and the progress made in harmonizing the State's national laws with the international treaties to which it was a party. It further appreciated the adoption and implementation of the long-term policy plan Vision 2050 to ensure human rights, freedom and equal opportunities for its citizens.

594. Iraq appreciated the acceptance by Mongolia of all three recommendations made by Iraq, which related to providing training to law enforcement officers to combat trafficking in persons, ensuring the independence of the judiciary and combating violence against children.

595. Nepal appreciated the acceptance by Mongolia of most of the recommendations received during the third universal periodic review cycle, including the two recommendations made by Nepal. It appreciated the implementation of the national strategy to improve maternal and child health and it applauded the achievements made in reducing child and maternal mortality. It welcomed the various legislative measures and welfare initiatives taken to address the needs of various groups of the population, including women, children and older persons, to promote equal participation in social life and the prohibition of discrimination.

596. Pakistan commended Mongolia for the acceptance of the vast number of recommendations, including those made by Pakistan. It appreciated the State's cooperation with the universal periodic review and other international human rights mechanisms, which reflected the commitment of Mongolia to promote and protect human rights.

597. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted with satisfaction that Mongolia had accepted an overwhelming number of recommendations, including those made by the Russian Federation. That step was proof of the responsible attitude of the Mongolian leadership to the issue of strengthening national capacity in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms. It also noted the successes achieved by Mongolia in the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as the willingness to cooperate with international human rights mechanisms. It commended Mongolia for the measures taken to implement

legislative and judicial reforms aimed at improving the administration of justice, as well as the Government's steps to protect and promote the rights and freedoms of vulnerable groups, including children, women, persons with disabilities and older persons.

598. Tunisia (video statement) appreciated the steps taken by Mongolia since the previous review in the framework of strengthening the human rights system, adopting national laws and strategies to combat trafficking in persons, regulating family relations, preventing child marriage and reducing poverty. The State's cooperation with the universal periodic review mechanism reflected the commitment of Mongolia to advance the reforms and efforts made in accordance with its international obligations.

4. General comments made by other stakeholders

599. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Mongolia, five other stakeholders made statements.

600. Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland (video statement) commended Mongolia for the improvements made towards the enjoyment of human rights by all people regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity. However, it stressed that those measures lacked implementation and commitment on the part of the Government, which had failed to draft and implement comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation. It noted that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons continued to face discrimination and hate crimes and that rights violations went unpunished. It urged the Government to increase efforts to ensure equality before the law and non-discrimination to everyone. It also suggested including the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community in the process of planning, implementing and evaluating human rights programmes.

601. The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (video statement) stated that human rights and environmental defenders in Mongolia continued to face threats and intimidation, and it urged the Government to develop a clear timeline for the adoption of the law protecting human rights defenders. It expressed alarm about recent developments that hindered freedom of expression. Mongolia should ensure that all legislation concerning civil society and non-governmental organizations was in line with international human rights standards and enabled them to operate without undue restrictions or fear of reprisals. It called upon Mongolia to increase efforts to protect the environment, including by developing a national action plan for the protection of human rights and the environment.

602. The International Service for Human Rights (video statement) urged Mongolia to protect human rights defenders from attacks and threats, investigate attacks against journalists and ensure perpetrators were brought to justice. It called upon the Government to adopt a draft law on human rights defenders that protected them from intimidation and harassment. It regretted that draft laws on human rights defenders had incorporated a provision restricting civic space, freedom of association, the right to freedom of information and expression, and the right to participate in public affairs. Mongolia should revise the draft law to bring it into conformity with international law.

603. Amnesty International (video statement) commended Mongolia for the acceptance of the recommendations on establishing an independent mechanism to prevent and investigate cases of torture, along with those on ensuring the independence of the judiciary. It urged Mongolia to withdraw the legal amendments that enabled the National Security Council to remove chief judges and head prosecutors. It called upon the national authorities to ensure effective protection to all human rights defenders in the country by adopting a law that safeguarded them regardless of their nationality. Mongolia should also reconsider its position on the ratification of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

604. United Nations Watch (video statement) commended Mongolia for the appointment by Parliament of an independent authority against corruption, but it regretted that, in 2019, the President had granted himself the power to dismiss said authority, together with the Prosecutor General and any judge, without any justification. It expressed alarm about the stigmatization faced by human rights defenders in the country, which were labelled as opponents of the State and undesirable troublemakers. It also expressed concerns about reports of discrimination, harassment and police intimidation, and the lack of legal protection

for human rights defenders. Mongolia must increase its efforts to protect human rights defenders and its commitment to respect human rights.

5. Concluding remarks of the State under review

605. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 190 recommendations received, 170 had enjoyed the support of Mongolia and 20 had been noted.

606. The delegation thanked all the delegations for their active participation and constructive recommendations. Mongolia was grateful that many delegations had welcomed its progress and achievements.

607. The recommendations and comments made during the review and at the session of the Human Rights Council would make a valuable contribution to the State's endeavours to ensure the effective promotion and protection of human rights in the country. The Government would exert every effort to implement the recommendations supported and give them full consideration while carrying out further legal reforms.

608. Mongolia noted the following statement made by the Speaker of the State Great Hural in his speech at the opening of the spring session, on 15 March 2021: "Mongolia is a democratic country that respects human rights. The rule of law can only be established if human rights are enshrined in every law. All laws, rules, regulations and measures that are enacted should be aimed at ensuring the rights of citizens and not violating them in any way. In light of this, the spring session will begin with the discussion of the draft law on the legal status of human rights defenders."

609. Mongolia stressed that it would continue its work to secure the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms while ensuring that no one was left behind.

Maldives

610. The review of Maldives was held on 4 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Maldives in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MDV/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MDV/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MDV/3).

611. At its 37th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Maldives (see sect. C below).

612. The outcome of the review of Maldives comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/10), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/10/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

613. The delegation of Maldives noted that, for that cycle, for the first time, Maldives was represented by a high-level ministerial delegation, with the Attorney General as the head of delegation, which demonstrated the unwavering commitment of the Administration of

President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih to renewed international engagement, as well as the importance placed on improving the situation of human rights in Maldives.

614. The delegation highlighted the remarkable achievements made in the areas of judicial reform and governance, the social protection and rights of vulnerable groups, and the protection of migrant workers' rights. The delegation also highlighted the efforts made in establishing rights-oriented law enforcement services and the commitment of the Government to ensure the unhindered promotion and protection of fundamental rights and freedoms enshrined in the Constitution.

615. Maldives had received a total of 259 recommendations from 95 member States. Among the 259 recommendations received, Maldives had accepted 187 recommendations, noted 67 recommendations and partially accepted 5 recommendations. Out of the 187 recommendations accepted, Maldives considered that 11 recommendations had already been implemented. The 67 recommendations noted related to issues that were inconsistent with the Constitution of Maldives, and some commitments were hindered due to the narrow resource envelope.

616. Nevertheless, the Government would remain steadfast in the provision of fundamental human rights and freedoms as provided for in the Constitution. Maldives would maintain its position on the unofficial moratorium on implementing the death penalty and would continue to make efforts to strengthen the right to freedom of expression and to further strengthen policies to improve the lives of migrant workers within its jurisdiction.

617. For the first time in Maldives, the positions on the recommendations had been deliberated by the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up of Maldives, established on 5 November 2020 with the President's endorsement. The national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up allowed for better inter-agency discussion and coordination. It replaced an outdated ad hoc practice and was a remarkable step forward in institutionalizing reporting in Maldives. In the coming days, the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up would collaborate with partner agencies and civil society in mapping out a comprehensive implementation plan. Maldives would take all the measures necessary to ensure that it was an inclusive and participatory process.

618. The delegation highlighted some of the accomplishments in the area of human rights since the review in November of the previous year, including the signing into law of the Transitional Justice Act, which had been at the committee stage in Parliament at the time of the review. The law, enacted on 17 December 2020, provided a redress mechanism for the systematic violations of human rights that had occurred in the past. The Human Rights Commission under the Act had been established on the same day. That mechanism would also allow the State to identify and remedy deficiencies in the human rights protection system.

619. In relation to the Government's commitment to promote rights-oriented law enforcement services, an overhauled Police Service Act had been enacted on 27 December 2020 and was expected to strengthen the internal governance of the police force and enable a community-oriented approach to service provision.

620. Furthermore, the Juvenile Justice Act, which had been enacted in November 2019, had come into force in November of the previous year. Since the commencement of the act, all children in conflict with the law were being afforded enhanced protection within a distinct track of the criminal justice system that emphasized restorative justice.

621. During the present year, the Government hoped to table significant bills at Parliament to further governance and judicial reform. In that regard, bills amending the Judicature Act and the Judges Act, the evidence bill, the legal aid bill and a bill on a media regulatory body had been earmarked for submission in 2021.

622. As a low-lying island State, environmental issues and climate change formed a vital component of human rights protection in the Maldivian context. The State's pledge to phase out single-use plastics would be translated into action, as the single-use plastics phase-out plan became effective in June that year. Maldives hoped to reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainable eco-friendly practices at all fronts and to achieve net-zero emissions as

early as 2030 with international aid. The country would also continue its efforts to shift to renewable energy options, preserve its natural ecosystems and implement measures to strengthen community resilience to climate change.

623. The country was still facing a number of challenges, including a lack of a trained workforce, budgetary deficiencies, a lack of necessary expertise that continued to hamper efforts for reform, and the lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy, which posed an impediment to developmental plans of Maldives.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

624. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Maldives, 13 delegations made statements.

625. Nepal (video statement) appreciated Maldives for having accepted most of the recommendations made during the third cycle of the universal periodic review and for its efforts to promote gender equality. Nepal commended Maldives for having adopted holistic measures to build climate-resilient infrastructure and for having developed a national strategic framework to mobilize international climate finance to address climate change.

626. Oman (video statement) welcomed the effective dialogue during the universal periodic review process and the positive response of Maldives to the recommendations.

627. Pakistan (video statement) commended Maldives for having accepted the majority of the recommendations, including the recommendations made by Pakistan during the session of the Working Group in November 2020. It appreciated the commitment of Maldives to promote and protect human rights, including through the strengthening of national human rights institutions and mechanisms. It hoped that Maldives would exert all efforts to implement its national human rights framework and strategic action plan.

628. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted with satisfaction that Maldives had accepted the majority of the recommendations made, including the recommendation of the Russian Federation on providing legislative and practical protection for the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons. It commended the measures taken by Maldives to strengthen the legal framework to protect children and provide gender equality on the basis of the principle of non-discrimination.

629. Sierra Leone commended the efforts of Maldives to strengthen independent institutions and the rule of law, to decentralize its governance architecture and to build resilient communities. It was particularly pleased with the measures taken by the Government to combat COVID-19, including by having reprioritized the existing strategic action plan to adapt and determine socioeconomic and governance policies for 2021–2022.

630. Sri Lanka (video statement) welcomed the acceptance of two of the three recommendations made by Sri Lanka to strengthen the implementation of the act on the prevention of trafficking in persons and to expedite the adoption of the maternal and child health bill. It also welcomed the ratification by Maldives of seven core human rights conventions and the renewal of its standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders.

631. The Sudan (video statement) commended Maldives for its continuous striving to promote fundamental human rights and it was pleased to know that Maldives had accepted the majority of the recommendations made during the review, including all of the recommendations made by the Sudan.

632. Tunisia (video statement) noted that Maldives had accepted 187 of the recommendations and had given a positive response to the recommendations made by Tunisia on gender equality and the protection of women against discrimination and violence, as well as the protection of the rights of the child. It welcomed the measures taken by the country on the promotion of human rights, including the national strategies to combat trafficking in persons.

633. The United Arab Emirates (video statement) welcomed the law of 2016 on gender equality and on guaranteeing the participation of women at all levels in society. It welcomed

the positive measures taken in all areas of human rights, and in particular the significant measures on the rule of law and on good governance.

634. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement) commended recent developments, particularly in the field of consolidating democracy, improving governance and promoting respect for human rights. It encouraged Maldives to continue that work and it hoped that ongoing judicial reforms would lead to greater access to justice and to effective prosecutions. It was pleased that Maldives had supported its recommendation to strengthen existing national legislation to ensure all modern slavery crimes were fully criminalized in line with international conventions. The United Kingdom stated that that was an important step to safeguard the most vulnerable and it hoped that changes to legislation would be implemented as soon as possible.

635. UNFPA (video statement) commended the commitment of Maldives to the enjoyment of human rights for all and for the support for several recommendations on gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls, and reproductive rights. It welcomed the Government's initiative to follow up on the Nairobi Summit on the International Conference on Population and Development through the national database for tracking human rights commitments in order to accelerate the International Conference on Population and Development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. It also commended Maldives for the development of the national strategy on reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health.

636. Vanuatu (video statement) congratulated the Government of Maldives on having accepted a large number of recommendations, including those made by Vanuatu on reconsidering reservations to article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and to accede to and implement the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its Protocol.

637. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that the Government had cooperated closely with the universal periodic review despite the significant challenges facing the country in terms of geographical remoteness and climate change. Maldives had nearly universal literacy, giving priority to quality education free of discrimination and ensuring access to primary and secondary education free of charge throughout its territory.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

638. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Maldives, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

639. The World Evangelical Alliance (video statement) affirmed that freedom of religion or belief belonged to inalienable human rights and freedoms, and it called upon the Government of Maldives to withdraw the reservation to article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to ensure respect for the right to have or to adopt a religion or belief of one's choice. It also called upon Maldives to repeal section 617 of the Criminal Code on "criticizing Islam", as the lack of specification of what was intended by the word "criticize" could lead to its application in arbitrary ways. It appealed to Maldives to ensure the freedom to manifest one's religion or belief in community and to have places of worship for all.

640. The Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (video statement) praised Maldives for having become one of only two Asian States to report nationally representative data on the prevalence of female genital mutilation, in line with indicator 5.3.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals. It called upon Maldives to enact legislation prohibiting all forms of female genital mutilation, including when carried out by health professionals; to urgently develop a fully costed, evidence-based, national action plan to end female genital mutilation with a focus on community-based programming and a multi-sectoral approach that was accessible, non-judgmental, rights-based and addressed harmful social and gender norms; to engage religious leaders, scholars and institutions to issue rulings or fatwas against all forms of female genital mutilation; and to work in partnership with community-based organizations and activists to support and fund awareness and education campaigns.

641. The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (video statement) welcomed the efforts to protect human rights, including the adoption of the Transitional Justice Act and the decision to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. It called upon Maldives to expedite the investigations on the murders of human rights defender Yameen Rasheed and of the moderate religious scholar Afrasheem Ali, as well as on the disappearance of journalist Ahmed Rilwan. It welcomed the acceptance by Maldives of the recommendations to protect the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association, as well as human rights defenders.

642. The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (video statement) noted that the legal framework of Maldives continued to impede fundamental freedoms. It called upon Maldives to decriminalize blasphemy and apostasy in line with international standards, to guarantee civic freedoms, to protect human rights defenders, and to allocate adequate resources to bring conditions of detention and prison management in line with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules). It urged the Government to raise awareness among vulnerable groups, extend protection to foreign victims and survivors, and expedite all requisite amendments to bring its law into conformity with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

643. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (video statement) was concerned by the Government's conservative approach to the third universal periodic review cycle, which reinforced the status quo and risked leaving important human rights issues unaddressed and its staunchest advocates further at risk. It considered that the Government had not committed to key issues, particularly the limited space for civil society to operate, the fight against religious extremism, the right to freedom of religion or belief, the right to freedom of expression and the death penalty. It urged Maldives to enact and implement a national law to determine the fate of disappeared journalist Ahmed Rilwan.

644. The International Humanist and Ethical Union (video statement) stated that the promotion of tolerance and secularism in the country had been facing online and offline violence for the past 10 years. The media often carried names and photos of individuals with allegations of apostasy, atheism, secularism, homosexuality or support for homosexuality. Since the current Government had assumed power in 2018, six Maldivians had been accused of blasphemy. One of those, Mohamed Rusthum Mujuthaba, had been kept in extended pretrial detention and had suffered torture and solitary confinement. It urged the Government to abolish blasphemy laws and to release all persons being held on blasphemy charges, and to urgently tackle the intolerance and violence fostered by religious extremists.

645. The British Humanist Association (video statement) welcomed many of the recommendations made during the universal periodic review of Maldives, but it was deeply concerned by the lack of action on the part of the Government of Maldives to implement and protect freedom of religion or belief, including for apostates and the non-religious. The Government required that all citizens identify as Muslim, and they were only guaranteed freedom of expression so long as their expressions complied with the tenets of Islam. Consequently, attitudes towards humanist values were extremely hostile. For example, in October 2019, the Maldivian Democracy Network – a leading human rights body – was forced to dissolve on the grounds that a report it had released earlier in the year on radicalization in the country was slanderous towards Islam. Members of the Maldivian Democracy Network were threatened with death over social media.

646. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (video statement) noted that, despite significant legislative reforms and the opening up of civic space following the elections in November 2018, more needed to be done to protect human rights defenders from attacks and smear campaigns and to bring perpetrators to justice. Islamist groups and criminal gangs continued to threaten and attack human rights defenders and civil society organizations online with impunity. In December 2019, the Government had arbitrarily dissolved a human rights organization, the Maldivian Democracy Network, and seized their funds amid pressure from Islamist groups for alleged blasphemy. CIVICUS was disappointed that the Government had not accepted the recommendation to conduct a transparent and public investigation into the ban and that threats against the organization had continued. Similarly,

in June 2020, extremist groups had launched a social media campaign against the country's main women's rights organization, Uthema – calling for it to be banned for being anti-Islam – over its report in 2020 to the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

647. Action Canada for Population and Development (video statement) welcomed the commitments made by Maldives to improve education and access to sexual and reproductive health services. However, young people, especially young women, continued to be excluded from access to essential sexual and reproductive health education, information and services. Yearly, over 6,000 children left school, with an education gap that affected their right to bodily autonomy and mental and physical well-being, leaving them ill equipped in the face of violence and abuse. The organization called upon Maldives to address any form of discrimination in the provision of sexual and reproductive health services and to remove all barriers that restricted women's rights to bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health.

648. The Alliance Defending Freedom (video statement) noted the support of Maldives for the recommendations to safeguard the rights to freedom of opinion and expression. However, it was deeply concerned that the Government's refusal to accept any of the recommendations it had received pertaining to freedom of religion or belief would frustrate all efforts to implement its human rights commitments and obligations, including but not limited to those relating to freedom of opinion and expression. The organization urged Maldives to take immediate steps to decriminalize blasphemy and apostasy, and it called for the elimination of all laws, policies and practices that discriminated, either directly or indirectly, on the basis of religion, including but not limited to those regarding citizenship.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

649. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 259 recommendations received, 187 had enjoyed the support of Maldives and 67 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another five recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations had been supported and which parts had been noted.

650. The delegation of Maldives stated that the COVID-19 pandemic had highlighted many fault lines within social security systems and health infrastructure and in general service provision. The Government had taken that opportunity to increase investment in those areas, and to formulate and implement cohesive policies to strengthen them. Work was currently underway to reprioritize its goals to best reflect the needs of its people and to increase the resilience of its social systems.

651. Recovery efforts of the Government focused on equality and equity, respect for fundamental human rights and improving the quality of life. At the onset of the pandemic, Maldives had reacted swiftly to enact legislative provisions to ensure the continuity of governance functions, including, and most importantly, to introduce safeguards against unjust evictions and dismissals.

652. Amendments had been introduced to the law to ensure the continuity of access to justice, especially in criminal matters. Economic stimulus packages, extended grace periods for loan repayments and other allowances had been made for well-established and smaller enterprises alike, to prevent the economy from spiralling into crisis. Mechanisms had been put in place to ensure that complaints of domestic violence and violence against women and children were attended with utmost urgency. The Government had also devised and implemented urgent plans to take care of all those individuals rendered most vulnerable as a result of the restrictions that had been put in place to protect the population from the devastating impact of the pandemic.

653. Moving forward, Maldives would sustain those efforts while ensuring that the rights of vulnerable groups, freedom of expression, political activities and basic rights were not hindered.

654. The Government acknowledged the important role played by civil society in the universal periodic review process and it would continue to engage with civil society actors

towards a truly meaningful, inclusive and participatory process as it moved forward with the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up. The Government firmly believed in the pivotal and integral role played by civil society as a bridge between State agencies and local communities.

655. Maldives remained committed to pursuing inclusive processes to meaningfully implement the recommendations received from the universal periodic review process. Maldives was confident that the international community would continue to support it and be a valuable partner in that effort.

Andorra

656. The review of Andorra was held on 5 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Andorra in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/AND/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/AND/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/AND/3).

657. At its 37th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Andorra (see sect. C below).

658. The outcome of the review of Andorra comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/11), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/11/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

659. The delegation reiterated the commitment of Andorra to the universal periodic review, which it described as a unique space providing an opportunity for States to exchange experiences and good practices to improve the situation of human rights in their respective countries. The universal periodic review of Andorra had led to a thorough analysis of the human rights situation in the country.

660. However, the delegation noted that the current format of the sessions of the Human Rights Council did not contribute at all to an interactive dialogue since most interventions were pre-recorded. Andorra questioned that approach and believed that the Council should reflect on the current modalities since it seemed that videoconferencing had come to stay.

661. The delegation updated the Human Rights Council on the national process that had followed the meeting of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on 5 November 2020. It had included a broad consultation on and thorough analysis of the 104 recommendations received, and it had culminated with the Council of Ministers having taken a position on the recommendations on 9 December 2020.

662. Out of the 104 recommendations received during the third cycle of the universal periodic review, Andorra had accepted 60 recommendations, partially accepted 6 recommendations and noted the remaining 38 recommendations. The delegation stressed that Andorra had already implemented some of the recommendations received. Therefore, their acceptance meant a commitment by Andorra to maintain already implemented policies.

663. Noting that several recommendations were related to the ratification of international human rights conventions, Andorra explained why it was not in the position to commit to ratifying several treaties in the next four years, stressing the responsibility that it entailed. Aware of the importance of ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Andorra would undertake, over the next four years, all the legal studies needed to determine the legislative changes required for the ratification of that treaty.

664. Regarding cooperation with the treaty bodies, Andorra noted that it had submitted its first national report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD/C/AND/1–6) and its first national report to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD/C/AND/1), in line with its commitment to cooperate fully with the treaty bodies and to report within the established deadlines. In that context, Andorra valued the participation of civil society in the examination of its country reports.

665. The delegation reported on the State's efforts to implement recommendations from the treaty bodies, in particular the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Although racial discrimination was already included in article 4.2 of the law on equality and non-discrimination, Andorra would examine a legal formulation encompassing the grounds of national origin, colour and descent, in accordance with article 1 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. The Government had recently submitted to Parliament a law on gender equality, which included an amendment to the law on equality and non-discrimination, to fulfil another recommendation of that Committee.

666. Regarding the creation of a national human rights institution, and as already explained in the meeting of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on 5 November 2020, the Ombudsperson (Raonador del Ciutadà) was the main body, together with the tribunals, guaranteeing respect for human rights in the country. In the view of Andorra, the creation of a new institution, as recommended, could lead to a duplication of powers and an excessive economic burden. The delegation reiterated the position of Andorra that, until its Ombudsperson proved to be insufficient, it would not study again the possibility to create another institution.

667. Lastly, Andorra noted that much progress had been made since the first cycle of the universal periodic review. It highlighted the progress made on the rights of woman, the rights of children and the rights of persons with disabilities, as reflected in the State's previous report to the universal periodic review and in other reports submitted to other monitoring organisms, including those of the Council of Europe. It acknowledged that more needed to be done, and it gave assurances that Andorra would continue to work to guarantee and to improve the level of respect for human rights of all people living in Andorra.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review

668. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Andorra, nine delegations made statements.

669. India (video statement) commended Andorra for its active participation and constructive engagement during the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and for having accepted 60 recommendations, including one made by India. It noted that Andorra had noted two other recommendations made by India, namely to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to join the International Labour Organization. It expressed the hope that Andorra would still implement those recommendations and it wished the State success in implementing the outcome of the review.

670. Namibia (video statement) thanked Andorra for its commitment during the universal periodic review. Recalling that the United Nations would be observing the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on 21 March 2021, Namibia was pleased that Andorra had accepted the recommendations of Namibia, including one to bring the act on equal treatment and non-discrimination into line with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. It wished Andorra the successful implementation of the recommendations accepted.

671. Nepal (video statement) appreciated the commitment of Andorra to the universal periodic review and its acceptance of recommendations made by Nepal during the third cycle. It welcomed the adoption by Andorra of a strategic plan to implement the Sustainable Development Goals and the State's efforts to promote the rights of persons with disabilities. It qualified the advances made in children rights, including in the areas of education and health, as commendable. It wished Andorra success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

672. The Russian Federation (video statement) observed that Andorra had accepted most of the recommendations received. At the same time, it noted with regret that Andorra had not accepted the recommendations made by the Russia Federation to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and to improve the conditions of detention in the country's penitentiary institutions. It hoped that Andorra would duly implement the recommendations the State had supported and it advised the Human Rights Council to adopt the outcome of the review of Andorra.

673. Tunisia (video statement) thanked Andorra for the update. It appreciated that Andorra had accepted a significant proportion of the recommendations received. It expressed satisfaction regarding the State's acceptance of the recommendations made by Tunisia, namely to continue the efforts made to promote gender equality and to combat discrimination against women, as well as gender-based and domestic violence, and to promote children's rights. It reiterated its appreciation for the steps taken by Andorra to implement the recommendations of the second cycle. The State's cooperation with the universal periodic review reflected its commitment to pursue its reforms and efforts in accordance with its international obligations.

674. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was pleased with the cooperation of Andorra with the universal periodic review. It noted the frank and constructive dialogue and the State's efforts to implement the recommendations received during the second cycle. In particular, it valued the measures taken to promote social cohesion and to improve the living conditions of the population, including through an increase in the lowest wages. It also welcomed the commitment of Andorra to develop a national education strategy that ensured access to public, free and high-quality education in any of the three education systems of the country in order to reinforce social inclusion while respecting differences. It wished Andorra the successful implementation of the recommendations accepted.

675. Burkina Faso (video statement) commended Andorra for the presentation of its national report during the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. As a troika member, it appreciated the efforts made by Andorra to promote and protect human rights. It welcomed the fact that Andorra had accepted the majority of the recommendations received, including those made by Burkina Faso, in particular one inviting the Government to take action so that judges, prosecutors and lawyers were sufficiently familiar with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in order to enforce it. It wished Andorra success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

676. China welcomed the active participation of Andorra in the third cycle of the universal periodic review. It noted with appreciation the State's adoption of a national plan and a law on equality and non-discrimination and various other laws to promote gender equality and to combat domestic violence and all types of discrimination. It highlighted the efforts to protect women, children, persons with disabilities and vulnerable persons and to combat trafficking in persons. It hoped that Andorra would continue its efforts to promote sustainable socioeconomic development and improve employment and the well-being of its people, including the most vulnerable. It advised the Human Rights Council to adopt the report on the review of Andorra.

677. Cuba (video statement) commended Andorra for the number of recommendations accepted. It was pleased that Andorra had supported recommendations made by Cuba. It urged Andorra to continue to hone its policies to promote the rights of children, considering in particular the role of the community, to strengthen the role of education to eliminate stereotypes and gender-based violence and to improve the situation of migrants and refugees. It commended Andorra for the progress made despite the challenges brought by the COVID-

19 pandemic, and it wished the State success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

678. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Andorra, four other stakeholders made statements.

679. The International Service for Human Rights (video statement) was represented by Ms. Vanessa Mendoza Cortés, President of Stop Violències. It regretted that the Government of Andorra had merely noted the recommendation by the Netherlands to stop the judicial harassment, reprisals and intimidation against human rights defenders in relation to the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms and engagement with the United Nations. In particular, it expressed concern about the case of Vanessa Mendoza Cortés, President of Stop Violències, who faced judicial harassment, having been charged with “slander with publicity”, “slander against the co-princes” and “crimes against the reputation of the institutions” after having cooperated with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. A hearing before an inquiry judge had taken place on 17 February 2021, with the shadow report having been presented to the Committee as part of the evidence. It recalled that, in the annual report on reprisals, the Secretary-General had warned that the measures taken against Stop Violències and its President had been disproportionate. It urged Andorra to implement fully the recommendation to ensure that human rights defenders could work in a safe environment without fear of reprisals. It asked Andorra to drop all the charges against Ms. Mendoza Cortés, decriminalize defamation and amend the Penal Code to prevent undue restrictions of the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. Lastly, it called upon Andorra to legalize abortion, as recommended by France and the Netherlands.

680. The Center for Global Nonkilling (video statement) encouraged Andorra to pursue its violence prevention strategy, noting that there had been only two homicides in the past decade. It considered positively the State’s lack of armed forces. It recalled that, during the second cycle of the universal periodic review, Andorra had supported a recommendation made by Argentina to consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, while having noted others that had directly called for ratification. It recommended that Andorra ratify that treaty, as recommended by six countries during the interactive dialogue, and despite the absence of cases in the country.

681. Campagne internationale pour l’abolition des armes nucléaires (video statement) called upon the Government of Andorra to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, as recommended by Honduras. The worldwide ratification of that treaty and the subsequent global elimination of all nuclear weapons was a critical step to the full protection of human rights for all. The organization regretted that Andorra had merely noted the recommendation made by Honduras, but it welcomed the Government’s willingness to examine the possibility of ratifying that treaty. It recalled that Andorra had promoted universal adherence to that treaty by having voted consistently, since 2018, in favour of an annual General Assembly resolution that called upon all States to sign, ratify or accede to the treaty at the earliest date possible. It also recalled a statement in 2019 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Andorra, according to which her country would be in a position to sign and ratify the treaty once all internal procedures had been completed. It noted the urgency of taking such action.

682. Amnesty International (video statement) welcomed the fact that Andorra had accepted 60 recommendations, but it regretted that the State had noted many recommendations calling for the ratification of important human rights treaties. It also regretted that Andorra had only noted the recommendation about human rights defenders. In that regard, it expressed concern about the defamation charges Ms. Vanessa Mendoza Cortés, President of Stop Violències, faced after having spoken about women’s rights, including their right to safe abortion, before the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 2019. It considered the use of defamation laws against Ms. Mendoza Cortés a disturbing attempt to criminalize her legitimate work and it called for all charges to be dropped. It also called upon Andorra to decriminalize defamation, bringing the law into line with international human rights standards. It regretted that Andorra had not accepted the recommendations to decriminalize

abortion. The State's ban on abortion violated the rights of women and girls, including their rights to life, health, privacy and freedom from torture and other ill-treatment. It called upon Andorra to urgently decriminalize abortion in all circumstances and to fulfil the right to access safe and legal abortion services in the country.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

683. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 104 recommendations received, 60 had enjoyed the support of Andorra and 38 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another six recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations had been supported and which parts had been noted.

684. The delegation thanked the States that had made interventions and, in the spirit of interactive dialogue, it took the opportunity to reply to some of them.

685. To the Russian Federation, the delegation stated that Andorra had not accepted its recommendation to intensify efforts to improve the functioning of the penitentiary system, as there was no need for improvement. Andorra referred to the assessment of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, of the Council of Europe, which had found the conditions in the penitentiary system very satisfactory. It invited the Russian Federation to communicate any specific concerns it had.

686. Andorra thanked Cuba for its recommendation to implement a national plan for children and adolescents within the framework of Qualified Act No. 14/2019, which included prevention and community participation to ensure a safe and healthy life for children and adolescents, which it had supported. It noted that the national plan was in the process of being drafted.

687. Reacting to statements made by other stakeholders, Andorra regretted that Ms. Vanessa Mendoza Cortés felt threatened. Andorra said that Ms. Vanessa Mendoza Cortés, instead of only informing, had also accused civil servants of having committed serious crimes. The General Prosecutor had decided that there had been enough grounds to pursue judicial proceedings and Andorra was not going to interfere with the judicial system.

688. Lastly, the delegation thanked Burkina Faso, Indonesia and Ukraine, as members of the troika, and all of the member States that had taken the floor and had made recommendations during the meeting of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on 5 November 2020. It also thanked the secretariat for its excellent support throughout the process.

Honduras

689. The review of Honduras was held on 5 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Honduras in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/HND/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/HND/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/HND/3).

690. At its 37th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Honduras (see sect. C below).

691. The outcome of the review of Honduras comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/12), the views of the State under review

concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/12/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

692. The delegation of Honduras (video statement) thanked the Human Rights Council and in particular the 85 States that had actively participated in the constructive review of the human rights situation in Honduras at the thirty-sixth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. In particular, the delegation thanked the States members of the troika and the OHCHR secretariat for their tireless work, despite the difficulties and challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. It also thanked the civil society organizations for their participation in the process and for the information they had provided.

693. The delegation stressed that, since the second cycle of the universal periodic review, Honduras had made substantial efforts to implement the recommendations it had received and it had greatly improved their monitoring and follow-up through the implementation of the system for the monitoring of the recommendations for Honduras.

694. During the third review, Honduras had conducted a thorough analysis of the 223 recommendations received and it had implemented a broad inter-institutional consultation process involving 41 State institutions to evaluate and prioritize them. As a result, Honduras had accepted 203 recommendations and noted 20, which referred to the ratification of international instruments, constitutional reforms or the approval of internal legislation by National Congress. Honduras was committed to following up on the 223 recommendations through the system for the monitoring of the recommendations for Honduras and to link them with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development Goals and the public policy on human rights.

695. The promotion and protection of human rights continued to be a priority for Honduras, as highlighted by the creation and strengthening of the secretariat for human rights, charged with promoting the implementation of the public policy on human rights. The delegation reiterated the commitment of Honduras to continue to work with OHCHR and to maintain an open dialogue with the special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council to leave no one behind and to improve the human rights situation of groups in a vulnerable situation.

696. Honduras was pleased to share its progress in the implementation of the recommendations received since the interactive dialogue. In that regard, Honduras would soon inaugurate the sixth "Centro ciudad mujer" in the city of Choluteca, as well as the "Ciudad mujer móvil" for the departments of Cortés and Yoro. It would also start the construction of the seventh "Centro ciudad mujer" in the city of Santa Rosa de Copán. Honduras reaffirmed its commitment to continue to work, through an inter-institutional commission to monitor investigations of violent deaths of women and cases of femicide, to combat all forms of violence against women and girls.

697. To protect human rights defenders and comply with the law on the protection of human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and justice officials, Honduras would carry out the first evaluation of the national protection system with the technical assistance of OHCHR. The delegation noted that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime had opened an office in the country to support the efforts of the Government of Honduras to strengthen national capacities to prevent and combat corruption more effectively and efficiently, and to promote integrity, accountability and transparency.

698. In addition, Honduras had started to develop a migration policy with the support of the International Organization for Migration and had subscribed to the project "Respuesta trinacional para una movilidad humana digna, pacífica e inclusiva en el norte de Centroamérica" to address internal displacement and the mixed flows of people. Lastly, Honduras had committed to continuing to promote the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy"

Framework, and had created an inter-institutional space to respond to human rights violations in the context of business activities.

699. The delegation acknowledged the existence of new challenges to the enjoyment of human rights in the country. The COVID-19 pandemic and the natural disasters caused by hurricanes Eta and Iota had increased the gap in the enjoyment of the rights to health, education, work and adequate housing, among others, amplified inequality and discrimination, and strongly affected vulnerable groups.

700. For those reasons, Honduras had adopted measures aimed at promoting national reconstruction and at reactivating the national economy. They included the adoption of the law to aid the productive sector and workers in the face of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and of the law to facilitate humanitarian assistance in cases of disasters and initial recovery, as well as the creation of “Operación Fuerza Honduras II”, to provide care to the affected population and to ensure recovery from the damage caused by tropical storms. Honduras had also requested the technical support of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to promote a resilient and sustainable recovery and to address the existing barriers to development.

701. To conclude, the delegation thanked the international community for its support and technical cooperation, which had contributed to the implementation of the recommendations that had emanated from the universal periodic review, and it welcomed the permanent monitoring of the human rights situation in the country through the international human rights protection system and OHCHR in Honduras. It reiterated the commitment of Honduras to the universal periodic review. Honduras recognized the fundamental role of civil society and international cooperation to advance towards the full enjoyment of human rights in the country.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

702. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Honduras, 13 delegations made statements.

703. Brazil (video statement) congratulated Honduras on its open and constructive dialogue with international human rights mechanisms. It noted that the creation in 2016 of an OHCHR office in the country and it congratulated Honduras on its important institutional achievements, such as the creation of the inter-institutional commission to monitor investigations of violent deaths of women and the Ministry of Human Rights. Brazil welcomed the strengthening of the national committee for the prevention of torture, the efforts to combat forced internal displacement and the significant reduction in the homicide rate. It encouraged Honduras to continue to adopt measures to promote public security.

704. Cuba (video statement) noted the high number of recommendations supported by Honduras and was pleased that they included those made by Cuba. It urged Honduras to continue to work to prevent youth violence, strengthen the role of communities and protect the people most vulnerable to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Cuba recognized the commitment of Honduras to the universal periodic review and it hoped that the State would soon overcome the challenges posed by the pandemic.

705. Djibouti (video statement) thanked Honduras for its presentation, which had emphasized the State’s efforts and commitments to protect and promote human rights. Djibouti congratulated Honduras on the acceptance of 203 of the 223 recommendations received during the third cycle of the universal periodic review and it welcomed in particular the acceptance by Honduras of the three recommendations made by Djibouti.

706. Ethiopia welcomed the acceptance by Honduras of both recommendations made by Ethiopia, on encouraging the scaling up of the State’s positive achievements in bringing more women into decision-making positions and on reaching out to the international community to overcome the challenges it faced. Ethiopia stated that the universal periodic review should remain an opportunity for sharing best practices and a platform for constructive exchange, and it wished Honduras success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

707. Germany (video statement) noted that institutional and legislative obstacles hindering the fulfilment of the sexual and reproductive rights of women remained present in Honduras and that the recent constitutional reform had stabilized them. It also noted that a series of violent attacks in early 2021 had shown that the protection of journalists, human rights defenders and environmentalists, as well as vulnerable groups such as women, young people, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and indigenous people, was still lacking and that their lives were still in danger. It observed with concern the increased use of legal actions that hindered activists from exercising their rights. Germany reiterated its recommendation to reduce overcrowding and inter-prisoner violence, and it encouraged Honduras to engage fully with the United Nations and the international community.

708. India (video statement) welcomed the support of Honduras for the universal periodic review mechanism and it appreciated that Honduras had accepted as many as 203 recommendations, including three recommendations made by India. India also appreciated the constructive engagement of Honduras during the review, welcomed the measures taken to protect the rights of children and adolescents, and encouraged Honduras to ensure the effective implementation of the public policy against racism and racial discrimination for the comprehensive development of indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples.

709. The Marshall Islands (video statement) thanked Honduras for having accepted three of the five recommendations made by the Marshall Islands, which covered the adoption of new legislation to combat discrimination against vulnerable groups, of an action plan on business and human rights, and of legislation to combat discrimination against sex workers. The Marshall Islands hoped that its two other recommendations, on ratifying some key international treaties and their optional protocols, would be considered in the future.

710. Morocco welcomed the ongoing engagement of Honduras with the universal periodic review process, despite the exceptional conditions experienced, including Hurricane Eta. It commended the efforts of Honduras, including the creation of the Ministry for Human Rights, responsible for the implementation of public policies and the national action plan on human rights, and the establishment of a system to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals into public policies. Morocco congratulated Honduras on the measures aimed at improving social conditions, which had resulted in a marked decrease in the rates of poverty and extreme poverty.

711. Namibia (video statement) thanked Honduras for its constructive engagement. It noted that the separation of powers was essential to ensure the proper functioning of the different branches of the Government and that, for that reason, Namibia had recommended, inter alia, that Honduras continue to take measures to protect the independence and integrity of the judiciary. Namibia hoped that its recommendations, made in a spirit of constructive dialogue, would be positively considered by Honduras.

712. Nepal appreciated the constructive engagement of Honduras with the universal periodic review process. It welcomed the adoption of the strategic plan against commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking in persons 2016–2022 and commended Honduras for the initiatives taken for the safety and security of migrant workers, including the support provided to returning migrants for local reintegration.

713. UNHCR welcomed several constructive recommendations that Honduras had received during the session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. It appreciated the efforts of Honduras to respond to internal displacement, in particular the recognition that internal displacement was a human rights issue requiring a comprehensive response, and the establishment of an inter-institutional commission for the protection of internally displaced persons. Considering the persisting need to address internal displacement promptly, UNHCR encouraged Honduras to advance the enactment of national legislation for the prevention, assistance and protection of internally displaced persons and to ensure its swift implementation.

714. Oman (video statement) congratulated Honduras on its active participation in the universal periodic review, which had taken place within the framework of an effective dialogue. Oman also thanked Honduras for its positive consideration of the recommendations made by Oman.

715. The Russian Federation (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by Honduras of the majority of the recommendations received, but it noted that, despite some progress, the human rights situation in the country remained difficult. The Russian Federation hoped that the recommendations accepted by Honduras during the universal periodic review would be duly implemented in order to overcome the existing shortcomings in the field of human rights in the country.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

716. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Honduras, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

717. The Center for Reproductive Rights (video statement) welcomed the recommendations made to Honduras in the area of sexual and reproductive rights, including those regarding access to emergency contraceptives and the decriminalization of abortion. It noted that Honduras fully criminalized abortion and prohibited the use of emergency contraceptives, including for women victims of sexual violence. In addition, in 2021, the National Congress had adopted a constitutional reform prohibiting abortion. The organization called upon Honduras to implement the recommendations received on that topic to safeguard the life, safety, health and autonomy of women and girls.

718. Peace Brigades International Switzerland (video statement) noted that, during the health emergency, the Government had implemented initiatives aimed at reducing civic space for the defence of economic, social, cultural and environmental rights. It was concerned about the process of handing over land to large agro-industrial companies, which had led to an increase in land-related conflicts and eviction processes. It also noted that agrarian policies lacked a gender focus and it highlighted the importance of the recommendations received by Honduras on the protection of human rights defenders, the investigation of crimes against them and respect for indigenous rights.

719. Save the Children International (video statement) encouraged Honduras to continue to work in close cooperation with civil society and to make specific commitments regarding each recommendation received in the framework of the universal periodic review. It also encouraged Honduras to develop a plan of action to ensure the participation of girls, boys and civil society in the implementation of the recommendations. It called upon the Government to, inter alia, ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

720. Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco (video statement) commended Honduras for its efforts to improve the education system, but it was concerned about the level of school dropout and the high level of sexual abuse against girls and adolescents. It recommended that Honduras ensure access to education for all children, take effective action to fight school dropout, put in place measures to ensure that no child was excluded from the education system due to the COVID-19 situation and punish all acts of violence against women.

721. Article 19: International Centre against Censorship (video statement) noted that, despite the adoption of a law to protect human rights defenders, between 2001 and 2020, 80 journalists had been killed in Honduras. It was alarmed by the use of harassment, smear campaigns and physical aggression against journalists. It welcomed the recommendations aimed at ensuring the effectiveness of the national protection mechanism but it was concerned about the lack of resources and staff assigned to the mechanism. It expressed concern about the provisions in the new Criminal Code that undermined freedom of expression.

722. Action Canada for Population and Development (video statement) was concerned that the issue of comprehensive sexual education had not been mentioned in the interactive dialogue or in the recommendations. It was also deeply disappointed about the lack of information from Honduras on its response to the recommendations received, and it noted that such practice, which was increasingly used by States, undermined the universal periodic review mechanism and was disrespectful towards civil society and other actors. It also highlighted that, over recent months, there had been serious setbacks in Honduras in the area of human rights relating to gender and sexuality.

723. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (video statement) noted that Honduran legislation restricted workers' freedom of association, that the work of civil society, including human rights defenders, indigenous peoples and environmental activists, continued to be undermined by harassment, criminal persecution and surveillance, and that the national protection mechanism to protect human rights defenders had not been effective. The high levels of violence made Honduras one of the most dangerous countries in the world for human rights defenders and journalists. In addition, the new Criminal Code maintained the crimes of slander and insult, which continued to be used against journalists.

724. Amnesty International (video statement) noted that the delay by Honduras in presenting the addendum with the State's position on the recommendations received reflected its lack of attention to human rights. The organization also noted that, in Honduras, environmental defenders continued to face high levels of violence that remained unpunished. It urged Honduras to implement the recommendations to protect human rights defenders and to investigate attacks against them. It reported that the police and the military used excessive force to repress protests and it urged Honduras to implement the recommendations to protect the right to peaceful assembly and end the involvement of military forces in public security tasks. Lastly, it urged Honduras to implement the recommendations to decriminalize abortion and to ensure the right to equality and non-discrimination for all persons.

725. The International Lesbian and Gay Association (video statement) noted that Honduras was the country with the highest rate of violent death of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons faced numerous legal limitations regarding sexual orientation and gender, including regarding marriage. It stressed that Honduras now had the opportunity to close the equality gap that affected the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons through the implementation of the recommendations the State had received on those issues.

726. Advocates for Human Rights (video statement) was concerned about the extent of violence against women and members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community in Honduras. It urged the State to take concrete steps to address such violence immediately, including measures to conduct full and prompt investigations into domestic violence and femicides, to adopt policies and campaigns to promote the awareness of and respect for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community, and to train law enforcement to respond to domestic violence and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons according to international human rights standards.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

727. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 223 recommendations received, 203 had enjoyed the support of Honduras and 20 had been noted.

728. The delegation (in-person statement) reiterated the commitment of Honduras to the universal periodic review mechanisms and the State's willingness to continue to cooperate with OHCHR in Honduras in order to promote and protect the human rights of all people in the country.

Bulgaria

729. The review of Bulgaria was held on 6 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Bulgaria in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/BGR/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/BGR/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/BGR/3).

730. At its 38th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Bulgaria (see sect. C below).

731. The outcome of the review of Bulgaria comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/13), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/13/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

732. The delegation (in-person statement) recalled that Bulgaria had presented its national report within the universal periodic review process on 6 November 2020.

733. During the interactive dialogue, 91 delegations had made statements and Bulgaria had received 233 recommendations. Bulgaria had considered the recommendations thoroughly and an addendum to the report of the Working Group had been approved by the State's National Coordination Mechanism for Human Rights.

734. The approach of Bulgaria had been to accept those recommendations where measures could credibly be envisaged and implemented in time for the next review, or where measures had already been, or were being, implemented. Bulgaria had decided to accept 193 of the recommendations received and to mark 24 as noted. There had been 16 additional recommendations, the wording or the aim of which Bulgaria generally approved of and supported, but could only commit to their implementation in part, because constitutional or other legal obstacles prevented full implementation. Those recommendations had been marked as accepted/noted.

735. The delegation further explained the position of Bulgaria regarding some of the recommendations in light of recent policy developments.

736. A number of recommendations concerned the rule of law, judicial reform and media freedom in the country. The Government of Bulgaria had taken those recommendations seriously and they would serve as a basis for further action.

737. Bulgaria was firmly committed to gender equality and it promoted the active participation of women in all spheres of social and political life. Bulgaria had come a long way in ensuring that a person's ability determined the job one got, not one's gender. According to an independent study, Bulgaria was the best European country for women to work in terms of maternity leave, leadership positions and financial opportunities.

738. In 2020, the Government of Bulgaria had adopted the national strategy for promoting equality between women and men for the next decade. The goal was to achieve parity through a coherent, consistent and sustainable State policy. The strategy was built around five priority areas: achieving gender equality in the labour market, reducing the gender pay gap, encouraging gender equality in decision-making processes, overcoming stereotypes, and combating gender-based violence and protecting and supporting victims of such violence.

739. Although Bulgaria had no immediate plans to accede to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) due to constitutional constraints, its efforts and commitment to improve national legislation in that domain were unflagging. The aim was to achieve an even higher level of protection against domestic violence and effective support for victims.

740. Regarding combating discrimination, xenophobia and other related forms of intolerance, Bulgaria reminded the Human Rights Council that Bulgarian society had a long-standing tradition of tolerance. The country was pursuing a policy aimed at preventing and eliminating any form of discrimination against, and further strengthening understanding and

tolerance towards, persons belonging to different ethnic, religious or linguistic groups. One example was the prevention for a second year of the torch procession of ultranationalists and neo-Nazis known as the “Lukov March”. Bulgaria was aware of the need to deepen and widen the scope of its actions and would pay due attention to that matter.

741. One of the key elements in addressing hate crimes and antisemitism was the engagement of young people against intolerance and other extremist movements. In February 2021, nine Bulgarian universities had adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism, to be applied in their daily activities. The Bulgarian News Agency had also announced its readiness to adopt and apply the working definition, becoming the first national news agency in Europe to do so.

742. Bulgaria would present, by the end of 2021, a periodic report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

743. Regarding the elimination of poverty, particularly child poverty, Bulgaria was committed to addressing that issue through targeted measures. It had adopted a strategic framework for policies on overcoming poverty and promoting social inclusion for the next 10 years. The main objective was to improve the quality of life of persons belonging to vulnerable groups, creating conditions for their full involvement through adequate income support, labour market inclusion and access to quality services. A national strategy to promote an active life among older persons by 2030 had also been adopted in 2019.

744. With respect to persons with disabilities, a strategic document for 2021–2030 had been adopted in December 2020. The aim was to create better conditions for an independent life and social inclusion. The strategy outlined measures on access to social protection, quality inclusive education, health care and employment.

745. Regarding the recommendations on children’s rights, migrants’ rights, the rights of other persons belonging to vulnerable groups and trafficking in persons, Bulgaria noted the calls to ensure equal access to health-care services and education, and to combat all forms of discrimination, including on grounds of race, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation. It was committed to achieving an even more advanced level of promotion and protection of human rights in those areas through targeted and comprehensive measures.

746. Bulgaria was committed to following through with the implementation of the recommendations accepted with a view to further strengthening the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms on the ground. Bulgaria had already adopted some key strategic documents that would serve as a foundation for concrete measures and for policy planning, and hopefully they would lead to concrete tangible results.

747. Bulgaria intended to submit a voluntary midterm report on the implementation of the recommendations.

2. General comments made by the national human rights institution of the State under review

748. The Ombudsman (video statement) sought to highlight the issue of domestic violence in Bulgaria. It noted that the COVID-19 pandemic had exacerbated domestic violence, adding that just in the first two months of the state of emergency in 2020, nine women had been killed. It appreciated the recommendations by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to Bulgaria and further noted that, in April 2020, the Ministry of Justice had launched a process to draft amendments to the law on protection from domestic violence, for which the Ombudsman had proposed a set of recommendations, which had been accepted by the Ministry. However, the Ombudsman noted with disappointment that, despite early promising signs, the completed draft had not been introduced in the National Assembly prior to the expiry of its mandate. Thus, the Ombudsman wanted to use that session to renew its recommendations, which included repealing the term “systematic” in the Criminal Code, which currently required at least three registered acts of violence to qualify domestic violence as a punishable offence. It also recommended the addition of “psychological and economic violence” in the definition of existing offences, and the introduction of obligations for medical practitioners to report domestic violence cases and for perpetrators to attend specialized programmes for anger control and aggression management. Lastly, the

Ombudsman recommended the establishment of a competent national body to coordinate policies on domestic violence, including early warning tools, reliable data, targeted training and a monitoring system.

3. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

749. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Bulgaria, 13 delegations made statements.

750. China congratulated Bulgaria on combating domestic violence, promoting gender equality, and developing jobs and education. It hoped that Bulgaria would adopt legislative and administrative measures that were effective in combating racial discrimination or discrimination against minorities, and adopt policies and measures to ensure migrants' rights. China suggested that the Human Rights Council adopt the universal periodic review report on Bulgaria.

751. Cuba (video statement) congratulated Bulgaria on the number of recommendations accepted and it was pleased to see that the recommendations made by Cuba had enjoyed the support of Bulgaria. Cuba urged Bulgaria to continue to work to reduce poverty and social exclusion, to work on its response to COVID-19 impacts, and to continue efforts to protect the rights of minorities and other groups in vulnerable situations. Cuba supported the adoption of the universal periodic review outcome of Bulgaria.

752. Ethiopia acknowledged the continued engagement of Bulgaria with the universal periodic review process. It welcomed the State's acceptance of the two recommendations made by Ethiopia to continue efforts to guarantee the right of children to a family environment and access to quality care and services, and to further strengthen the supportive environment for access to quality education for children and students with special needs. Ethiopia recommended the outcome be adopted by consensus.

753. India (video statement) appreciated that as many as 210 recommendations had been accepted by Bulgaria, including the recommendations made by India. India also appreciated the constructive engagement by the delegation of Bulgaria during the entire review. It noted that, during the review process, Bulgaria had reported on the steps taken to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing on support for the health-care system, extended to the most vulnerable groups of its population. India recommended the adoption of the report on Bulgaria.

754. Libya (video statement) commended the efforts made by Bulgaria to consider the recommendations made by Libya during the universal periodic review process. It appreciated the Government's efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic and to provide support for the health system and the most vulnerable groups in society. Libya recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report on Bulgaria and it wished the delegation of Bulgaria success.

755. Morocco welcomed the strengthening of the legislative framework in Bulgaria aimed at the promotion of gender equality and the elimination of all forms of discrimination, through the amendments to the law on gender equality, the law on social services and the law on protection from discrimination. Morocco recommended the adoption of the report on Bulgaria and it wished the country every success in implementing all of the recommendations accepted.

756. Nepal appreciated the acceptance by Bulgaria of both of the recommendations made by Nepal, namely to continue efforts to improve equality in education, including for Roma children, and in rural areas, and to continue to implement measures to combat trafficking in persons and to enhance protection for victims. Nepal commended the State's legal and institutional frameworks that shaped economic opportunities for women and ensured the equal access and inclusive participation of women in the labour market. Nepal supported the adoption of the outcome of the universal periodic review of Bulgaria.

757. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted with satisfaction that Bulgaria had accepted all of the recommendations it had made, regarding changes in national legislation to include a definition of hate speech, to investigate cases of racially motivated violence and crimes and to bring perpetrators to justice, and to create an independent oversight mechanism for police abuse. Despite some progress, the human rights situation in the country remained

challenging and it hoped that the recommendations supported by Bulgaria would be duly implemented in order to overcome existing shortcomings. The Russian Federation supported the adoption of the universal periodic review report on Bulgaria.

758. The Sudan (video statement) welcomed the delegation of Bulgaria and thanked the State for its continued and constructive engagement with the Human Rights Council, in particular the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. It noted with appreciation the acceptance by Bulgaria of most of the recommendations received during the third cycle of the universal periodic review. It urged the Council to adopt the report and it wished Bulgaria success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

759. Tunisia (video statement) appreciated the acceptance by Bulgaria of a significant proportion of the recommendations made to it. It expressed satisfaction with the positive consideration by Bulgaria regarding the recommendations of Tunisia on continued efforts in combating discrimination against women, eliminating all forms of violence against women, and promoting the social and economic integration of minorities. It recognized the steps taken by Bulgaria to promote equality between women and men. Tunisia recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report.

760. The United Arab Emirates (video statement) appreciated the acceptance by Bulgaria of most of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. It commended the progress made at the national level in promoting human rights and it hoped that Bulgaria would continue its efforts on human rights protection, including through legislative and institutional reforms that would achieve equal opportunities among citizens. It called upon the Human Rights Council to adopt the report.

761. UNICEF (video statement) commended the Government of Bulgaria for the acceptance of all the recommendations relating to children's rights and for having accepted the recommendations to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. It appreciated the renewed commitment to improve juvenile justice legislation and practice, and to continue efforts for the reintegration of former child offenders into society. It encouraged the Government to approve a national strategy on children.

762. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela highlighted the compliance of the national human rights institution with the Paris Principles. It noted challenges regarding racism, gender violence, racial discrimination, and hate speech against vulnerable groups, migrants and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. It restated its recommendations to adopt measures on gender violence, access to justice for victims, and prison conditions and overcrowding. It encouraged full compliance with the recommendations accepted during the third universal periodic review.

4. General comments made by other stakeholders

763. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Bulgaria, four other stakeholders made statements.

764. The World Jewish Congress (video statement) stressed that Jews in Bulgaria did not face any limitations in exercising their religion and traditions. However, it noted that antisemitism remained an issue, especially online. It also noted that, in 2017, the Government of Bulgaria had adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism, and more recently nine leading higher education institutions in the country had done so as well. It appreciated the close cooperation and coordination between the Government and civil society organizations, which had led to the ban of the annual "Lukov March" in 2021, which honoured the Second World War pro-Nazi general Christo Lukov. It expressed its strong commitment to continue to work with the Government in joint efforts to eliminate antisemitism and racism by implementing education policies and legislation, particularly regarding antisemitic and fascist propaganda online, and by countering radical neo-Nazi and other extremist groups.

765. The International Lesbian and Gay Association (video statement) thanked the States for the 14 recommendations to Bulgaria on the rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community, but it regretted that six of those recommendations had

been noted and only four had been partially accepted. It noted that nine of the recommendations urged the amending of the Penal Code to include the criminalization of hate crimes against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and it asserted that the response of Bulgaria to States that hate crimes based on sexual orientation were criminalized in chapter III of the Penal Code was misleading. That chapter covered only race, nationality, ethnicity, religion and political beliefs, thus hate crimes based on sexual orientation were still not seen as crimes or aggravating circumstances in the Penal Code. It regretted the failure of Bulgaria to accept the recommendations on strengthening its anti-discrimination legislation, recognizing same-sex couple civil unions and the banning of non-consensual surgeries on intersex persons.

766. Advocates for Human Rights (video statement) commended Bulgaria for having supported the 28 recommendations on domestic violence, but it regretted that Bulgaria had only noted all of the recommendations calling for the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and the State's adoption of the most recent changes to the law on protection from domestic violence. It highlighted the burden caused by the Bulgarian Criminal Code, which required survivors to prove at least three prior incidents of domestic violence before official charges were brought and that victims must apply for an order of protection within 30 days of an act of violence. It shared further concerns about the many obstacles to free expression, noting the Government's obstruction of the work of several human rights groups and police violence against journalists who had been reporting on protests. It urged members of the Human Rights Council and OHCHR to assist Bulgaria in implementing the recommendations on eliminating the Criminal Code provisions requiring survivors to prove at least three prior instances of domestic violence, on increasing the availability of shelters for domestic violence survivors and on strengthening laws protecting journalists from physical harm.

767. The International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (video statement) highlighted the ongoing discrimination and prejudice against Roma people in Bulgaria, especially as evidenced by the human rights violations against them during the COVID-19 pandemic. It reported that, in March 2020, the Government had locked down seven Roma neighbourhoods that did not have their own pharmacies or supermarkets, thus denying them access to fundamental necessities. It noted that Bulgaria had made a voluntary pledge to the Human Rights Council to strengthen ethnic and religious tolerance, and it stated that Bulgaria should stand by that pledge by supporting Roma communities. In addition, it shared its concerns about domestic violence in Bulgaria, noting that, despite recent measures having been adopted, eight women had been killed by their partners during the first three months of the pandemic. It called upon the Council to urge Bulgaria to stay vigilant about gender violence and to ensure that all existing protection and support mechanisms for women were effectively implemented. Lastly, it asked Bulgaria to take immediate steps to ratify the Istanbul Convention.

5. Concluding remarks of the State under review

768. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 233 recommendations received, 193 had enjoyed the support of Bulgaria and 24 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another 16 recommendations, which had been supported/noted.

769. The delegation (in-person statement) stated that Bulgaria paid particular attention to combating all manifestations of hate speech in public space. On 23 February 2021, the national coordinator on the fight against antisemitism had condemned antisemitic remarks made on one of the leading public broadcasters.

770. Responding to the issues raised, the delegation stressed the commitment of Bulgaria to address gender-based violence and to support the related victims. Bulgarian legislation did not allow any form of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Although same-sex marriage had not been legalized, same-sex couples had the right to reside in Bulgaria. Cases regarding discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons were considered with due care. Homophobia or transphobia could be aggravating circumstances when determining criminal penalties.

771. Bulgaria was committed to the transparent and thorough implementation of the recommendations accepted, and it would continue to strengthen its administrative capacity and involve civil society and stakeholders in its work. Follow-up would be an essential part of the work of the National Coordination Mechanism for Human Rights.

Marshall Islands

772. The review of the Marshall Islands was held on 9 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by the Marshall Islands in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MHL/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MHL/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/MHL/3).

773. At its 38th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Marshall Islands (see sect. C below).

774. The outcome of the review of the Marshall Islands comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/14), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/14/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

775. The delegation of the Marshall Islands (video statement) extended a warm greeting and expressed its gratitude to OHCHR, the Human Rights Council, the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and the members of the troika for their valuable support and contributions to the State's third universal periodic review.

776. The delegation noted that, as a Pacific small island developing State, the Marshall Islands relied on dynamic partnerships and constructive engagement to ensure that it had the means necessary to build and strengthen its capacity and resources in its ongoing efforts to promote and protect human rights. The Marshall Islands was pleased to provide responses to the recommendations made during the review in November 2020 and requested that attention be directed to the addendum to the report of the Working Group.

777. The Marshall Islands had accepted the recommendations to ratify the remaining core human rights treaties and optional protocols that it had not yet ratified, and it noted the recommendations contained in paragraphs 106.15 and 106.18, which required further evaluation. The Marshall Islands recognized the critical nature of those key treaties and protocols, but the delegation explained that tangible resources were necessary to effectively implement them. The Government of the Marshall Islands therefore called upon the international community to provide it with assistance in that regard.

778. The Marshall Islands had accepted the recommendations contained in paragraphs 106.27–106.33 to strengthen the National Human Rights Committee and to integrate the Paris Principles and Pacific Principles of Practice of National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up therein.

779. The Marshall Islands continuously aimed to protect marginalized groups and it had accepted the recommendations regarding anti-discrimination and gender equality. It would continue to consider further how to better incorporate protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual

and transgender persons into its legislation and culture and it had noted the recommendations contained in paragraphs 106.41–106.44.

780. On climate change, the delegation stated that it was an existential threat and the State's efforts required global resources to combat that crisis effectively. The Marshall Islands was glad to accept the recommendations that pertained to climate change, and especially the protection of vulnerable populations from climate-related disasters. The Marshall Islands continuously centred human rights approaches in addressing the climate change crisis, but it recognized it had limited social and economic resources to do so. Nevertheless, it asked for further cooperation and consideration from the international community in responding to that urgent crisis.

781. The Marshall Islands had accepted the recommendations relating to nuclear justice. The Government of the Marshall Islands would continue to mitigate the effects of the nuclear testing programmes conducted by the United States of America to the extent possible. Its national nuclear strategy had focused on the following areas: environmental remediation, health care for those affected by nuclear testing, and obtaining compensation for health, property damage and injuries.

782. The delegation articulated the unique challenges the Marshall Islands faced with regard to the recommendations contained in paragraphs 106.19–106.22, on ratifying the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, due to its history of being a nuclear testing site. As the Marshall Islands robustly dissected the implications of the provisions relating to “victim assistance”, the delegation communicated that the primary concern of the State was the responsibility of its nuclear legacy falling on its people, rather than on those ultimately responsible. While the Marshall Islands strongly supported the elimination of nuclear weapons globally, the burden of its nuclear legacy should rest with those responsible for carrying out those tests on its shores.

783. The Marshall Islands had also accepted the recommendation to improve its prison facilities and juvenile justice system. It would take the steps necessary to come into alignment with international standards in those areas.

784. The delegation reiterated that trafficking in persons was a global issue, and the Marshall Islands was combating that reality through legislative and policy actions. It had accepted the recommendations to effectively reduce trafficking in persons in the Marshall Islands and to prevent the trafficking of Marshallese individuals abroad, especially women and girls. To further strengthen those efforts, the State would adhere closely to its recently developed national implementation plan.

785. The Marshall Islands was determined to improve the health of its population, which was a key concern, and it was investing in its education system, which was crucial to its future success as a nation. The Marshall Islands had also accepted the recommendations to improve education and health, including by promoting awareness around nutrition, active lifestyles and communicable diseases. It would continue to take steps to improve its health-care system and services, including in the outer islands.

786. The Marshall Islands had accepted the recommendations to promote women's rights and to address domestic violence. Elevating the status of women in the Marshall Islands remained deeply integrated in the State's pursuit of human rights for all. Women's political and economic empowerment, women's leadership in decision-making roles, and eliminating violence against women were all critical women's rights and integral to the nation actualizing its full potential. The Marshall Islands was committed to continuing to empower women and it strongly advocated for the human rights of women and girls.

787. The Marshall Islands had further accepted the recommendations on children's rights and on incorporating and fully implementing the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

788. The Marshall Islands had also accepted the recommendations to support the enjoyment of the rights of persons with disabilities and it encouraged inclusivity in all national decision-making processes.

789. Lastly, the Marshall Islands had accepted the recommendations to strengthen the capacity to implement its human rights goals and to fulfil its reporting obligations. For the Marshall Islands, those goals remained front and centre in its pursuit to improve the human rights situation.

790. The Marshall Islands appealed to the international community, as it could not do that alone. The Marshall Islands had become a pillar of human rights advocacy in the Pacific. It remained dedicated to that and it would need continued support, cooperation and investment from the international community as it aimed to actualize its human rights goals. The delegation assured the Human Rights Council that the recommendations not immediately implemented would be conscientiously considered.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

791. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Marshall Islands, 13 delegations made statements.

792. Morocco welcomed the continued engagement of the authorities of the Marshall Islands with the universal periodic review process and the many measures adopted to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights in the country. It also welcomed the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

793. Nepal appreciated the constructive engagement of the Marshall Islands with the universal periodic review process for the promotion and protection of human rights, and the acceptance of most of the recommendations received during the third cycle, including both recommendations made by Nepal. It appreciated the engagement of the Marshall Islands in leading a global call for climate action and climate justice. It commended the adoption of the State's climate strategy 2050, charting a carbon-neutral sustainable development path for the country. It was encouraged by the State's national strategic plan 2020–2030, which aimed to improve people's quality of life.

794. New Zealand (video statement) supported the ongoing commitment of the Marshall Islands to human rights, as demonstrated through its role on the Human Rights Council since January 2020 and through the efforts made since the previous universal periodic review to address the human rights challenges facing it. New Zealand acknowledged the establishment of the National Human Rights Committee and it welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations to strengthen it. New Zealand commended the Marshall Islands for its strong commitment to women's rights and for the acceptance of the recommendations regarding gender equality and the elimination of violence against women and girls. It also applauded the State's acceptance of the recommendations to support the rights of persons with disabilities and it acknowledged the threat of climate change to the ability of the people of the Marshall Islands to fully realize and enjoy their rights. New Zealand remained committed to supporting the Marshall Islands to combat the impact of climate change.

795. South Africa expressed its appreciation to the Marshall Islands for having accepted all of the recommendations it had made during the review, which were related to, inter alia, establishing the fully operationalized National Human Rights Committee, expediting the establishment of processes to domesticate the international human rights instruments the State had ratified, addressing patriarchal norms to affirm women's rights and the norms and standards to affirm children's rights and juvenile justice, and strictly enforcing the legislation on trafficking in persons.

796. Tunisia (video statement) appreciated the acceptance of a high percentage of the recommendations made to the Marshall Islands. It was satisfied with the positive interaction with the recommendations from Tunisia, urging the Marshall Islands to continue the efforts to support the National Human Rights Committee, to further consolidate gender equality, to address discrimination against women, and to support the progress made in combating trafficking in persons and all forms of exploitation, especially the sexual exploitation of women and children. Tunisia reiterated the positive steps taken by the Marshall Islands since the previous review in the areas of supporting and protecting the rights of the child and persons with disabilities, preventing discrimination against women, and addressing and

preventing trafficking in persons. Tunisia appreciated the ratification of many important international human rights instruments and the State's cooperation with OHCHR and the human rights mechanisms.

797. UNFPA (video statement) commended the positive developments relating to the legal and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights. It noted that the Marshall Islands continued to face unprecedented vulnerabilities due to the impact of climate change. It opted to support the scaling up of access to sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence programmes, in order to achieve zero preventable maternal mortality, zero unmet need for family planning and zero gender-based violence. It commended the efforts to meet the commitments under the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act and the Gender Equality Act to strengthen first responder protocols and capacities addressing gender-based violence. It also commended the Government for its commitments to sexual and reproductive health and rights, in particular to address the high unmet need for modern contraceptives among young people. It welcomed the cooperation of the Marshall Islands in the development of the rights-based policy on young people, to be endorsed in 2021.

798. Vanuatu (video statement) congratulated the Marshall Islands on the State's acceptance of a large number of the recommendations. It noted that the recommendations accepted included those it had made on strengthening mechanisms and policies to eradicate violence against women and girls, promoting gender equality, incorporating into national laws the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to protect children from discrimination, as well as on considering acceding to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

799. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that it had been kind enough to point out its concerns to the Marshall Islands about the important human rights challenges that the country faced, such as violence against women and girls, the need to eradicate corporal punishment against children, the high rate of teenage pregnancy and the alarming rate of sexually transmitted infections. It regretted that the Marshall Islands had only partially accepted the recommendations that it had constructively made to the Government during the universal periodic review. It considered it important to reiterate to the Marshall Islands the recommendations to ratify international human rights treaties and instruments and the eight fundamental ILO conventions to which the Marshall Islands was not yet a party, and to harmonize national legislation to give them full application.

800. Cuba (video statement) urged the Marshall Islands to continue to work with the legal and constitutional framework to combat discrimination and all its manifestations, and to strengthen the health system, particularly to prevent diseases.

801. Haiti thanked the Marshall Island for having taken into account its three recommendations relating to promoting the institution of the family and family values, promoting more nutritious, diversified and healthy diets, and putting more emphasis on the problems faced by men and boys. As a small island developing State, Haiti wished the Government and people of the Marshall Islands every success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

802. India (video statement) observed that the review of the Marshall Islands had seen substantive participation, with 65 delegations having taken the floor and having made a total of 171 recommendations. It appreciated that as many as 161 recommendations had been accepted, including the three recommendations made by India. It also appreciated the constructive engagement of the delegation during the entire review, which reflected the strong commitment that the Marshall Islands attached to the universal periodic review process. India commended the measures taken by the Marshall Islands to mitigate climate change and the State's adaptation plans in the global fight for climate justice.

803. Israel (video statement) acknowledged the many challenges faced by the Marshall Islands as a consequence of climate change. It congratulated the State on the work done in the context of gender-based violence, women's participation and discrimination based on disability. It was pleased that two of the three recommendations it had made for the consideration of the Marshall Islands had been accepted and it invited the Marshall Islands

to consider implementing the third one as well. It looked forward to continued cooperation with the Marshall Islands and to hearing about the advances achieved by the State.

804. Libya (video statement) thanked the Marshall Islands for its active participation in the universal periodic review process. It commended the efforts made by the Marshall Islands to consider the recommendations made by Libya during the previous review process and it commended the significant progress made by the Government in fulfilling its human rights obligations.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

805. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Marshall Islands, two other stakeholders made statements.

806. The Center for Global Nonkilling (video statement) noted that the Marshall Islands had often shown leadership on vital issues, namely climate change and nuclear disarmament. It urged the Marshall Islands to champion life itself as well in its internal and international policies, as it was easier for a smaller country to prevent violence, violent mental disorders, suicides and traffic casualties. It congratulated the Marshall Islands on having accepted the recommendation, for the second time, to ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, urging its swift implementation. It also highlighted that leadership was needed in the Pacific region to promote human rights and human rights mechanisms. It strongly called for the establishment of a regional human rights institution.

807. Campagne internationale pour l'abolition des armes nucléaires welcomed the recommendations made to the Marshall Islands during the universal periodic review to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, to expand the national cancer prevention programme to address the adverse impacts of past nuclear testing by the United States of America and ensure that the programme was adequately funded. It noted the concerns expressed by the Marshall Islands about assistance to victims and environmental remediation provisions in the Treaty, which it contended placed a disproportionately heavy burden on countries affected by nuclear testing, instead of on those that carried out the tests. It considered that a flawed interpretation of the Treaty. Article 6 was consistent with the obligations the Marshall Islands already had under international human rights law, as a party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Marshall Islands had committed to the progressive realization of the economic, social and cultural rights of its people, including victims of nuclear weapons testing. It urged the Marshall Islands to join the Treaty at its earliest convenience.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

808. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 171 recommendations received, 161 had enjoyed the support of the Marshall Islands and 10 had been noted.

809. The delegation (video statement) expressed its sincerest gratitude to each participant and it welcomed their comments. It conveyed its appreciation to the States and non-governmental organizations that had provided valuable contributions during the universal periodic review process. It thanked them for the meaningful engagement in that process and for having provided insightful comments. As a small island nation, the Marshall Islands had ambitious goals to serve as a beacon of human rights in the Pacific, to remain on the frontlines in combating the climate change crisis and to create a more equal world through its legislation and policies.

810. The delegation reiterated that, without their engagement and cooperation, the Marshall Islands would not be where it was today. It recognized their contributions and thanked them. Lastly, to build a better future for its people and the Pacific region, the delegation asked for their continued support to make the human rights goals of the Marshall Islands a reality.

United States of America

811. The review of the United States of America was held on 9 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by the United States of America in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/USA/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/USA/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/USA/3).

812. At its 38th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the United States of America (see sect. C below).

813. The outcome of the review of the United States of America comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/15), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/15/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

814. The delegation (video statement) reaffirmed the commitment of its Government to promote respect for the human rights of all people, everywhere. President Biden had stated that the nation had been rooted in the most cherished democratic values: defending freedom, championing opportunity, upholding universal rights, respecting the rule of law and treating every person with dignity. However, many of those values had come under intense pressure in recent years. Those values must be defended every day. The Government committed to that vigilance and to that challenge, with resolve and humility.

815. American leadership on human rights must begin at home. The country's human rights situation had not been perfect. Therefore, the Government kept striving to live up to the highest ideals and principles of the country. The Government would address deep racial inequities and the systemic racism that continued to plague the nation, among other challenges.

816. The delegation thanked the President of the Human Rights Council, the many States that had participated constructively in the interactive dialogue of the review of the United States of America, the troika – the Bahamas, Germany and Pakistan – and the secretariat staff. The delegation thanked the national civil society organizations for their meaningful and active participation in the review process during the past year and more. The Government looked forward to working with civil society on the implementation of many of the recommendations.

817. The Government had carefully reviewed the 347 recommendations it had received during the review and had accepted in whole or in part a total of 280 recommendations – approximately 81 per cent. A written submission of the Government had responded to all of the recommendations and had included brief explanations for many of them.

818. The delegation recapped the Government's approach in some key human rights areas and highlighted the significant changes that had occurred since the session of the Working Group in November 2020. The delegation began focusing on the recommendations concerning civil rights and discrimination. Addressing systemic racism – forthrightly, honestly and powerfully – and the legacy of discrimination in the country was fundamental to the goals and policies of the Administration. Therefore, the Government had supported

almost all of the recommendations in that area that had called for the elimination of practices and policies marginalizing racial and ethnic minorities and for addressing police violence against members of minority communities, including African Americans. The Government had also supported the recommendations to improve the enforcement of laws that prohibited racial profiling and the excessive use of force in policing.

819. Protesters marching and demanding justice following the tragic death of George Floyd had come as a reminder of pervasive systemic racism and an urgent need to address it. What many Americans did not see, or simply refused to see, could not be ignored any longer. Floyd's death was a flashpoint within a long-standing national conversation around police brutality against African Americans and persons of colour that had galvanized a global call to end the injustices of systemic racism across the globe. The Human Rights Council had taken up that issue in its urgent debate on racism during its summer session in 2020. The delegation welcomed the High Commissioner's statement that the implementation of Council resolution 43/1, stemming from that debate, would reflect and amplify the voices of victims, their families and communities in all countries.

820. The Government was dedicated to eliminating racial discrimination and the use of excessive force in policing. The Department of Justice had issued guidance condemning unequivocally racial profiling and prohibiting racial profiling in federal law enforcement practices. Many states had done the same. The Department of Justice prosecuted individual officers who violated someone's civil rights and investigated police departments that might be engaging in a pattern or practice of conduct that deprived persons of their rights. The Government sought to proactively prevent discrimination or the use of excessive force by participating in the increased training of federal, state and local law enforcement officers across the country.

821. There had been a growing threat of domestic violent extremism, as seen in the horrific events at the United States Capitol on 6 January 2021. In responding to that threat, the new Administration was guided by the evidence and the law, and it was steadfast in maintaining the commitment of the United States of America to civil liberties. As other countries were also confronting growing nationalist, chauvinist movements, the Government called for working together with other countries on that important effort.

822. Entrenched disparities in domestic laws and public policies, and in public and private institutions, had often denied equal opportunity to individuals and communities. The COVID-19 pandemic had exacerbated existing inequities. The Government had started taking measures to address that situation, including through the issuance of an executive order by President Biden to pursue a comprehensive approach to advancing equity for all, steps to end unequal provisions in the housing policy and to extend the nationwide eviction moratorium during COVID-19.

823. The Government had intended, through its many steps taken in the past months, to reverse the policies that had served to divide America. The Government was reauthorizing mandatory anti-bias training across the federal government system and ensuring the inclusion of all people present in the United States of America in the census of 2020, irrespective of their immigration status. The Government had taken steps to eliminate discriminatory bans on entry to the United States, and to end the federal Government's reliance on private prisons and to reform an incarceration system that disproportionately affected people of colour.

824. Despite the extraordinary progress the country had made securing equal rights for LGBTQI+ individuals, discrimination was rampant in many areas of its society. President Biden had issued an executive order directing federal agencies to develop a plan to fully implement laws that prohibited discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation or gender identity. On 8 March 2021, the President had established the White House Gender Policy Council to advance gender equity and equality, including for those in marginalized and underserved communities. On 25 January 2021, the President had issued an executive order ensuring that transgender individuals who wished to serve in the United States of America military would be able to do so openly and free from discrimination.

825. The new Administration was committed to the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, including by promoting their sexual and reproductive health and rights, both in the United States of America and globally. The Government had

supported several recommendations relating to sexual and reproductive health and rights. On 28 January 2021, President Biden had issued the Presidential Memorandum on Protecting Women's Health at Home and Abroad, which had revoked the 2017 Presidential Memorandum on the Mexico City Policy and had also directed the withdrawal of the co-sponsorship and signature of the United States from the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women's Health and Strengthening the Family. Those steps would improve the lives of women and girls by increasing their access to critical health services.

826. The Government had supported numerous recommendations relating to strengthening efforts to protect the rights of migrants and migrant children. President Biden had recalled that immigration had been an irrefutable source of the country's strength. On the day of his inauguration, President Biden had taken the first steps in a broad, whole-of-government effort to reform the immigration system, including by having sent to Congress legislation creating a pathway to citizenship for nearly 11 million undocumented immigrants living in and contributing to the country. The President's strategy was centred on the basic premise that the country was safer, stronger and more prosperous with a fair, safe and orderly immigration system that welcomed immigrants, kept families together and allowed everyone to contribute to the country.

827. President Biden had condemned the human tragedy of using immigration laws to intentionally separate children from their parents or legal guardians. The Administration had rescinded the zero-tolerance policy and would protect family unity. On 2 February 2021, the President had established an inter-agency task force on the reunification of families to bring families back together and to provide them with the relief, resources and services they needed to heal.

828. The Government was committed to safe, humane and lawful immigration enforcement, including by protecting family unity and strengthening the protection of human rights of non-citizens in immigration detention, as well as through the appropriate use of alternatives to detention. The United States of America sought to ensure that children entering the country were not separated from their families, except in the most extreme circumstances where a separation was necessary for the safety and well-being of the child or was required by law. It was also a priority of the new Administration to reinstate the safe and orderly reception and processing of arriving migrants and asylum seekers.

829. The Government had received recommendations from 33 countries concerning the administration of capital punishment at the state and federal level. The delegation explained that those recommendations reflected continuing differences of policy, but not differences about what the international human rights obligations of the United States of America required. President Biden supported legislatively ending the death penalty at the federal level and incentivizing additional states to follow the federal Government's example. Furthermore, since the previous review of the United States, five states had abolished the death penalty, either through new legislation or through judicial decisions.

830. The United States of America had supported several recommendations relating to promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples. The Government was committed to working with tribal governments to address the many issues facing their communities. President Biden had issued a memorandum calling on federal agencies to develop detailed plans to implement existing policies regarding consultation with tribes. It was a priority of the new Administration to make respect for tribal sovereignty and self-governance, commitment to fulfilling federal trust and treaty responsibilities to tribal nations, and meaningful consultation with tribal nations cornerstones of federal policy.

831. In the area of national security, the Government had supported the recommendations regarding the Guantanamo Bay detention facility. It intended to continue the work of the Obama Administration in finding a resolution to the issue of the Guantanamo Bay detention facility.

832. The largest group of recommendations concerned the ratification of treaties and engagement with international mechanisms. The Government had supported several recommendations relating to the ratification of additional human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Discrimination (Employment and

Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The fact that the United States of America had not ratified those treaties was not an indication that the country did not support their goals. Under the Constitution, treaty ratification required approval by the executive branch and a two-thirds supermajority of the Senate. The Administration continued to review how to approach the ratification of those treaties.

833. The Government had supported the recommendations to rejoin the Human Rights Council and had started its active re-engagement with the Council right after the announcement of Secretary of State Blinken on 8 February 2021. The United States of America was currently running for election to the Council for the term 2022–2024. The Government strove to work with the international community to meet a shared commitment to promote respect for human rights and it recognized that any pledge to fight for human rights around the world must begin with a pledge to fight for human rights at home.

834. Strengthening cooperation with the international community on climate change was a core priority of the United States of America. The Government was committed to intensifying its efforts to address environmental challenges, including climate change. President Biden had signed, and the United States had deposited with the United Nations, the instrument to rejoin the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and had appointed former Secretary of State John Kerry as the nation's first presidential envoy for climate. As of 19 February 2021, the United States was again a member of the Paris Agreement and it worked hard to accelerate global efforts and commitments to tackle that critical issue.

835. The delegation addressed several recommendations concerning access to health care and the response of the Government to the COVID-19 pandemic. The President had launched an all-of-government effort to provide equitable emergency economic relief to working families, communities and small businesses across the country. The President took action to strengthen affordable access of health insurance coverage for millions of Americans, to meet the health-care needs created by the pandemic, to reduce health-care costs, to protect access to reproductive health care and to make the health-care system easier to navigate.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

836. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the United States of America, 13 delegations made statements.

837. South Africa expressed its appreciation to the United States of America for having accepted the recommendations it had made relating to, inter alia, combating racism, xenophobia and related intolerance, the reform of the criminal justice system, including sentencing laws, and ratifying all conventions and other instruments the State had committed to in its previous reviews.

838. The Sudan (video statement) noted with appreciation the efforts by the United States of America to address ongoing issues, including racial discrimination and the rights of minorities. It expressed satisfaction that the United States had supported the recommendations it had made.

839. The Syrian Arab Republic observed that the response by the United States of America to some recommendations in the addendum, including those it had made, had been addressed under the title of “national security” and that the country had refused to provide comments on the concerns that had been raised. It asked whether that was a confession that crimes, including those of military aggression and occupation, were legal and justified under the country's laws.

840. Tunisia (video statement) thanked the United States of America for having accepted a large number of the recommendations received. Tunisia noted the efforts that had been made to implement recommendations, in particular those on discrimination and strengthening tolerance and mutual understanding and increasing the integration of foreigners in society.

841. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by the United States of America of two of its three recommendations. It regretted that the United States had not supported its recommendation to ratify the Protocol of 1944 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and it

expressed the hope that the United States would reconsider and take steps in due course to ratify that instrument.

842. UNFPA (video statement) welcomed the support by the United States of America for all of the recommendations pertaining to the promotion of gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights. It commended the announcement made to reinstate funding by the United States to UNFPA and it looked forward to working with the new Administration.

843. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) expressed deep concern about the human rights situation in the United States of America and about the country's clear lack of willingness to effectively implement the recommendations of the universal periodic review. It firmly restated the recommendations it had made during the interactive dialogue.

844. China (video statement) expressed deep concern about the human rights situation in the United States of America, noting, among other things, the failure to take effective measures to control the COVID-19 pandemic, blame shifting, vaccine nationalism, racial discrimination and devastating police brutality, xenophobia, armed interventions that had resulted in tremendous deaths of civilians in other countries and unilateral coercive measures that had caused severe human rights and humanitarian crises.

845. Botswana (video statement) commended the United States of America for its continued commitment to the promotion of human rights and for its demonstrable efforts in that regard. Botswana was pleased to note that the United States had accepted one of the two recommendations it had made and partially accepted the other one.

846. Brazil (video statement) noted with appreciation the important number of recommendations accepted by the United States of America and their broad scope. Brazil welcomed in particular the full re-engagement of the United States with the work of the Human Rights Council, in line with the recommendations made by several States during the previous review.

847. Burkina Faso (video statement) expressed appreciation for the willingness of the United States of America to cooperate with the universal periodic review mechanism and with the treaty bodies. It welcomed the country's engagement in fighting against discrimination and the commitment to protect life and the family.

848. Chad welcomed the acceptance by the United States of America of almost all of the recommendations received during the consideration of the national report. Chad recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on the United States of America.

849. Belarus (video statement) regretted that the United States of America had not supported a substantial part of the recommendations received during the review. The United States had not supported the recommendation made by Belarus to amend legislation to ensure that elections were held in accordance with international standards and in the presence of observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

850. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the United States of America, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

851. The Center for Global Nonkilling, in a joint statement with Conscience and Peace Tax International (CPTI) (video statement), welcomed the intent of the new Administration to end the federal death penalty and it expressed the hope that the Administration would swiftly implement that commitment. It requested that the new Administration invest as much for peace as it invested for the prevention or the practice of war and that a peace fund be created.

852. Edmund Rice International (video statement) commended the United States of America for its support or support in part for the recommendations regarding immigration, border detention, children and family separation. It noted, nevertheless, that the parents of over 600 migrant children separated in 2018 still had not been found, and that some 3,200 migrant children were currently being detained following the recent increase in the number

of unaccompanied minors crossing the border. It called upon the Administration to take swift action to remedy those violations.

853. The International Lesbian and Gay Association (video statement) welcomed the positive response of the United States of America to the recommendations relating to non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. It observed that LGBTQ individuals still lacked basic legal protections in many jurisdictions. Noting that crimes against the LGBTQ population remained at disturbingly high levels, it stated that the United States must devote more resources at state and federal levels to combat violence and hate crimes.

854. The International Association of Democratic Lawyers (video statement) stated that the immigration system faced many problems and it highlighted the situation of immigrants from Haiti who had long suffered from structural and systemic anti-black racism in federal immigration policies. It urged the United States of America to use the forthcoming report of the International Commission of Inquiry on Systemic Racist Police Violence against People of African Descent in the United States as a resource in fulfilling its promise to combat racial discrimination and the use of excessive force in policing.

855. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (video statement) highlighted the action needed to address issues relating to migration and the situation at the southern border. It noted the ever-increasing public spending on militarization, including of the police and border controls, as well as the need for the United States of America to implement the recommendations on racial justice, police violence and gun control. It observed that the United States remained the largest arms exporter and it regretted that the United States had noted the recommendation contained in paragraph 26.108 on arms transfers.

856. The Program in International Human Rights Law (video statement) noted that the COVID-19 pandemic was now present in the Guantanamo Bay detention camp, deteriorating the situation of the remaining detainees. It indicated that prisoners had yet to be vaccinated primarily because of political pressure. Many of the prisoners were now elderly and sick, suffering from pre-existing conditions. Moreover, COVID-19 had further exacerbated the unfair characteristics of the military trials.

857. The International Planned Parenthood Federation (video statement) applauded the Government for its recent re-examination of the policies that created unjust restrictions on sexual and reproductive health and rights, including abortion, and it welcomed the support of the United States of America for the recommendations on those rights. It thanked the United States for having swiftly taken action to rescind the global gag rule and it expressed satisfaction that the Government was also initiating a review of recent harmful changes to Title X, the nation's family planning programme.

858. The American Civil Liberties Union (video statement) commended the new Administration for having re-engaged with the Human Rights Council, prioritized racial justice at home and promised to champion equality abroad. It indicated that the Administration must immediately lift sanctions on the International Criminal Court. Moreover, to implement fully the universal periodic review recommendations, the Government should create a permanent federal mechanism to implement the country's human rights obligations and expand the mandate of the United States Commission on Civil Rights to include human rights.

859. The Center for Constitutional Rights (video statement) stated that the United States of America must implement the recommendations of the current and previous universal periodic review cycles, ratify the Rome Statute and ensure that engagement with other nations was in accordance with international law. It called upon the United States to transform its relationship with the global community from one of imperialism towards one of material solidarity and interdependence.

860. The Center for Reproductive Rights, in a joint statement with IPAS (video statement), commended the United States of America for having supported the recommendations to advance comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights, and it urged the United States to implement those recommendations fully and to make stronger protections a reality.

It urged the United States to champion legislation and take administrative action to ensure access to comprehensive reproductive health care, including abortion, within the United States and globally, and to act to end racial disparities in maternal health care.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

861. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 347 recommendations received, 263 had enjoyed the support of the United States of America and 67 had been noted. Additional clarifications had been provided on another 17 recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations had been supported and which parts had been noted.

862. In conclusion, the delegation of the United States of America recalled the declaration of Secretary Blinken before the Human Rights Council that the United States placed democracy and human rights at the centre of its foreign policy. American leadership mattered and the Government would exercise that leadership with humility, knowing that the country had a great deal of work to do at home to enhance its standing abroad, and also knowing that no single country acting alone could effectively address those problems. The United Nations was uniquely poised to take on shared global challenges and could be an indispensable institution for advancing peace, security and collective well-being.

Croatia

863. The review of Croatia was held on 10 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Croatia in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/HRV/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/HRV/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/HRV/3).

864. At its 38th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Croatia (see sect. C below).

865. The outcome of the review of Croatia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/16), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/16/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

866. The delegation of Croatia (in-person statement) reiterated the full support of Croatia for the universal periodic review mechanism and praised that mechanism for having successfully overcome the obstacles brought by COVID-19.

867. Croatia had become a member of the Human Rights Council for the first time in 2017, and in 2019, it had been its Vice-President. Croatia announced its candidature for the Human Rights Council for 2032.

868. The delegation stressed that the procedure for the data collection system on hate crime and hate speech had been additionally improved. The Croatian presidency of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance in 2023 had been announced.

869. In line with the Istanbul Convention, Croatia had altered the definition of rape, removing the previous requirement of force or threat to life and body for the act to be considered a rape. The law on protection against domestic violence prescribed higher penalties for all forms of domestic violence.

870. From the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government had introduced measures to ensure all human rights in the country. A daily updated website dedicated to COVID-19 had been established and a two-way communication platform with citizens on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram had been launched. The application “Andrija”, which helped to manage questions on COVID-19 infections, and the application “Stop COVID-19”, which helped the user to know if he or she had been in contact with the application of a person who was COVID-19 positive, had been launched in 2020.

871. During the quarantine, social welfare centres had formed crisis intervention teams that could be dispatched urgently in domestic violence cases. Family centres had provided counselling and assistance for victims through both calls and online messaging applications. Seven SOS telephone numbers had been operating. In 2020, a campaign had been launched to encourage reporting on any form of domestic violence, including during the pandemic.

872. The delegation emphasized that, during the pandemic, older persons in social accommodation services had been provided with video calls to mitigate the consequences of restricted visits, and that all the rights of persons with disabilities had been preserved. In March 2020, the Government had adopted its first package of measures that had applied to all citizens and legal entities, including measures to support job preservation.

873. During the pandemic, the Government had launched online learning and through television channels, including for national minority members in their own languages. Mobile network operators had provided free broadband Internet and subscriber identity module cards to all students with a lower socioeconomic background.

874. Information flyers on COVID-19, developed by the International Organization for Migration and translated into 26 languages, had been made available in reception centres for international protection applicants. Applicants in self-isolation had been provided with three meals a day, medications, hygiene supplies and an interpreter.

875. On the global level, Croatia had supported the appeal of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for peace in homes worldwide in the context of the pandemic. That principle had been included in the resolution on the comprehensive and coordinated response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which Croatia had co-coordinated with Afghanistan.

876. The delegation thanked all 86 countries that had taken part during the virtual universal periodic review presentation and it emphasized that the addendum had been structured in accordance with the main themes addressed during the debate. Croatia had carefully reviewed all 224 recommendations and accepted 194, while 30 had been noted. It indicated that the recommendations in the cluster of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers had been noted because Croatia could not accept some opinions expressed regarding Croatian authorities’ treatment of migrants, which had not been based on accurate information and facts. It also stressed that the general principles of and proposed actions in those recommendations would have the full attention of Croatia and would be implemented as appropriate.

877. The delegation particularly emphasized that police officers were trained and required to respect the human rights of migrants, including by ensuring their access to international protection in accordance with all international, European Union and national legislation. Croatia was the only European Union country with a national, independent border monitoring mechanism. Furthermore, Croatia had been working with the European Commission, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights to create an independent monitoring mechanism for the police treatment of migrants on the external European Union border.

878. The delegation indicated that migratory pressure had increased since 2016. While, before, Croatia had had a couple of hundred applications for international protection, now there were about 2,000 a year. However, the majority of migrants did not want to stay in Croatia, and over 70 per cent of applications had had to be suspended during the asylum procedure due to the absence of the applicants.

879. The delegation explained that some migrants had repeatedly tried to enter Croatia illegally across the external European Union border. Trying to protect its external borders, territory and the safety of those living within, Croatian police had applied all measures in accordance with international standards, including the Schengen Borders Code, while also saving migrants from perilous situations.

880. Migrants in Serbia or in Bosnia and Herzegovina often filed complaints with humanitarian organizations, falsely stating that they were abused or prevented from accessing the international system of protection in the territory of Croatia. Every accusation was thoroughly examined by the Ministry of Interior, while the competent State Attorney's Office and the Ombudswoman (Croatia) were notified of all circumstances established in the investigation. Coercion and the excessive use of force against migrants were strictly prohibited. The Ministry of Interior had granted access to a database to non-governmental organizations and the Ombudswoman (Croatia).

881. Croatia was one of the few countries that had transposed the provision on assisting irregular migrants for humanitarian reasons into its national legislation, having defined the facilitation of unauthorized entry, transit and residence. Also, various police training courses on the treatment of migrants had been organized, including for police officers on the external border.

882. The consolidation of election legislation into a single electoral code was not appropriate for the Croatian electoral system because of different varieties of political elections that took place in Croatia. Minorities in Croatia had eight places reserved in Parliament and the right to elect representatives in local self-governing units. Croatia had one of the most comprehensive legal and institutional systems for guaranteeing minority rights.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review

883. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Croatia, 13 delegations made statements.

884. Belarus (video statement) noted that it had read the large number of recommendations made to Croatia relating to the broad aspect of human rights and it hoped that the recommendations received would provide impetus to Croatia to take a critical view of its human rights record. Belarus would carefully follow the State's success in the implementation of the 194 recommendations accepted. It hoped that, when developing measures to implement the universal periodic review recommendations, the Croatian authorities would pay attention to the investigative reports, including from authoritative foreign media outlets, about systematic abuses by the Croatian police against refugees and migrants trying to enter the European Union.

885. Botswana (video statement) noted that Croatia had demonstrated a strong commitment to its human rights obligations, including through its continued cooperation with the work of special procedure mandate holders. Botswana had made two recommendations to Croatia in relation to prison overcrowding and gender equal pay. Croatia had accepted an overwhelming majority of the recommendations, including the two from Botswana.

886. China encouraged Croatia to take effective legislative and administrative measures against acts of discrimination towards Roma and other minorities and to adopt policies to protect the rights of migrants and asylum seekers.

887. Cuba (video statement) urged Croatia to continue to work on its national strategies to combat poverty and exclusion, prioritizing the most vulnerable groups and persons with disabilities, in the situation of the pandemic and epidemic. Cuba noted the commitment of Croatia to the universal periodic review and it wished the State every success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

888. Djibouti (video statement) welcomed the delegation of Croatia and thanked it for its additional presentation, which emphasized the efforts and commitments in the field of the protection and promotion of human rights, on the occasion of the adoption of the State's report. Djibouti congratulated Croatia on having accepted many of the recommendations

received during the third cycle of the universal periodic review and it particularly welcomed the acceptance by Croatia of the two recommendations Djibouti had made.

889. Ethiopia welcomed the acceptance by Croatia of the recommendation from Ethiopia calling for the continuation of the State's efforts to adopt the national programme for the protection and promotion of human rights and the national policy for gender equality.

890. India (video statement) welcomed the delegation of Croatia and noted that the review held on 6 November 2020 had seen substantive participation, with as many as 86 member States having taken the floor and having made a total of 224 recommendations. India appreciated the constructive engagement by the delegation of Croatia during the entire review. The acceptance of 194 recommendations, including three from India, showed the State's strong commitment to the universal periodical review.

891. Libya (video statement) welcomed the delegation of Croatia and thanked it for its active participation in the universal periodic review process and for all of the efforts to consider the recommendations made during previous review cycles, as well the measures taken to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

892. Morocco welcomed the special attention that had been paid by the Croatian authorities to persons with disabilities by having established a new certification system and by having harmonized legislation with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Morocco noted with satisfaction the acceptance of its recommendation inviting Croatia to present the reports expected under the United Nations human rights treaties.

893. Namibia (video statement) commended Croatia for having accepted 194 recommendations out of the 224 recommendations received during the thirty-sixth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, in November 2020. It was particularly pleased that Croatia had accepted both recommendations of Namibia, regarding the administration of justice and the legislative interventions pertaining to gender-based violence in Croatia.

894. Nepal (video statement) appreciated the constructive engagement of Croatia in the universal periodic review and it commended the State for having accepted most of the recommendations, including both recommendations made by Nepal during the review. It appreciated the initiatives taken by Croatia to enhance non-discrimination, including through the implementation of the national anti-discrimination plan. Nepal welcomed the importance attached by Croatia to strengthening national mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights and it appreciated the establishment of specialized ombudsman's offices for children, for gender equality and for persons with disabilities.

895. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted that Croatia had accepted most of the recommendations, including those from the Russian Federation on strengthening measures to address the problem of overcrowding in places of detention and prisons; adopting legislative measures to ensure that the issue of non-discrimination against women was taken into account in the labour market, as well as measures to implement the principle of equal pay for work; and full compliance with international obligations relating to linguistic, religious and other minority rights. It hoped that the recommendations accepted by Croatia during the universal periodic review would be duly implemented and would make it possible for Croatia to overcome existing shortcomings in the field of human rights.

896. Serbia (video statement) appreciated the level of commitment shown by the authorities of Croatia to the universal periodic review mechanism. It commended in particular the efforts made in the protection of human rights, despite the current grave circumstances of the pandemic. While the Human Rights Council was adopting the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Croatia, Serbia expected that the Croatian authorities would responsibly take all the recommendations from that cycle relating to the situation of national minorities and take concrete measures to eliminate the atmosphere of intolerance towards the Serbian minority. Serbia reminded Croatia of the recommendation accepted during the previous cycle on ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

897. During the adoption of the outcome of the review Croatia, seven other stakeholders made statements.

898. The World Jewish Congress (video statement) noted that the presence and history of Jews in Croatia dated back many centuries. It stressed that the number of antisemitic incidents in Croatia remained at a very low level in comparison to that of other European countries. The Jews felt very safe in that country and faced no restrictions in their ability to exercise their religion and traditions in the democratic system of Croatia, as stated in the report. It congratulated Croatia on the presidency of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance in 2023. It welcomed the progress made by the State towards adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism, including the efforts by the Ministry of Science and Education and the Education and Teacher Training Agency and it called upon the Government to fully adopt and implement that definition.

899. The Human Rights House Foundation (video statement) welcomed the intervention of Portugal on moving towards a dedicated national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up for the universal periodic review recommendations, as well as those made by the treaty bodies, the special procedures and relevant regional mechanisms. The public discrediting of the work of human rights defenders and civil society organizations had continued, and those working on the rights of refugees had been the targets of intimidation and violence. Further steps must be taken to combat hate speech and hate-motivated violence, including against national minorities and LGBTQI persons. Lastly, the organization stated that journalists and the media were exposed to an increasing number of lawsuits, including from high-ranking politicians, for publishing facts, transmitting statements and defamation. It recommended that Croatia ensure a safe and enabling environment for the work of human rights defenders and journalists, secure funding schemes for sustainable and long-term human rights work on advocacy and for the provision of social services, create and implement a new comprehensive plan to combat and counter hate speech, including through civic education, and enhance educational activities for judges concerning freedom of expression standards.

900. Action Canada for Population Development (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by Croatia of the recommendation on improving services and support for survivors of gender-based violence. Since its previous universal periodic review, Croatia had enacted a number of laws and policies in line with international standards. The effective implementation of those changes was still lacking. Meanwhile, State representatives continued to openly promote discrimination against victims of violence on the basis of their financial status and social class, and government-promised shelters for victims of domestic violence had still not been fully established. The organization called upon the Government to strengthen measures to prevent and address gender-based violence, which included trainings for police officers, judges and lawyers, thorough investigations of cases of domestic violence and accountability for perpetrators, access to shelters, protection orders, adequate compensation for victims and legislative measures in accordance with the Istanbul Convention.

901. The International Humanist and Ethical Union (video statement) was disappointed that Croatia had rejected the recommendation to guarantee legal and safe abortions for all women and girls. While on paper, abortion had been legal in Croatia since 1978, in practice, a woman seeking an abortion faced numerous obstacles. A key issue was the increasing refusal by doctors to perform abortions on the grounds of their religion. While hospitals were under a legal duty to make a referral in such cases, the practice was unregulated and many women were forced to have terminations in private clinics or to travel abroad. The organization noted the existence of a powerful anti-abortion movement in Croatia, which used sophisticated tactics to undermine a woman's right to make an informed choice about her body. Intimidation outside of clinics was now combined with aggressive online disinformation campaigns, which spread unscientific claims and lies. The organization stressed the need for a comprehensive, science-based programme on sex education in schools and sufficient staff who were willing to provide reproductive health services.

902. Asociación HazteOir.org (video statement) stated that over 6,000 citizens who had joined CitizenGO's alert were concerned about controversial LGBTIQ propaganda being taught to children at schools. It noted that gender ideology and the LGBTIQ agenda were mere ideological and political constructs that some radicals had built in the last decades. An ideologically and unscientific factually incorrect agenda could not be imposed on children and their parents. The organization commended the efforts made to reconcile work and family life, to avoid discrimination against pregnant women, mothers, older persons and persons with disabilities, and it asked Croatia to accept the recommendations on those topics, and to maintain and increase efforts to effectively protect and promote those vulnerable groups.

903. United Nations Watch (video statement) addressed the issue of media freedom and the fact that defamation laws were being used to silence journalists. According to the Croatian Journalists' Association, in May 2020, there had been 905 ongoing legal claims against journalists and news outlets, which had been brought by politicians and public figures. It noted that those lawsuits had been designed to intimidate and censor critics by burdening them with legal proceedings. The legal harassment of investigative journalists inevitably led to self-censorship. The organization joined the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Representative on Freedom of the Media in calling on Croatia to decriminalize defamation and to amend civil defamation law to deter public figures from bringing frivolous claims to silence independent voices in the media. It further noted that journalists must be protected from harassment and that Croatia must protect the freedom of the press by investigating and combating all attacks and attempts to intimidate journalists. In 2019, the State's public broadcasting company, HRT, had filed 36 claims against journalists, including against its own editor, who had complained of censorship at the agency and who was later dismissed. That had resulted in different organizations and political parties having temporarily boycotted the broadcaster, which had exacerbated the problem.

904. Advocates for Human Rights (video statement) welcomed the outcome of the universal periodic review of Croatia, which had contained important recommendations relating to protecting women from violence. Domestic violence remained a serious problem in Croatia and the law did not protect victims who had not lived with their partner for at least three years or who did not have a child in common. The police and courts punished violations of protection orders lightly, and shelters for victims were inadequate and underfunded, with only 62 per cent of recommended shelter spaces available. The organization recommended that Croatia immediately implement policies and trainings that directed officials to identify the primary aggressor to avoid the continued arrests of victims, train judges, prosecutors, and police on the application and enforcement of safety measures under civil and criminal laws, both during the period of pending trials and after conviction, and provide regular, secure and adequate funding for all women's shelters, while respecting their autonomy.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

905. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 224 recommendations received, 194 had enjoyed the support of Croatia and 30 had been noted.

906. In conclusion, the delegation (in-person statement) pledged to prepare the midterm report and said that the universal periodic review recommendations would guide Croatia in strengthening human rights in the country.

Liberia

907. The review of Liberia was held on 2 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Liberia in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/LBR/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/LBR/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/LBR/3).

908. At its 39th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Liberia (see sect. C below).

909. The outcome of the review of Liberia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/6), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/6/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

910. The delegation of Liberia (video statement) indicated that, since the adoption of the national strategy to meet regional and international human rights treaty reporting obligations, Liberia had continued to advance in fulfilling its treaty obligations. The steering committee for the national action plan on human rights, a technical drafting team comprising representatives from line ministries and agencies, civil society organizations and the Independent National Commission on Human Rights, had drafted the State's national report.

911. During a conference organized in 2021 by the steering committee with support from OHCHR, several representatives of the international community, including United Nations agencies, regional organizations and embassies, had committed financial and technical support while having advocated for the acceptance of various recommendations that they had made.

912. All of the 218 recommendations had been considered by the steering committee and, after careful deliberations, 166 recommendations had been accepted by Liberia, while 52 recommendations had been noted. The recommendations that had been noted should not imply that they did not enjoy any support from Liberia, but that the Government was not in the position to commit to those recommendations without the requisite preparation. Nevertheless, the issues and concerns raised in the context of all of the recommendations had been captured in the national human rights action plan 2019–2024, to be addressed.

913. While Liberia had taken note of a number of recommendations calling for the abolition of female genital mutilation, it had continued the fight to eradicate it. Thus, in 2018, former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf had passed executive order No. 92 on domestic violence, which criminalized harmful traditional practices such as being forced to join a secret society. In addition, the Government had realized that the elimination of the practice of female genital mutilation in Liberia needed extensive consultations with the traditional sector. Considering the cultural, financial and political context and nature of the practice of female genital mutilation, the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection had strategically engaged traditional leaders and practitioners. It had done so with support from international partners through the National Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia, thus having allowed them to take ownership of the process to eradicate female genital mutilation. The engagement had led to the suspension of all Sande activities for the period of one year. In particular, support had been provided to the National Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia through the Ministry of Internal Affairs to monitor the closure of the schools concerned. Moreover, due to studies having shown that the alternative economic livelihood programme for traditional practitioners of female genital mutilation had had a positive impact in ending the practice, in 2020 the European Union/United Nations Spotlight Initiative had supported the launch of the alternative economic livelihood programme and had broken ground for a vocational and heritage centre in Tiehne, Grand Cape Mount County. The programme aspired to teach new skills to traditional practitioners who operated the concerned schools, providing an alternative source of income to replace female genital mutilation. That would be replicated in other Spotlight Initiative counties, namely Montserrado, Nimba, Lofa and Grand Gedeh.

914. In addition, in 2020, traditional practitioners who had embarked on a climate-smart agriculture programme had harvested their first produce of rice in Sunkey Town, Todee District, Montserrado County.

915. Moreover, also in 2020, under the road map against sexual and gender-based violence, the Government of Liberia had committed to reviewing the laws against sexual and gender-based violence. During that process, and with the availability of funding, the draft anti-female genital mutilation bill would be reviewed and finalized for submission to the National Legislature. In addition, further consultations would be organized to finalize the issuance of an executive order that would suspend the practice of female genital mutilation until the passage of the law abolishing female genital mutilation by the National Legislature.

916. The delegation further indicated that, while a number of recommendations calling for the establishment of a war and economic crimes court had been noted, Liberia, with support from the United Nations and other partners, remained engaged at the national and regional levels to reach a consensus on a transitional justice mechanism. The delegation highlighted that since 2018 the President of Liberia, George Manneh Weah, had expressed his support for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission process and recommendations on different occasions and in different forums. Moreover, in 2019, with support from OHCHR and the Centre for Democracy and Development, the Independent National Commission on Human Rights, in cooperation with civil society, had implemented a three-day national colloquium under the theme “Promoting national reconciliation through the implementation of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission”. The event had brought together over 150 stakeholders from across the country to discuss and deliberate on the way forward in the implementation of the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. As a follow-up to the communiqué from the colloquium, in 2019, the Government, with funds from international partners, had hosted an event attended by over 350 participants, who had provided key recommendations, including the establishment of a war and economic crimes court.

917. On the recommendations relating to the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, the delegation stated that the protection of the rights of all citizens and foreign residents residing within the State’s borders remained a constitutional duty and priority of the Government. The fact that the recommendations on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons had been noted did not mean that the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons were not guaranteed. In fact, the Government had remained engaged with all relevant stakeholders on the protection of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons from discrimination. In addition, the Independent National Commission on Human Rights had established a desk to receive complaints of human rights violations and abuses, taking diversity into consideration. Moreover, the Commission was working with relevant government institutions and the coalition of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender advocacy organizations to examine and review the Penal Code regarding provisions that might prohibit same-sex relationships. Also, the Commission, in cooperation with the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and OHCHR, had engaged in awareness-raising activities.

918. In summary, many recommendations relating to treaty ratification and domestication, the death penalty, the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities, sexual and reproductive health, conditions of detention, the rule of law, the national development agenda and the Independent National Commission on Human Rights had been accepted.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

919. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Liberia, 13 delegations made statements.

920. UNICEF (video statement) was encouraged by the commitment of Liberia to ensure free birth registration for all children and to the legal abolition of the death penalty. It appreciated the Government’s commitment to prohibit the corporal punishment of children, to reform the education, health and justice systems, and to prohibit and eliminate child marriages. It regretted, however, that Liberia had noted the recommendations regarding the prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence, including female genital

mutilation, and it urged Liberia to engage with communities and traditional leaders in that regard.

921. UNFPA (video statement) welcomed the fact that several recommendations had been accepted by Liberia in the areas of gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls, reproductive rights, and the prioritization of access to sexual and reproductive health in the development agenda. It acknowledged the measures taken to integrate sexuality education into the national curriculum reform process. It welcomed the inclusion of youth development as a priority in the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development and the measures to address sexual and gender-based violence. Lastly, it committed to working with the Government to achieve the three zeros: zero preventable maternal deaths, zero unmet need for family planning and zero gender-based violence.

922. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) welcomed the adoption of legislation to protect women and to fight against gender violence, the progress made towards a preventive health system for infection diseases and the measures taken to eliminate the stigmatization of Ebola virus survivors. It encouraged Liberia to strengthen its national policies in favour of the most vulnerable groups. It urged the international community to assist Liberia in the implementation of the recommendations.

923. Belgium (video statement) appreciated that Liberia had accepted all of the recommendations made by Belgium. It noted, however, that two of the three recommendations had been reformulated by Liberia without prior consultation with Belgium in that regard. In the opinion of Belgium, the reference to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the notion of effective promulgation were still an integral part of its recommendation, and it hoped that Liberia would implement the recommendations as initially formulated during the session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review.

924. Botswana (video statement) welcomed the establishment of legal aid clinics for women victims of gender-based violence and measures to provide legal aid for vulnerable people. It regretted that its recommendation on female genital mutilation had not been accepted and it encouraged Liberia to continue efforts towards eradicating female genital mutilation.

925. Burundi (in-person statement) welcomed the national action plan on human rights, the measures taken to promote and protect freedom of expression and the independence of the press and the media, the legislative measures to combat sexual and gender-based violence, the poverty programme, the education sector improvement plan and the creation of the National Disaster Management Agency.

926. Chad thanked the delegation of Liberia for the updated and relevant information and it welcomed the responses and additional information provided during the meeting and the interest that Liberia had shown in the recommendations made by stakeholders during the consideration of the report. It requested the Human Rights Council to proceed with the adoption of the final report on Liberia and it wished the State every success in the effective implementation of the recommendations accepted.

927. China appreciated that Liberia had revised its public health law and had implemented the national health plan to effectively combat the Ebola virus and COVID-19 outbreaks. It welcomed the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development, the promotion of poverty reduction and employment, and the progress made in the areas of education and the protection of vulnerable groups. China hoped that Liberia would continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, step up poverty reduction efforts, raise people's standard of living, increase investment in health care and protect the right to health.

928. Cuba (video statement) congratulated Liberia on the State's commitment to the universal periodic review and it was pleased that the recommendations made by Cuba had been supported. Cuba welcomed the progress made despite the challenges faced by Liberia and it urged the State to continue to make progress in reducing poverty and in improving the national public health strategy. Cuba wished Liberia every success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

929. Djibouti (video statement) noted with satisfaction that Liberia had accepted many recommendations, including one made by Djibouti. While having taken note of the State's explanations in that regard, Djibouti hoped that Liberia would consider its second recommendation. It wished Liberia every success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

930. Ethiopia welcomed the engagement of Liberia with the universal periodic review process and the acceptance of the two recommendations made by Ethiopia on mobilizing resources to realize the national vision of becoming a middle-income country by 2030 and on liaising with the international community to support the operationalization of its national mechanism for treaty reporting and follow-up. The universal periodic review would remain an opportunity for sharing best practices and a platform where a constructive exchange took place.

931. India (video statement) welcomed the fact that Liberia had accepted many recommendations, including the recommendations made by India. It appreciated the progress made in terms of policy formulation and programmes to improve the promotion and protection of human rights in Liberia and the commitment to implement the recommendations and include them in the national action plan on human rights.

932. Libya (video statement) welcomed and thanked Liberia for its active participation in the universal periodic review and for its efforts to take into account the recommendations made by Libya during the previous review. It commended the Government's efforts to reduce the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country despite the challenges the State faced.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

933. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Liberia, six other stakeholders made statements.

934. The Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches (video statement) expressed concern about the persistent impact of the civil war on human rights in Liberia and it regretted that that issue had not been sufficiently addressed. It was concerned that the COVID-19 pandemic was having devastating social and economic effects, about the persistent high rate of sexual and gender violence, including domestic violence, particularly in Monrovia, and about political and electoral violence, which threatened peace and stability. It urged Liberia to address sexual and gender-based violence and to provide adequate medical treatment for post-traumatic disorders. Concerned by the situation of stateless persons, it welcomed the recommendations to review any discriminatory provisions and it asked Liberia to implement those recommendations.

935. The International Service for Human Rights (video statement) noted that the Government had committed in 2018 to concluding the national action plan on business and human rights. However, systemic environmental and human rights abuses, documented in the agri-business sector, still needed to be addressed in the aforementioned action plan. It commended Liberia for the landmark passage of the law on land rights in 2018, which had formalized land ownership for indigenous and customary communities. It was encouraged to support the completion of the national action plan on business and human rights, to ensure the operationalization of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights and to ensure that all human rights defenders, particularly those working on environmental issues, were protected from threats and attacks and that perpetrators were held accountable.

936. The International Lesbian and Gay Association, in a joint statement with the International Service for Human Rights (video statement), regretted that Liberia had noted all of the recommendations regarding lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons and that no action plans in that regard had yet been developed. It was concerned that the Penal Code criminalized consensual same-sex acts between adults, and that the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and persons living with HIV still faced major obstacles to access basic services, particularly health services. The COVID-19 pandemic had aggravated their situation, and two bills seeking to increase the penalty for same-sex relations and explicitly prohibiting same-sex marriage were before the house of Parliament. It urged Liberia to amend its legislative and institutional framework in order to decriminalize same-sex consensual acts

between adults, prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and protect, promote and fulfil the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons.

937. Human Rights Watch (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by Liberia of the recommendation to move towards the implementation of the measures suggested by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It was concerned, however, that Liberia had only noted the recommendation to create a war crimes court. Liberia “did not report persistent impunity for human rights violations” in its presentation to the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. The indications of President George Weah in 2019 that he would seek legislative support for establishing a war crimes court had not advanced since then. The Government of Liberia should unequivocally support the establishment of a war crimes court and request United Nations assistance to do so.

938. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l’homme (video statement) welcomed the adoption of legislative reforms criminalizing sexual and gender-based violence, the Kamara Abdullah Kamara law on press freedom, the action plan against domestic violence and the national action plan on human rights. It was, however, concerned about the persistence of impunity of perpetrators of torture, rape, summary executions, extreme violence and war crimes during the civil war, the youth unemployment rate, the practice of female genital mutilation, sexual and gender-based violence, child rape, the lack of food and overcrowding in prisons, and corruption in public administration. It called upon Liberia to legally abolish the death penalty for all offences and to fight against impunity for perpetrators of war crimes, marital rape and discrimination against sexual minorities.

939. Advocates for Human Rights (video statement) commended Liberia for having maintained a de facto moratorium on executions since 2000. While noting that no execution had taken place since the previous universal periodic review, it regretted that courts had issued death sentences and the growing calls for the adoption of laws to permit the death penalty for rape. Low rates of prosecution and conviction had contributed to the increasing incidence of rape, and rape victims were reluctant to report the crime or to pursue prosecution. The death penalty would only create an additional disincentive for victims. The organization called upon Liberia to reject calls to expand the death penalty and instead to adopt immediately a formal moratorium, commute existing death penalties and take steps to formally abolish the death penalty in law.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

940. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 218 recommendations received, 166 had enjoyed the support of Liberia and 52 had been noted.

941. The delegation stressed that the universal periodic review process was critical to peace and development in Liberia, and it believed that the emphasis should now focus on the implementation. Lastly, it underlined the position of Liberia to strengthen coordination efforts at the national level for the implementation of and follow-up on the recommendations.

Jamaica

942. The review of Jamaica was held on 11 November 2020 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Jamaica in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/JAM/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/JAM/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/36/JAM/3).

943. At its 39th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Jamaica (see sect. C below).

944. The outcome of the review of Jamaica comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/46/18), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions contained therein and the State's voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/46/18/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

945. The delegation of Jamaica recalled that the Constitution of Jamaica guaranteed to all citizens the protection of their rights regardless of colour, class or creed and it reiterated the high importance that Jamaica attached to human rights and the review exercise. Jamaica considered the process to be a highly constructive one and it welcomed the active participation from States. Jamaica acknowledged that, as with all countries, there remained progress to be made in the protection and promotion of human rights and the delegation highlighted that the majority of the recommendations accepted by Jamaica during the second cycle had been successfully implemented.

946. With regard to gender equality, the delegation indicated that Jamaica had further strengthened its gender equality programmes and it highlighted the gender equality seal certification programme of 2016 to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, and the policy guidelines of 2018 on the nomination, selection and appointment of board members of public bodies to improve the number of women in leadership and decision-making positions. Although Jamaica recognized that there was room for improvement, the delegation underlined the increased participation of women in Parliament and the House of Representatives. The delegation referred to the national strategic action plan to eliminate gender-based violence (2017–2027), which provided for an integrated, multisectoral and structured approach to address the key issues and challenges of gender-based violence, with a strategic focus on victims, survivors, perpetrators and witnesses of acts of violence.

947. With regard to human rights education and training, the delegation highlighted the development of the Law Enforcement (Protection of Integrity) Act, which would define the standards of operation for all individuals engaged in law enforcement activities to include consideration for human rights and for the further enhancement of public confidence in law enforcement agencies. The Office of the Children's Advocate had conducted training seminars to build the capacity of the police in children's rights within the various ranks of the Jamaica Constabulary Force.

948. The protection of the vulnerable remained a focus area for the Government of Jamaica. On child protection, the delegation stated that the Office of the Children's Registry had merged with the Child Development Agency to form the Child Protection and Family Services Agency in 2017. That same year, the child case management system had been launched to assess the needs of each child and his or her family who accessed the services of the Child Protection and Family Services Agency. Furthermore, the family and children's courts had been tasked with making decisions and provisions to protect and see to the well-being of children from birth to 18 years of age, along with children's officers, who had the responsibility of representing the rights of children brought before those courts. In addition, Jamaica had launched the global partnership to end violence against children in 2016 and the national action plan for an integrated response to children and violence in 2019.

949. With regard to persons with disabilities, the delegation indicated that, to implement fully the Disabilities Act of 2014, centres for the early detection of disabilities in children had been opened in the central town of Mandeville and in Montego Bay (western Jamaica). A third centre was being constructed near Port Antonio (eastern Jamaica). With the existing centre in Kingston, there would be four such centres in Jamaica.

950. On the right to development, the delegation underlined that most natural disasters in Jamaica were climate related and that Jamaica was advancing the climate change agenda at

the national level through a range of policy initiatives and the implementation of strategic adaptation, mitigation and resilience-building projects and programmes. It referred to the Disaster Risk Management Act of 2015, which designated special vulnerable areas and disaster areas, and the Building Act of 2018, which sought to reduce the vulnerability of the built environment and to ensure public safety. The delegation also referred to the nationally determined contribution to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 7.8 per cent by 2030. It referred to the formidable challenges Jamaica was facing, such as vulnerability to external shocks (extreme weather events and the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic) and the country's capacity constraints. Despite that, Jamaica continued to pursue national transformation through the national development plan Vision 2030, which was fully aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals of the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

951. The delegation also underlined the strategies Jamaica was implementing to lower the country's crime rates, boost economic growth and environmental sustainability, and reduce the rate of chronic non-communicable diseases, as well as poverty levels, and particularly rural and child poverty. The delegation indicated that Jamaica would strive to further improve on existing measures towards the advancement of the civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights of all citizens, while giving special attention to the protection of the most vulnerable. The delegation reiterated the commitment of Jamaica to implement the recommendations accepted.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review

952. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Jamaica, 13 delegations made statements.

953. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela highlighted the ratification by Jamaica of the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), as well as the timely submission of periodic reports to the treaty bodies. It also indicated the challenges Jamaica was facing, such as the need to sanction hate crimes against migrants and other vulnerable groups. It reiterated the importance for Jamaica to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, despite the de facto moratorium on executions since 1988.

954. Botswana (video statement) commended Jamaica for the consistent up-to-date reporting on its commitments under various human rights treaties and other United Nations treaty bodies and for having accepted most of the recommendations made during the third cycle of the universal periodic review.

955. Brazil (video statement) appreciated the acceptance by Jamaica of its two recommendations, concerning the protection and access to justice of all women victims of sexual violence and the rights of persons living with HIV/AIDS to receive treatment and live a life without discrimination based on health status. Brazil encouraged Jamaica to consider preparing and presenting a voluntary midterm report on the implementation of the recommendations henceforth accepted.

956. China commended Jamaica for having developed the national development plan Vision 2030, as well as promoting economic and social development and endeavouring to reduce poverty, developing education and health, combating trafficking in persons, and protecting the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. It hoped that Jamaica would continue to promote sustainable socioeconomic development, raise people's standards, build a solid foundation for people to enjoy their rights, and continue to promote gender equality and better protect the rights of women and children.

957. Cuba (video statement) congratulated Jamaica on the number of recommendations accepted. It encouraged Jamaica to continue to strengthen its strategies to reduce poverty by incorporating the COVID-19 pandemic response and to continue to focus on public health with particular attention paid to sexual and reproductive health from a prevention perspective. Cuba recognized the commitment of Jamaica to the universal periodic review and it

congratulated the State on the achievement, in spite of the challenges Jamaica faced as an insular developing State.

958. Guyana (video statement) commended Jamaica for its acceptance of 120 out of the 170 recommendations received and it urged the Government to continue to work with international, regional and bilateral partners in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

959. Haiti welcomed the acceptance by Jamaica of its two recommendations on the promotion of the family and family values and on the adoption of concrete and sustainable measures to fight the negatives effects of climate change, particularly on the tourism sector.

960. India (video statement) appreciated the acceptance by Jamaica of 120 recommendations, including those made by India. It commended the State's continued cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, and it took note with appreciation of the national development plan Vision 2030 and the national poverty reduction programme of 2017. India also commended the State's efforts to mitigate climate change.

961. The Marshall Islands (video statement) thanked Jamaica for having accepted two of the recommendations it had made and it hoped that Jamaica would consider the two other recommendations on the ratification of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean and other United Nations human rights treaties in the future. As a fellow small island developing State, it understood the challenges faced due to limited capacity and resource constraints in fulfilling its international obligations and implementing the universal periodic review recommendations.

962. Morocco reaffirmed its support and encouraged Jamaica in the State's efforts to adhere to international conventions and in implementing measures to protect the rights of women and children.

963. Namibia (video statement) stated that it would continue to engage constructively with Jamaica in relation to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It was pleased to note the State's acceptance of its recommendation to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

964. Nepal commended Jamaica for its advancement in the climate change agenda, including through the establishment of institutional mechanisms and legal and policy frameworks to work for climate change adaptation, resilience and mitigation. Nepal took positive note of the efforts of Jamaica to combat trafficking in persons.

965. Pakistan commended and encouraged Jamaica in relation to the measures taken to eradicate extreme poverty and to improve the living standards of its citizens. Pakistan reiterated its call for greater international assistance in support of the State's efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change and to promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

966. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Jamaica, six other stakeholders made statements.

967. The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (video statement) welcomed the positive developments highlighted in the national report of Jamaica in the context of tackling gender-based violence, child abuse, poverty, climate change and counter-trafficking measures. However, it was concerned about the disproportionate use of force – including lethal force – and other abuses by the police and security forces, especially during the public emergency. While it welcomed the attempt to define the standard operating procedure for law enforcement and the steps taken to promulgate a “less lethal weapons” policy, it underlined the need to meaningfully strengthen internal accountability mechanisms, including the Independent Commission of Investigations. It called upon Jamaica to implement effectively the Access to Information Act of 2002 and to refrain from introducing amendments that would dilute or defeat its purpose. It appreciated the State's commitment to and continued

cooperation with civil society to tackle trafficking in persons. However, it remained concerned regarding other forms of modern slavery, such as forced labour, forced marriage and child prostitution, which still existed in a legal vacuum. It called upon Jamaica to undertake periodic studies to ensure an evidence-based policy in that regard. It expressed concern about the high incidence of gender-based violence and maternal mortality linked to the general criminalization of abortion. It recommended that Jamaica decriminalize consensual same-sex relations between adults and ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It also urged Jamaica to expedite the process of establishing an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

968. The Commission of Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches (video statement) indicated that the fear of violence on the streets, at home and in schools, involving guns and other weapons, as well as sexual violence, trafficking, bullying and psychological violence, were the themes repeatedly raised by groups of children it had consulted. It thanked the Government for its efforts to address that concern, but it indicated that the response to violence against children was fragmented across various national strategies, unconsolidated policy interventions and legislation that was not enforced enough. Investment in violence prevention was still insufficient, with significant gaps in the protective framework. It referred to UNICEF statistics that showed that 80 per cent of Jamaican children experienced violence in their communities and that the country had one of the highest homicide rates in the world. Most of those killings occurred in vulnerable and marginalized communities and 80 per cent of them resulted from gang activities. Most victims were killed by firearms but sometimes by knife or machete. Although boys were three times more likely to be murdered than girls, Jamaica was among the 10 countries with the highest mortality rates from homicide among adolescent girls. The organization thanked the Governments that had made recommendations addressing violence on the rights of the child and Jamaica for having accepted them. It considered that the levels of violence should be treated as an epidemic and the Government of Jamaica should respond with more extensive, coordinated and far-reaching measures.

969. The International Planned Parenthood Federation (video statement) applauded the willingness of Jamaica to advance the sexual and reproductive rights agenda, as well as the State's acceptance of the recommendations on gender-based violence, discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and the criminalization of marital rape. However, the organization highlighted the State's unfortunate decisions to note the significant recommendations made regarding the criminalization of abortion and granting the provision of immunity to medical professionals who wished to deliver services to adolescents of 16 years of age and under. The abortion laws limited access to safe and legal abortion, which was a reproductive health right. That restriction also contributed to maternal mortality and increased the burden on the country and its economy. The discrepancies in two key pieces of legislation, which provided coverage for adolescents, namely the Child Care and Protection Act and the Law Reform (Age of Majority) Act, reinforced the discomfort of medical practitioners to deliver health care to adolescents even in instances where it was highly needed. The organization implored Jamaica to revisit those legislative frameworks to ensure that they fit the realities of young people and, at the same time, protected their well-being. It reiterated the need for continued engagement with civil society organizations to strengthen the efforts for the realization of human rights for all persons living in Jamaica and it offered its expertise.

970. United Nations Watch (video statement) focused on two particular areas: summary executions and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights. First, it commended the tremendous progress made in reducing extrajudicial killings since the establishment in 2010 of the Independent Commission of Investigations. It indicated that Jamaica had about 100 people killed per year and 16 people had been killed so far in 2021, stressing that the progress had not been enough. It also highlighted that countless families, and in particular women, faced a long struggle for justice against a de facto culture of impunity. The powers of the Independent Commission of Investigations to charge and prosecute security forces were still being disputed at the highest levels. In the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Jamaica, it was indicated that, of the 70 delegations that had spoken, only two had raised the issue of extrajudicial killing, and not a single one had mentioned the

absence of timely judicial recourse for victims. The organization also raised the issue of the deteriorating human rights situation for the State's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens, particularly in the context of police violence. It stressed that, one week before, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights had found the Government of Jamaica responsible for having violated multiple rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, and it called upon Jamaica to repeal its homophobic laws. The lack of gender identity protection under the Charter of Fundamental Rights excluded those persons from justice, while section 76 of the Offences against the Persons Act made lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persecution essentially State sanctioned.

971. With regard to the death penalty, Advocates for Human Rights (video statement) commended Jamaica for its de facto moratorium on executions, which had been in place since 1988. However, it expressed deep concern regarding the significant risk of backsliding as, during the presentation during the interactive dialogue, the Government of Jamaica had indicated that it would continue to ignore calls to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty and to take concrete steps towards abolition. It anticipated that Jamaica would not support the recommendations received during the review to take such steps and it recalled that the Government had emphasized that any future consideration of a de jure moratorium or of abolition would be determined by the Government in consultation with the people of Jamaica. It indicated that there was rising public support for the death penalty due to an increase in violent crimes that, in turn, eroded the political will necessary to move towards abolition. It called upon Jamaica to take measures towards the eventual abolition of the death penalty in consultation with civil society, to address the root causes of violent crimes, to invest in preventing and deterring crimes, and to adopt an official death penalty moratorium in law with a view towards abolition.

972. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme (video statement) congratulated Jamaica on the constitutional amendments it had made, including having raised to 18 years the minimum age for attaining maturity as an adult. The organization called upon Jamaica to prioritize the vaccination against COVID-19 of all front-line personnel and vulnerable groups. It stressed the existing lack of accountability, especially in cases involving trafficking in persons, specifically women, and children for the purposes of child labour, as well as rampant police abuses. It encouraged the Government of Jamaica to remain steadfast in the face of implementation challenges regarding several universal periodic review recommendations, including those on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights and the fight against diseases such as HIV/AIDS.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

973. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 170 recommendations received, 120 had enjoyed the support of Jamaica and 50 had been noted.

974. The delegation (in-person statement) indicated that Jamaica considered the universal periodic review mechanism a valuable tool to promote greater accountability and the sharing of experience and dialogue at the international level in the area of human rights, and it looked forward to its further strengthening.

975. Jamaica fully subscribed to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which reaffirmed belief in the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family as the foundation of freedom, justice and peace. Since its independence in 1962, Jamaica had been committed to promoting and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons within its territory, without exception. That was reflected in the provisions of the Constitution of Jamaica, as well as in the treaty obligations at the regional and international levels. Jamaica acknowledged that human rights created conditions essential for sustainable development and they were at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As a small island developing State, Jamaica had worked assiduously to improve on the progress made in successive universal periodic review cycles, in synergy with its national development plan and with the aim of promoting the full realization of human rights.

976. The current COVID-19 pandemic had been a test for Governments worldwide. The delegation underlined the importance of an adequate and appropriate national public health response, as well as the need for strengthened and coordinated multilateral responses to tackle the virus and to mitigate its far-reaching and devastating effects with respect for human rights across the spectrum.

977. Jamaica was encouraged by the constructive engagement during the universal periodic review. The country would intensify efforts at every level to further build on what had been achieved, to strengthen the existing legal and institutional architecture for the promotion of human rights, and to preserve and strengthen critical partnerships with civil society and the international community to further advance its human rights commitments.

B. General debate on agenda item 6

978. At its 40th meeting, on 18 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 6, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan¹¹ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain (video statement), Belgium¹¹ (on behalf of the International Organization of la Francophonie) (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Cuba (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Malawi, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Portugal¹¹ (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Togo (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Ethiopia, Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives (video statement), Republic of Moldova, Serbia (video statement), Tunisia (video statement);

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNFPA (video statement);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Africa culture internationale, Amnesty International, Asociación HazteOir.org, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Center for Africa Development and Progress, Centre catholique international de Genève (CCIG), Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, China Foundation for Human Rights Development, China NGO Network for International Exchanges, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Catholic Child Bureau, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, Iran Autism Association, Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnat Va Salamat Iranian, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Partners For Transparency, UPR Info.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Belarus

979. At its 36th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/101 on the outcome of the review of Belarus.

Libya

980. At its 36th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/102 on the outcome of the review of Libya.

¹¹ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Malawi

981. At its 36th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/103 on the outcome of the review of Malawi.

Panama

982. At its 37th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/104 on the outcome of the review of Panama.

Mongolia

983. At its 37th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/105 on the outcome of the review of Mongolia.

Maldives

984. At its 37th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/106 on the outcome of the review of Maldives.

Andorra

985. At its 37th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/107 on the outcome of the review of Andorra.

Honduras

986. At its 37th meeting, on 16 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/108 on the outcome of the review of Honduras.

Bulgaria

987. At its 38th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/109 on the outcome of the review of Bulgaria.

Marshall Islands

988. At its 38th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/110 on the outcome of the review of the Marshall Islands.

United States of America

989. At its 38th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/111 on the outcome of the review of the United States of America.

Croatia

990. At its 38th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/112 on the outcome of the review of Croatia.

Liberia

991. At its 39th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/113 on the outcome of the review of Liberia.

Jamaica

992. At its 39th meeting, on 17 March 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 46/114 on the outcome of the review of Jamaica.

VII. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

A. Reports of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

993. At the 41st meeting, on 18 March 2021, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions S-9/1 and S-12/1, her report on the human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular on the implementation of Council resolutions S-9/1 and S-12/1 (A/HRC/46/63).

994. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/31, her report on the consequences of the intensification of settlement activity and other steps taken towards formal annexation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/HRC/46/65).

995. Also at the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/30, the report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/HRC/46/64).

996. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine made statements as the States concerned.

B. General debate on agenda item 7

997. At its 41st meeting, on 18 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 7, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan¹¹ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), China, Cuba (video statement), Indonesia (video statement), Libya (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Mexico (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan (also on behalf of the Group of African States) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Chile (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Jordan, Kuwait (video statement), Lebanon, Luxembourg (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives, Morocco (video statement), Nigeria, Oman (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), South Africa, Sri Lanka (video statement), Timor-Leste, Tunisia (video statement), Turkey (video statement), United Arab Emirates (video statement), Yemen (video statement);

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Adalah: Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, Al-Haq, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, B'nai B'rith, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, Defence for Children International, Geo Expertise Association, Human Rights Watch, Institute for NGO Research, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities, International-Lawyers.org, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnatu Va Salamat Iranian, Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), Next Century Foundation, Norwegian Refugee Council, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH), Partners For Transparency, Touro Law Center – The

Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust, United Nations Watch, Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Jewish Congress.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan

998. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.16, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Chile and Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States). Subsequently, Cameroon and Togo withdrew their original co-sponsorship. Subsequently, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors.

999. At the same meeting, the representatives of Israel (video statement) and the Syrian Arab Republic (video statement) made statements as the State concerned.

1000. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Brazil (video statement), Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

1001. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Eritrea, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Abstaining:

Fiji, Philippines, Uruguay

1002. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 26 votes to 18, with 3 abstentions (resolution 46/24).

Right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

1003. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.18, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Chile and Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States). Subsequently, Cameroon and Togo withdrew their original co-sponsorship. Subsequently, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Namibia, Panama, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Timor-Leste and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors.

1004. At the same meeting, the representatives of Israel and the State of Palestine made statements as the States concerned.

1005. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Czechia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

1006. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Eritrea, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Czechia, Marshall Islands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Malawi

1007. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 42 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions (resolution 46/25).

Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan

1008. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.30, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Chile, Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Cameroon and Togo withdrew their original co-sponsorship. Subsequently, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Namibia, Portugal, South Africa, Spain and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

1009. At the same meeting, the representatives of Israel, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine made statements as the States concerned.

1010. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Eritrea, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Czechia, Marshall Islands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Abstaining:

Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Malawi, Togo, Ukraine

1011. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 36 votes to 3, with 8 abstentions (resolution 46/26).

VIII. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

A. General debate on agenda item 8

1012. At its 41st meeting, on 18 March 2021, and its 42nd meeting, on 19 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 8, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Azerbaijan¹¹ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain (video statement), Brazil (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), Chile¹¹ (also on behalf of Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement), China, China (also on behalf of Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Eritrea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe), Cuba (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Italy (also on behalf of Ethiopia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Morocco and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Israel¹¹ (also on behalf of Argentina, Canada, Estonia, France, Greece, Kenya, the Netherlands and the Republic of Korea) (video statement), Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Malawi, Nepal, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Portugal¹¹ (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), United States of America¹¹ (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Vanuatu), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Australia (video statement), Azerbaijan, Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel (video statement), Sweden (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Action Canada for Population and Development, Alliance Creative Community Project, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain, Inc., Asociación HazteOir.org, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association internationale pour l'égalité des femmes, Association Thendral, Center for Africa Development and Progress, China Soong Ching Ling Foundation, Chinese Association for International Understanding, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRA), Conectas Direitos Humanos, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme, Federation for Women and Family Planning, Geo Expertise Association, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Ingénieurs du monde, Institute for NGO Research, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG), International Action for Peace & Sustainable Development, International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, Iuventum, eV, Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Le pont, Liberation, Next Century Foundation,

Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Sikh Human Rights Group, Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos Humanos, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Tourner la page, Villages unis/United Villages, World Barua Organization, World Muslim Congress, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

1013. At the 42nd meeting, the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, China, Morocco and Ukraine made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

1014. At the same meeting, the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Morocco made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

IX. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

A. Debate on the midterm review of the International Decade for People of African Descent

1015. At its 33rd meeting, on 12 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 75/237, a debate on the midterm review of the International Decade for People of African Descent in commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

1016. At the same meeting, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the debate.

1017. Also at the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: professor and Acting Head of the Department of Jurisprudence of the University of Pretoria, Joel Modiri (video statement); specialist on Afro-Peruvian policies at the Ministry for Culture of Peru, Alicia Quevedos Canales (video statement); Executive Chair of the Samata Foundation and Young Global Leader at the World Economic Forum, Pradip Pariyar (video statement); member of the World Jewish Congress Jewish Diplomatic Corps, Marie-Sarah Seeberger (video statement). The Human Rights Council divided the debate into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

1018. During the ensuing discussion for the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina (also on behalf of Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement), Brazil (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), Haiti¹¹ (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Ghana (video statement), Mauritius (video statement), Peru (video statement), South Africa (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF (video statement);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Sikh Human Rights Group.

1019. During the discussion for the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon, Cuba (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Marshall Islands (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Senegal;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Costa Rica (video statement), Ecuador, Portugal (video statement);

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNFPA, UN-Women (video statement);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities (also on behalf of International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations), World Jewish Congress.

1020. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

B. General debate on agenda item 9

1021. At the 42nd meeting, on 18 March 2021, the Permanent Representative of Lesotho, on behalf of the Chair-Rapporteur of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, Thabang Matjama, presented the report of the Working Group on its eighteenth session, held from 12 to 23 October 2020 (A/HRC/46/66).

1022. At the same meeting, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights provided, pursuant to the Human Rights Council resolution 43/1, an oral update on systematic racism and violations of international human rights law against Africans and people of African descent by law enforcement agencies, especially those incidents that had resulted in the death of George Floyd and other Africans and of people of African descent.

1023. At the 42nd and the 43rd meetings, on the same day, and at the 44th meeting, on 22 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 9, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Azerbaijan¹¹ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Brazil (video statement), Brazil (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Cuba (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Malawi, Namibia (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Portugal¹¹ (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan, Sweden¹¹ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway) (video statement), Togo (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), United States of America¹¹ (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Comoros, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, the Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Zambia and Zimbabwe) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Botswana (video statement), Canada (video statement), Chad, Democratic People's Republic

of Korea, Djibouti (video statement), Ecuador, Egypt, Haiti (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Israel (video statement), Jordan, Montenegro (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Nigeria, Saudi Arabia (video statement), Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, Tunisia (video statement), Turkey (video statement), State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for a national human rights institution: Human Rights Defender (Armenia);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Adahah: Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, Advocates for Human Rights, African Green Foundation International, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Al-Haq, Alliance Creative Community Project, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Asociación HazteOir.org, Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Association Thendral, B'nai B'rith, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Center for Africa Development and Progress, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, China Foundation for Human Rights Development, Conselho Indigenista Missionário, Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, Elizka Relief Foundation, European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue, Geo Expertise Association, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, Ingénieurs du monde, Institute for NGO Research, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Career Support Association, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities, International-Lawyers.org, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iraqi Development Organization, Japan Society for History Textbook, Justiça Global, Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Le pont, Minority Rights Group, Palestinian Return Centre, Ltd., Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, Prahar, Promotion du développement économique et social, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Sikh Human Rights Group, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Touro Law Center – The Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust, Universal Rights Group, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress.

1024. At the 44th meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Israel, Japan, Turkey and Ukraine made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

1025. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief

1026. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.3, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Australia, Canada, Fiji, Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Paraguay and Uruguay. Subsequently, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ecuador, Honduras, the Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vanuatu joined the sponsors.

1027. At the same meeting, the representative of Armenia (video statement) made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

1028. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/27).

1029. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

X. Technical assistance and capacity-building

A. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

1030. At the 44th meeting, on 22 March 2021, the High Commissioner provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/34, an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

1031. At the same meeting, the following presenters made statements: Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; international expert on the situation in Kasai, Bacre Waly Ndiaye; Minister for Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, André Lite Asebea (in-person statement); Executive Director of La Voix des Sans Voix pour les Droits de l'Homme, Rostin Manketa.

1032. During the ensuing discussion, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the High Commissioner and the presenters questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China (video statement), France, Italy, Japan (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sweden¹¹ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway) (video statement), Togo (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Ireland (video statement), South Sudan, Switzerland (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Centre for Human Rights, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, International Service for Human Rights, Lutheran World Federation, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Reporters sans frontières international/Reporters without Borders International, World Organization against Torture, World Vision International (also on behalf of Norwegian Refugee Council, Oxfam International and Save the Children International).

1033. At the same meeting, the Director of the Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division of OHCHR, on behalf of the High Commissioner, and the presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

B. Interactive dialogue with a special procedure mandate holder

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali

1034. At the 44th meeting, on 22 March 2021, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali, Alioune Tine, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/38, his report (A/HRC/46/68).

1035. At the same meeting, the representative of Mali made a statement as the State concerned.

1036. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 45th meeting, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Burkina Faso (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), Czechia (video statement), France, Mauritania (video statement), Netherlands (also on behalf of Belgium and Luxembourg) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan,

Sweden¹¹ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Norway) (video statement), Togo (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Botswana (video statement), Chad, Egypt (video statement), Estonia (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Spain (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), United States of America;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women (video statement);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Elizka Relief Foundation, International Catholic Child Bureau, International-Lawyers.org, International Service for Human Rights, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

1037. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

C. Interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in Ukraine

1038. At the 45th meeting, on 22 March 2021, the Deputy High Commissioner provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 41/25, an oral update on the findings of the periodic report of OHCHR on the situation of human rights in Ukraine.

1039. At the same meeting, the representative of Ukraine made a statement as the State concerned.

1040. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Deputy High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bulgaria (video statement), Czechia (video statement), Denmark (video statement), France, Germany, Japan (video statement), Malawi, Netherlands (video statement), Poland (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Canada (video statement), Croatia (video statement), Estonia (video statement), Finland (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Hungary (video statement), Iceland (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Latvia (video statement), Lithuania (video statement), Montenegro (video statement), North Macedonia (video statement), Norway (video statement), Romania (video statement), Slovakia (video statement), Spain (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Turkey, United States of America;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Amnesty International, Human Rights House Foundation, International Catholic Child Bureau, International Commission of Jurists.

1041. At the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

D. High-level interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic

1042. At the 45th meeting, on 22 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 45/35, a high-level interactive dialogue to assess the developments in the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic, placing special emphasis on the status of the fight against impunity, including in the electoral context.

1043. At the same meeting and at the 46th meeting, on the same day, the following presenters made statements: United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights; Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Deputy Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic; Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic, Yao Agbetse (in-person statement); interim representative of the African Union in the Central African Republic and Human Rights Observer in charge of Dialogue and Reconciliation, François Bado; Minister for Public Service and Acting Minister for Justice of the Central African Republic, Jean Christophe Nguinza; Secretary-General of the Network of NGOs for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights, Anicet Thierry Goue Moussangoe.

1044. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 46th meeting, the following made statements and asked the presenters questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium¹¹ (also on behalf of Luxembourg and the Netherlands) (video statement), China (video statement), France, Iceland¹¹ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Malawi, Mauritania (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan, Togo (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Chad, Egypt (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Portugal (video statement), South Sudan, United States of America;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union (video statement);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Defence for Children International, Elizka Relief Foundation, Next Century Foundation, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, World Evangelical Alliance.

1045. At the same meeting, the Officer in Charge of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR, on behalf of the Deputy High Commissioner, and the presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

E. General debate on agenda item10

1046. At the 46th meeting, on 22 March 2021, pursuant to Human Rights Council decision 2/113 and resolution 14/15, the Officer in Charge of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR presented the report of the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and on the technical assistance achievements in the field of human rights (A/HRC/46/69) and the annual oral presentation of the High Commissioner on technical assistance and capacity-building efforts.

1047. At the same meeting, a member of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 36/28, the report of the Board of Trustees (A/HRC/46/70).

1048. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Afghanistan made a statement as the State concerned.

1049. At the same meeting, and at the 47th meeting, on 23 March 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 10, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola¹¹ (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries) (video statement), Azerbaijan¹¹ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) (video statement), Brunei Darussalam¹¹ (on behalf of ASEAN), Bulgaria (video statement), Burkina Faso (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China (video statement), Cuba, Finland¹¹ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Malawi, Mauritius¹¹ (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Barbados, Cabo Verde, Fiji, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Singapore and Vanuatu), Nepal (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Pakistan (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of Belarus, Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), the United Arab Emirates and Zimbabwe) (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Portugal¹¹ (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Togo (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Australia (video statement), Azerbaijan, Botswana (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Costa Rica (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Estonia (video statement), Ethiopia, Finland (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Latvia (video statement), Lithuania (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Republic of Moldova, South Sudan, Sweden (video statement), Thailand (video statement), Timor-Leste, Tunisia (video statement), Turkey (video statement), United States of America, Vanuatu (video statement);

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: Development Operations Coordination Office (video statement);

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Action of Human Movement (AHM), American Association of Jurists (also on behalf of Asociación Española para el Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos (AEDIDH), International Association of Democratic Lawyers, Right Livelihood Award Foundation and World Peace Council), Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (also on behalf of Amnesty International, International Commission of Jurists and World Organization against Torture), Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Center for Africa Development and Progress, Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, Elizka Relief Foundation, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers), Geo Expertise Association, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Human Rights Watch, International Council of Russian Compatriots (ICRC), International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Lesbian and Gay Association, Iran Autism Association, Iranian Thalassemia Society, Le pont, Make Mothers Matter, Next Century Foundation, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (also on behalf of Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection “Manshour-e Parseh”, Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, Disability Association of Tavana, Ertegha Keyfiat Zendegi Iranian Charitable Institute, Family Health

Association of Iran, Iran Autism Association, Iranian Thalassemia Society, Maryam Ghasemi Educational Charity Institute, Network of Women's Non-Governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Peivande Gole Narges Organization, Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative and Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of the Environment), Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

1050. At the 47th meeting, the representatives of Cambodia, Georgia, the Philippines, the Russian Federation and Ukraine made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

F. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Technical assistance and capacity-building for Mali in the field of human rights

1051. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.17, sponsored by Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Austria, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, El Salvador, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Japan, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkey and the United States of America joined the sponsors.

1052. At the same meeting, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, orally revised the draft resolution.

1053. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution as orally revised.

1054. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

1055. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 46/28).

Technical assistance and capacity-building for South Sudan

1056. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.20, sponsored by Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States). Subsequently, Costa Rica and Timor-Leste joined the sponsors.

1057. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

1058. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1059. At the same meeting, the representative of Uruguay made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

1060. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 46/29).

Cooperation with Georgia

1061. At the 51st meeting, on 24 March 2021, the representative of Georgia (video statement) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/46/L.26, sponsored by Georgia and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland,

France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Czechia and Poland withdrew their original co-sponsorship of the draft resolution. Subsequently, Albania, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Honduras, Iceland, Japan, Libya, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Somalia and the United States of America joined the sponsors.

1062. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia (video statement), Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made general comments on the draft resolution.

1063. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1064. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil (video statement), Czechia (video statement), Eritrea, Poland and the Russian Federation made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

1065. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Russian Federation, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Austria, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Somalia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Against:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

1066. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 19 votes to 8, with 19 abstentions (resolution 46/30).¹²

1067. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil (video statement) and the Philippines made general comments and statements in explanation of vote after the vote on all of the resolutions adopted under agenda item 10.

¹² The delegation of Armenia did not cast a vote.

Annex I

Attendance

Members

Argentina	Eritrea	Pakistan
Armenia	Fiji	Philippines
Austria	France	Poland
Bahamas	Gabon	Republic of Korea
Bahrain	Germany	Russian Federation
Bangladesh	India	Senegal
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Indonesia	Somalia
Brazil	Italy	Sudan
Bulgaria	Japan	Togo
Burkina Faso	Libya	Ukraine
Cameroon	Malawi	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
China	Marshall Islands	Uruguay
Côte d'Ivoire	Mauritania	Uzbekistan
Cuba	Mexico	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Czechia	Namibia	
Denmark	Nepal	
	Netherlands	

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Albania	Guinea	Nicaragua
Algeria	Guyana	North Macedonia
Andorra	Haiti	Norway
Azerbaijan	Honduras	Oman
Barbados	Hungary	Panama
Belarus	Iceland	Paraguay
Belgium	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Portugal
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Iraq	Romania
Botswana	Ireland	Rwanda
Brunei Darussalam	Israel	Saudi Arabia
Burundi	Jamaica	Singapore
Cabo Verde	Jordan	Slovenia
Cambodia	Kazakhstan	South Africa
Canada	Kenya	South Sudan
Chad	Kuwait	Sri Lanka
Colombia	Kyrgyzstan	Sweden
Comoros	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Latvia	Syrian Arab Republic
Croatia	Lebanon	Tajikistan
Cyprus	Lithuania	Thailand
Djibouti	Madagascar	Tunisia
Ecuador	Malawi	Turkey
Egypt	Malaysia	Turkmenistan
El Salvador	Malta	Uganda
Estonia	Montenegro	United Arab Emirates
Ethiopia	Morocco	United Republic of Tanzania
Finland	Myanmar	Viet Nam
Georgia	Nauru	Yemen
Greece	New Zealand	Zimbabwe
Guatemala		

Non-Member States represented by observers

Holy See
State of Palestine

United Nations

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
United Nations Children's Fund
United Nations Development Programme
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Specialized agencies and related organizations

Development Operations Coordination Office
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
United Nations World Food Programme

Intergovernmental organizations

African Union	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Commonwealth	International Development Law Organization
Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries	International Organization of la Francophonie
Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf	Organization of American States
European Union	Organization of Islamic Cooperation
	Pacific Community
	Pacific Islands Forum

Other entities

International Committee of the Red Cross
Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta

National human rights institutions, international coordinating committees and regional groups of national institutions

Canadian Human Rights Commission	National Human Rights Council of Morocco
Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions	Office of the Human Rights Defender of Armenia
Independent National Commission on Human Rights (Liberia)	Office of the Ombudsman (Argentina)
Malawi Human Rights Commission	Office of the Ombudsman (Panama)
National Human Rights Commission (India)	Office of the Ombudsman (Peru)
National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia	Ombudsman (Bulgaria)
	Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

Non-governmental organizations

- ABC Tamil Oli
 Action Canada for Population and Development
 Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs
 Action of Human Movement (AHM)
 Adalah: Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel
 Advocates for Human Rights
 Africa culture internationale
 African Green Foundation International
 Africans in America for Restitution and Repatriation Inc
 Aid Organization
 Al-Ayn Social Care Foundation
 Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work
 Al-Haq
 Alliance Creative Community Project
 Alliance Defending Freedom
 Alliance globale contre les mutilations génitales féminines
 Alliance pour la solidarité et le partage en Afrique – Jeunesse pour intégration culturelle et sociale
 Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights
 Alsalam Foundation
 American Association of Jurists
 Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain, Inc.
 Amnesty International
 ArabEuropean Forum for Dialogue and Human Rights
 Arigatou International
 Article 19: International Centre against Censorship
 Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development
 Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women
 Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development
 Asociación HazteOir.org
 Asociación Interamericana para la Defensa del Ambiente
 Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgêneros
 Association apprentissage sans frontières
 Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul
 Association congolaise pour le développement agricole
 Association culturelle des Tamouls en France
 Association d'aide à l'éducation de l'enfant handicapé
 Association d'entraide médicale Guinée
 Association des étudiants tamouls de France
 Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism
 Association for the Prevention of Torture
 Association for Women's Rights in Development
 Association internationale pour l'égalité des femmes
 Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration
 Association Points-Cœur
 Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi
 Association Thendral
 Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII
 Associazione per i Diritti Umani e la Tolleranza
 Baha'i International Community
 Baptist World Alliance
 Beijing Changier Education Foundation
 Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center
 Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges
 B'nai B'rith
 British Humanist Association
 Bureau pour la croissance intégrale et la dignité de l'enfant
 Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies
 Campagne internationale pour l'abolition des armes nucléaires
 Caritas Internationalis – International Confederation of Catholic Charities
 Center for Africa Development and Progress
 Center for China & Globalization
 Center for Constitutional Rights
 Center for Global Nonkilling
 Center for Inquiry
 Center for International Environmental Law
 Center for Justice and International Law
 Center for Organisation Research and Education
 Center for Reproductive Rights
 Centre catholique international de Genève (CCIG)
 Centre Europe-tiers monde
 Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment
 Centre for Human Rights
 Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy
 Centre pour les droits civils et politiques (Centre CCPR)
 Centro de Apoio aos Direitos Humanos “Valdício Barbosa dos Santos”
 Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales
 Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims
 Child Rights Connect
 China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture
 China Family Planning Association
 China Foundation for Human Rights Development
 China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation

China NGO Network for International Exchanges
 China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS)
 China Soong Ching Ling Foundation
 Chinese Association for International Understanding
 Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries
 Christian Solidarity Worldwide
 CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation
 Colombian Commission of Jurists
 Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos
 Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la Charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples (CIRAC)
 Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme
 Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches
 Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative
 Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC)
 Conectas Direitos Humanos
 Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd
 Conselho Indigenista Missionário
 Consortium for Street Children
 Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations
 Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience
 Corporación Centro de Estudios de Derecho, Justicia y Sociedad
 Corporate Accountability International
 "Coup de pousse" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud
 Defence for Children International
 DRCNet Foundation
 Earthjustice
 East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project
 Eastern Sudan Women Development Organization
 Edmund Rice International
 Elizka Relief Foundation
 Ensemble contre la peine de mort
 ESCR-Net – International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Inc.
 European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme
 European Disability Forum
 European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation
 European Union of Jewish Students

Family Health Association of Iran
 Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland
 Federation for Women and Family Planning
 FIAN International
 Foundation for the Social Promotion of Culture
 Franciscans International
 Freemuse: The World Forum on Music and Censorship
 Friedrich Ebert Foundation
 Friends World Committee for Consultation
 Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social
 Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad
 Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue
 Geneva Consensus Foundation
 Genève pour les droits de l'homme: formation internationale
 Geo Expertise Association
 Gestos Soropositividade Comunicação e Gênero
 Global Helping to Advance Women and Children
 Global Hope Network International
 Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health
 Global Justice Center
 Global Welfare Association
 Globethics.net Foundation
 Habitat International Coalition
 Health and Environment Program
 HelpAge International
 Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
 Human Rights Advocates, Inc.
 Human Rights House Foundation
 Human Rights Information and Training Center
 Human Rights Now
 Human Rights Watch
 IBON International Foundation, Inc.
 IDPC Consortium
 Il Cenacolo
 India Media Centre
 Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee
 Ingénieurs du monde
 Institute for NGO Research
 Institute for Policy Studies
 Institut international de l'écologie industrielle et de l'économie verte
 Institut international pour les droits et le développement
 Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos
 Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG)
 International Action for Peace & Sustainable Development
 International Association for Educational Development

International Association of Democratic Lawyers	Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco
International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists	Iuventum, eV
International Association of Justice Watch	Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnat Va Salamat Iranian
International Bar Association	Japan Society for History Textbook
International Buddhist Relief Organisation	Jeunesse étudiante tamoule
International Career Support Association	Jubilee Campaign
International Catholic Child Bureau	Justiça Global
International Commission of Jurists	Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture
International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas	Labour, Health and Human Rights Development Centre
International Council of Russian Compatriots (ICRC)	Law Council of Australia
International Council of Women	Lawyers for Lawyers
International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights	Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada
International Disability Alliance	Le pont
International Federation for Human Rights Leagues	Legal Action Worldwide
International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities	Liberation
International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT)	Lutheran World Federation
International Federation of Journalists	Ma'arij Foundation for Peace and Development
International Fellowship of Reconciliation	Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association
International Humanist and Ethical Union	Make Mothers Matter
International Human Rights Association of American Minorities	Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP)
International Human Rights Council	Merja Zarka
International-Lawyers.org	Minority Rights Group
International Lesbian and Gay Association	Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group
International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism	National Association for the Defense of Rights and Freedoms
International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse	New Humanity
International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	Next Century Foundation
International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education	Noble Institution for Environmental Peace
International PEN	Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty
International Planned Parenthood Federation	Norwegian Refugee Council
International Service for Human Rights	Ohaha Family Foundation
International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES)	OIDHACO, Bureau international des droits humains – action Colombie
International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific	Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA)
International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations	Organisation mondiale des associations pour l'éducation prénatale
Iran Autism Association	Organization for Defending Victims of Violence
Iran Human Rights Documentation Center	Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development
Iranian Thalassaemia Society	Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH)
Iraqi Development Organization	Palestinian Return Centre, Ltd.
	Partners For Transparency
	Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation
	Peace Brigades International Switzerland
	Peace Worldwide
	Penal Reform International
	People for Successful Corean Reunification
	Physicians for Human Rights
	Plan International, Inc.
	Prahar
	Presse emblème campagne
	Program in International Human Rights Law

Promotion du développement économique et social	Standing Voice
Public Organization “Public Advocacy”	Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality
Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative	Swedish Association for Sexuality Education
Redress Trust	Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights (RFSL)
Regional Centre for International Development Cooperation, Limited by Guarantee	Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund
Regroupement des jeunes africains pour la démocratie et le développement (section Togo)	Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable
Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l’homme	Tamil Uzhagam
Reporters sans frontières international/Reporters without Borders International	Terra de Direitos
Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH)	Terre des hommes fédération internationale
Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie	Tides Center
RESO-Femmes	Tourner la page
Right Livelihood Award Foundation Rutgers	Touro Law Center – The Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust
Save the Children International	UNESCO Centre of Catalonia
Save the Climat	Union of Arab Jurists
Servas International	Union of Northwest Human Rights Organisations
Servitas Cameroon	United Methodist Church General Board of Church and Society
Sikh Human Rights Group	United Nations Association of China
Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights	United Nations Watch
Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos Humanos	Universal Rights Group
Society for Development and Community Empowerment	UPR Info
Society for Threatened Peoples	US Committee for Human Rights in North Korea
Soka Gakkai International	Villages unis/United Villages
Solidarité Suisse-Guinée	VIVAT international
South Youth Organization	Voie éclairée des enfants démunis (VED)
Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem (OSMTH)	Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling
	Women’s Human Rights International Association
	Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom
	World Barua Organization
	World Evangelical Alliance
	World Federation of United Nations Associations
	World Jewish Congress
	World Muslim Congress
	World Organization against Torture
	World Vision International
	Zéro pauvre Afrique

Annex II

Agenda

- Item 1. Organizational and procedural matters.
- Item 2. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.
- Item 3. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.
- Item 4. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention.
- Item 5. Human rights bodies and mechanisms.
- Item 6. Universal periodic review.
- Item 7. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories.
- Item 8. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Item 9. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Item 10. Technical assistance and capacity-building.

Annex III

Documents issued for the forty-sixth session

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/1	1 Agenda and annotations
A/HRC/46/1/Corr.1	1 Corrigendum
A/HRC/46/2	1 Report of the Human Rights Council on its forty-sixth session
A/HRC/46/3	3, 4, 7, 9, 10 Communications report of Special Procedures
A/HRC/46/4	2 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the context of the 2020 presidential election: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/5	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Belarus
A/HRC/46/5/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/6	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Liberia
A/HRC/46/6/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/7	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Malawi
A/HRC/46/7/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/8	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Panama
A/HRC/46/8/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/9	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Mongolia
A/HRC/46/9/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/10	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Maldives
A/HRC/46/10/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/11	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Andorra
A/HRC/46/11/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/12	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Honduras
A/HRC/46/12/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/13	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Bulgaria
A/HRC/46/13/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/14	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on the Marshall Islands
A/HRC/46/14/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/15	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on the United States of America
A/HRC/46/15/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/16	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Croatia
A/HRC/46/16/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/17	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Libya
A/HRC/46/17/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/18	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Jamaica
A/HRC/46/18/Add.1	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/46/19	2 Impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the enjoyment of human rights around the world, including good practices and areas of

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	concern: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/20	2 Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/21	2 Situation of human rights in Nicaragua: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/22	2, 7 Ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/23	2 Question of human rights in Cyprus: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/24	2 Conclusions and recommendations of special procedures: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/46/25	2 Measures taken to implement Human Rights Council resolution 9/8 and obstacles to its implementation, including recommendations for further improving the effectiveness of, harmonizing and reforming the treaty body system: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/46/26	3 Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment: report of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Nils Melzer
A/HRC/46/26/Corr.1	3 Corrigendum
A/HRC/46/26/Add.1	3 Visit to Maldives
A/HRC/46/27	3 Rights of persons with disabilities: report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities
A/HRC/46/28	3 Human rights and the global water crisis: water pollution, water scarcity and water-related disasters: report of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment
A/HRC/46/29	3 Debt relief, debt crisis prevention and human rights: the role of credit rating agencies: report of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, Yuefen Li

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/30	3 Countering Islamophobia/anti-Muslim hatred to eliminate discrimination and intolerance based on religion or belief: report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, Ahmed Shaheed
A/HRC/46/31	3 Impact of the coronavirus disease on different manifestations of sale and sexual exploitation of children: report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, Mama Fatima Singhateh
A/HRC/46/31/Add.1	3 Visit to the Gambia
A/HRC/46/32	3 Achievements, accomplishments, challenges and the way forward: an overview of work on the mandate: report of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism, Ikponwosa Ero
A/HRC/46/32/Add.1	3 Visit to Brazil
A/HRC/46/33	3 Right to food: report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Michael Fakhri
A/HRC/46/34	3 COVID-19, culture and cultural rights report of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Karima Bennouna
A/HRC/46/34/Add.1	3 Visit to Tuvalu
A/HRC/46/35	3 Final warning: death threats and killings of human rights defenders: report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Mary Lawlor
A/HRC/46/35/Add.1	3 Observations on communications transmitted to Governments and replies received
A/HRC/46/35/Add.2	3 Visit to Peru
A/HRC/46/35/Add.3	3 Visita al Perú: comentarios formulados por el Estado
A/HRC/46/36	3 Human rights impact of counter-terrorism and countering (violent) extremism policies and practices on the rights of women, girls and the family: report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, Fionnuala Ní Aoláin
A/HRC/46/37	3 Artificial intelligence and privacy, and children's privacy: report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy, Joseph A. Cannataci
A/HRC/46/37/Add.1	3 Visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/37/Add.2	3 Visit to France
A/HRC/46/37/Add.3	3 Visit to Germany
A/HRC/46/37/Add.4	3 Visit to the United States of America
A/HRC/46/37/Add.5	3 Visit to Argentina
A/HRC/46/37/Add.6	3 Visit to the Republic of Korea
A/HRC/46/37/Add.7	3 Visita a Argentina: comentarios formulados por el Estado
A/HRC/46/37/Add.8	3 Visit to the United States of America: Comments by the State
A/HRC/46/39	3 Children and armed conflict: report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
A/HRC/46/40	3 Annual report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children
A/HRC/46/41	2 United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/46/42	2 Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/46/43	2, 3 Question of the realization of economic, social and cultural rights in all countries: the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the realization of economic, social and cultural rights: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/46/44	2, 3 Rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/45	2, 3 Report of the Secretary-General on missing persons: note by the secretariat
A/HRC/46/46	2, 3 Panel discussion on promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities in the context of climate change: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/47	2, 3 Relationship between the realization of the right to work and the enjoyment of all human rights by persons with disabilities: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/48	2, 3 Summary of the third intersessional meeting for dialogue and cooperation on human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/49	2, 3 Participation in physical activity and sport under article 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
A/HRC/46/50	4 Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran: report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Javaid Rehman
A/HRC/46/51	4 Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea: report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Tomás Ojea Quintana
A/HRC/46/52	2, 4 Promoting accountability in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/53	4 Report of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan
A/HRC/46/54	4 Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
A/HRC/46/55	4 Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
A/HRC/46/56	3 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Thomas H. Andrews
A/HRC/46/57	3 Minority issues: report of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Fernand de Varennes
A/HRC/46/57/Add.1	3 Visit to Kyrgyzstan
A/HRC/46/57/Add.2	3 Доклад Специального докладчика по вопросам меньшинств о его поездке в Кыргызстан: Комментарии государства
A/HRC/46/58	5 Recommendations made by the Forum on Minority Issues at its thirteenth session on the theme "Hate speech, social media and minorities": report of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Fernand de Varennes
A/HRC/46/59	5 Report of the 2020 Social Forum
A/HRC/46/60	3, 5 Third session of the Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/61	2, 5 Activities of special rapporteurs, independent experts and working groups of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council undertaken in 2020, including updated information on special procedures: report of the Secretariat

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/46/61/Add.1	2, 5	Facts and figures with regard to the special procedures in 2020
A/HRC/46/63	2, 7	Implementation of Human Rights Council resolutions S-9/1 and S-12/1: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/64	2, 7	Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/46/65	2, 7	Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/66	9	Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action on its eighteenth session
A/HRC/46/67	2, 9	Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/68	10	Situation of human rights in Mali: report of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali, Alioune Tine
A/HRC/46/69	2, 10	Situation of human rights in Afghanistan, and technical assistance achievements in the field of human rights: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/70	10	Report of the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights
A/HRC/46/72	5	Annual report of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
A/HRC/46/73	3	Report on the sixth session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights
A/HRC/46/74	2	Situation of human rights in Guatemala: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/75	2	Situation of human rights in Honduras: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/76	2	Situation of human rights in Colombia: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documents issued in the limited series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/L.1 and Rev.1	2 Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka
A/HRC/46/L.2	3 Human rights, democracy and the rule of law
A/HRC/46/L.3	9 Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief
A/HRC/46/L.4	3 The negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights
A/HRC/46/L.5	3 Freedom of religion or belief
A/HRC/46/L.6 and Rev.1	3 Human rights and the environment
A/HRC/46/L.7	4 Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
A/HRC/46/L.8	2 Promotion and protection of human rights in Nicaragua
A/HRC/46/L.9	4 Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran
A/HRC/46/L.10	3 Effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights
A/HRC/46/L.11	3 The right to food
A/HRC/46/L.12	3 Mandate of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights
A/HRC/46/L.14	3 The negative impact of the non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin to the countries of origin on the enjoyment of human rights, and the importance of improving international cooperation
A/HRC/46/L.15	3 Mandate of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism
A/HRC/46/L.16	7 Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan
A/HRC/46/L.17	10 Technical assistance and capacity-building for Mali in the field of human rights
A/HRC/46/L.18	7 Right of the Palestinian people to self-determination
A/HRC/46/L.19	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.20	10 Technical assistance and capacity-building for South Sudan
A/HRC/46/L.21 and Rev.1	4 Situation of human rights in Myanmar

Documents issued in the limited series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/L.22	3 Promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of human rights
A/HRC/46/L.23	3 High-level panel discussion on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to support the participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the work of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/46/L.24	4 Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic
A/HRC/46/L.25 and Rev.1	3 Ensuring equitable, affordable, timely and universal access for all countries to vaccines in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic
A/HRC/46/L.26	10 Cooperation with Georgia
A/HRC/46/L.27	3 Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment: the roles and responsibilities of police and other law enforcement officials
A/HRC/46/L.28	3 Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy
A/HRC/46/L.29 and Rev.1	4 Situation of human rights in South Sudan
A/HRC/46/L.30	7 Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan
A/HRC/46/L.31	2 Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the obligation to ensure accountability and justice
A/HRC/46/L.32	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.33	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.34	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.35	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.36	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath

Documents issued in the limited series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/L.37	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.38	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.39	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.40	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.41	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.42	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.43	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.44	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/46/L.45	4 Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath

Documents issued in the Government series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/G/1	4 Note verbale dated 29 December 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/2	4 Note verbale dated 6 January 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/3	4 Note verbale dated 6 January 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documents issued in the Government series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/G/4	4 Note verbale dated 18 January 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/5	4 Note verbale dated 18 January 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/6	4 Note verbale dated 3 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/7	2 Note verbale dated 10 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Belarus to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/46/G/8	2 Note verbale dated 29 January 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/9	4 Note verbale dated 12 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/10	4 Note verbale dated 12 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/11	4 Note verbale dated 12 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/12	4 Note verbale dated 12 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/13	4 Note verbale dated 12 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documents issued in the Government series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/G/14	4 Note verbale dated 12 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/15	2 Letter dated 19 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/46/G/16	2 Comments received from the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka on the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on promoting reconciliation and accountability in Sri Lanka (A/HRC/46/20)
A/HRC/46/G/17	4 Note verbale dated 12 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/18	4 Note verbale dated 19 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/19	2 Note verbale dated 22 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Honduras to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/20	4 Note verbale dated 26 February 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/21	4 Note verbale dated 1 March 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/22	5 Note verbale dated 2 March 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Belarus to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/46/G/23	3 Note verbale dated 5 March 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/46/G/24	2 Note verbale dated 16 March 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documents issued in the Government series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/G/26	4 Note verbale dated 22 March 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documents issued in the national institutions series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/NI/1	3 Written submission by the Commission on Human Rights of The Philippines: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/2	3 Submission from the Office of the Ombudsman of Peru: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/3	3 Written submission by the Commission on Human Rights of The Philippines: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/4	3 Written submission by the Commission on Human Rights of The Philippines: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/5	7 Written submission by the Independent Commission for Human Rights of the State of Palestine: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/6	2 Written submission by the Commission on Human Rights of The Philippines: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/7	6 Written submission by the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/8	6 Written submission by the Ombudsman of Croatia: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/9	3 Submission from the Office of the Ombudsman of Peru: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/10	3 Submission from the Office of the Ombudsman of Peru: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/11	3 Written submission by the GANHRI (Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions): note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/12	3 Written submission by the Office of the Human Rights Defender of Armenia: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/46/NI/13	9 Written submission by the Office of the Human Rights Defender of Armenia: note by the Secretariat

Documents issued in the national institutions series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/NI/14	3 Written submission by the New Zealand: Human Rights Commission, Canada: Canadian Human Rights Commission, El Salvador: Procuraduría para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos, Finland: Finnish National Human Rights Institution, Georgia: Public Defender's Office, Kenya: National Commission on Human Rights, South Africa: Human Rights Commission, The Philippines: Commission on Human Rights: note by the Secretariat

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/NGO/1	2 Written statement submitted by Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/2	2 Written statement submitted by International Association of Justice Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/3	2 Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/4	3 Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/5	3 Written statement submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/6	4 Written statement submitted by Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/7	3 Written statement submitted by Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/8	3 Joint written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/9	3 Joint written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/NGO/10	2, 3	Joint written statement submitted by Graduate Women International (GWI), Canadian Federation of University Women, Federación Mexicana de Universitarias, Women Graduates - USA, Inc., non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/11	2, 7	Written statement submitted by Norwegian Refugee Council, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/12	2	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Information and Training Center, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/13	2	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/14	3	Written statement submitted by Abshar Atefeha Charity Institute, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/15	3	Written statement submitted by Society for Protection of Street & Working Children, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/16	3	Written statement submitted by The Institute for Protection of Women's Rights (IPWR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/17	3	Written statement submitted by Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/18	3	Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/19	2	Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/20	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/21	3	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/NGO/22	3 Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/23	2 Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/24	2 Written statement submitted by Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/25	3 Joint written statement submitted by International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/46/NGO/26	2 Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/27	4 Joint written statement submitted by International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/46/NGO/28	4 Exposición conjunta escrita presentada por American Association of Jurists, International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), organizaciones no gubernamentales reconocidas como entidades consultivas especiales
A/HRC/46/NGO/29	2 Joint written statement submitted by International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/46/NGO/30	3 Written statement submitted by ArabEuropean Forum for Dialogue and Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/46/NGO/31	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/32	3, 6	Written statement submitted by International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/33	3	Written statement submitted by International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/34	3	Written statement submitted by Chinese Association for International Understanding, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/35	4	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/36	4	Written statement submitted by Iranian Thalassemia Society, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/37	3	Written statement submitted by Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, The, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/38	3	Written statement submitted by All-China Environment Federation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/39	9	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/40	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Child Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/41	3	Written statement submitted by Iran Autism Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/42	3	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/43	3	Written statement submitted by Fundación Abba Colombia, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/44	3	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/45	3	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/NGO/46	3 Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/47	3 Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/48	3 Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/49	3 Written statement submitted by Chinese Association for International Understanding, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/50	3 Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/51	3 Joint written statement submitted by Parliamentarians for Global Action, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, Advocates for Human Rights, International Federation of ACAT (Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture), Reprieve, Union Internationale des Avocats - International Union of Lawyers, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/52	3 Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/53	3 Written statement submitted by Sikh Human Rights Group, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/54	3 Written statement submitted by Sikh Human Rights Group, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/55	3 Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/56	3, 4 Joint written statement submitted by Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Lawyers for Lawyers, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/46/NGO/57	2, 7	Joint written statement submitted by International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/46/NGO/58	3, 9	Written statement submitted by Abshar Atefeha Charity Institute, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/59	3	Written statement submitted by Organisation Internationale pour la Sécurité des Transactions Electroniques OISTE, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/60	2, 4	Written statement submitted by International Association of Justice Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/61	2, 7	Written statement submitted by Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/62	4	Joint written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Abshar Atefeha Charity Institute, Disability Association of Tavana, Ertegha Keyfiat Zendegi Iranian Charitable Institute, Family Health Association of Iran, Iran Autism Association, Iranian Thalassemia Society, Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnaty Va Salamat Iranian, Network of Women's Non-governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Peivande Gole Narges Organization, Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative, Society for Protection of Street & Working Children, Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment, The Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection "Manshour-e Parseh", non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/63	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/64	4	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/65	4	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/46/NGO/66	2, 4	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/67	2, 4	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/68	3	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/69	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/70	2	Written statement submitted by Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/71	4	Written statement submitted by Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/72	3, 4	Written statement submitted by World Evangelical Alliance, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/73	3, 4	Joint written statement submitted by Partners For Transparency, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/74	4	Written statement submitted by Partners For Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/75	3, 5	Joint written statement submitted by Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Franciscans International, non-governmental organizations in general consultative status, Lutheran World Federation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status, Soka Gakkai International, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/46/NGO/76	3, 4	Written statement submitted by World Evangelical Alliance, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/77	2	Written statement submitted by Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/78	4	Written statement submitted by Franciscans International, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/NGO/79	6 Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/80	6 Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/81	6 Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/82	3 Written statement submitted by Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/83	2 Joint written statement submitted by American Association of Jurists, Asociación Española para el Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos AEDIDH, Association Mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association mauritanienne pour la transparence et le développement, Association Nationale des Echanges Entre Jeunes, December Twelfth Movement International Secretariat, Freehearts Africa Reach Out Foundation, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Habitat International Coalition, International Association Against Torture, International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Paz y Cooperación, Plataforma Mulheres em Acção, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, World Barua Organization (WBO), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, Indian Council of South America (CISA), International Educational Development, Inc., Liberation, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/46/NGO/84	9 Written statement submitted by Institute for NGO Research, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/85	7 Joint written statement submitted by International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/NGO/86	7 Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/87	7 Written statement submitted by Abshar Atefeha Charity Institute, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/88	7 Written statement submitted by BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/89	2, 7 Written statement submitted by Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/90	2, 7 Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/91	2 Written statement submitted by ODHIKAR - Coalition for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/92	2 Written statement submitted by Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counseling, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/93	3 Joint written statement submitted by International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA), IDPC Consortium, Intercambios Asociación Civil, Penal Reform International, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/94	3 Written statement submitted by Sign of Hope e.V. - Hoffnungszeichen, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/95	3 Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/96	7 Written statement submitted by Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/97	7 Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/98	3 Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/46/NGO/99	4 Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/100	8 Written statement submitted by Sikh Human Rights Group, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/101	3 Joint written statement submitted by Partners For Transparency, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/102	3 Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/103	4 Written statement submitted by People for Successful Korean Reunification, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/104	9 Written statement submitted by Sikh Human Rights Group, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/105	5 Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/106	10 Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/107	2 Written statement submitted by BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/108	2 Exposé écrit présenté par International Catholic Child Bureau, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/46/NGO/109	4 Joint written statement submitted by Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, Women's Human Rights International Association, Edmund Rice International Limited, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, Association of World Citizens, International Educational Development, Inc., non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/46/NGO/110	2 Joint written statement submitted by Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/46/NGO/111	2, 3	Joint written statement submitted by Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/112	3	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/113	3	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/114	4	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/115	7	Written statement submitted by Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/116	6	Written statement submitted by Program in International Human Rights Law, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/117	2	Written statement submitted by World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/118	2, 3	Written statement submitted by International Association of Justice Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/119	3, 4	Written statement submitted by Yakutia - Our Opinion, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/120	3	Written statement submitted by Yakutia - Our Opinion, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/121	3	Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre Ltd, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/122	3	Exposición conjunta escrita presentada por American Association of Jurists, International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), organizaciones no gubernamentales reconocidas como entidades consultivas especiales
A/HRC/46/NGO/123	3	Written statement submitted by Liberal International, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/46/NGO/124	4	Exposición escrita presentada por American Association of Jurists, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/46/NGO/125	2, 7	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/126	7	Written statement submitted by Institute for NGO Research, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/127	2, 9	Joint written statement submitted by Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Habitat International Coalition, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counseling, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/128	2, 7	Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/129	2, 7	Joint written statement submitted by Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Habitat International Coalition, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counseling, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/130	2, 3	Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/131	3	Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/132	3	Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/133	7	Joint written statement submitted by Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, ADALAH - Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counseling, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/134	9	Written statement submitted by Africans in America for Restitution and Repatriation Inc, a

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/135	9 Written statement submitted by ADALAH - Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/136	9 Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/137	2 Written statement submitted by World Organisation Against Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/138	3 Written statement submitted by World Organisation Against Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/139	4 Written statement submitted by World Organisation Against Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/46/NGO/140	4 Written statement submitted by World Organisation Against Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Annex IV

Special procedure mandate holders and members of subsidiary expert mechanisms appointed by the Human Rights Council at its forty-sixth session

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (member from Africa)

Margaret Lokawua (Uganda)

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (member from North America)

Sheryl Lightfoot (Canada)

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia

Vitit Muntarbhorn (Thailand)

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