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Agenda item 1

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Organizational and procedural matters

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

Vice-President and Rapporteur: Yackoley Kokou Johnson (Togo)





Contents

I.	at its forty-fifth session	
II.	Decisions	
III.	President's statement.	
Two:	Summary of proceedings	
I wo.	Organizational and procedural matters	
1.	A. Opening and duration of the session	
	B. Attendance	
	C. Agenda and programme of work	
	D. Organization of work	
	E. Meetings and documentation	
	F. Visits	
	G. Election of members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee	
	H. Selection and appointment of mandate holders	
	Urgent debate on the situation of human rights in Belarus	
	J. Consideration of and action on draft proposals	
	K. Adoption of the report on the session	
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. Update by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	
	B. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the report of the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar	
	C. Interactive dialogue on the report of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar	
	D. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update of the High Commissioner on the human rights impact of the COVID-19 pandemic	
	E. Interactive dialogue on the report of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen	
	F. Reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General	
	G. Consideration of and action on draft proposals	
III.	Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development	
	A. Panel discussions	
	B. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders	
	C. Interactive dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development	
	D. General debate on agenda item 3	
E.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	
IV.	Human rights situations that require the Council's attention	•••••
	A. Interactive dialogue with a special procedure mandate holder	

	В.	Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic		
	C.	Interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi		
	D.	Enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update by the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan		
	E.	Interactive dialogue with the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela		
	F.	General debate on agenda item 4		
	G.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals		
V.	Huı	nan rights bodies and mechanisms		
	A.	Interactive dialogue with the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee		
	B.	Interactive dialogue with the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights on the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights		
	C.	Interactive dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples		
	D.	Human Rights Council complaint procedure		
	E.	General debate on agenda item 5		
	F.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals		
VI.	Uni	Universal periodic review		
	A.	Consideration of universal periodic review outcomes		
	B.	General debate on agenda item 6		
	C.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals		
VII.	Huı	nan rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories		
VIII.	II. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action			
	A.	Panel discussion		
	B.	General debate on agenda item 8		
	C.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals		
IX.		ism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action		
	A.	Interactive dialogue with a special procedure mandate holder		
	B.	General debate on agenda item 9		
	C.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals		
X.	Tec	hnical assistance and capacity-building		
	A.	Interactive dialogue on cooperation with and assistance to Ukraine in the field of human rights		
	B.	Enhanced interactive dialogue on technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo		
	C.	Interactive dialogue with the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya		
	D.	Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders		
	E.	General debate on agenda item 10		
	F.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals		

A/HRC/45/2

Annexes		
I.	Attendance	138
II.	Agenda	143
III	Documents issued for the forty-fifth session	144
IV	Human Rights Council Advisory Committee members elected by the Council at its forty-fifth session and date of expiry of their terms of membership	172
V	Special procedure mandate holders appointed by the Human Rights Council at its forty-fifth session	173

Part One Resolutions, decisions and President's statement adopted by the Human Rights Council at its forty-fifth session

I. Resolutions

Resolution	Title	Date of adoption
45/1	Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath	18 September 2020
45/2	Strengthening cooperation and technical assistance in the field of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	6 October 2020
45/3	Enforced or involuntary disappearances	6 October 2020
45/4	Mandate of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order	6 October 2020
45/5	Human rights and unilateral coercive measures	6 October 2020
45/6	The right to development	6 October 2020
45/7	Local government and human rights	6 October 2020
45/8	The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation	6 October 2020
45/9	The role of good governance in the promotion and protection of human rights	6 October 2020
45/10	Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence	6 October 2020
45/11	Terrorism and human rights	6 October 2020
45/12	Human rights and indigenous peoples	6 October 2020
45/13	Human rights and the regulation of civilian acquisition, possession and use of firearms	6 October 2020
45/14	Eliminating inequality within and among States for the realization of human rights	6 October 2020
45/15	Situation of human rights in Yemen	6 October 2020
45/16	Mandate of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to elaborate the content of an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies	6 October 2020
45/17	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes	6 October 2020
45/18	The safety of journalists	6 October 2020
45/19	Situation of human rights in Burundi	6 October 2020
45/20	Situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	6 October 2020
45/21	Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic	6 October 2020
45/22	National human rights institutions	6 October 2020
45/23	Commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action	6 October 2020

Resolution	Title	Date of adoption
45/24	Mandate of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent	6 October 2020
45/25	Technical assistance and capacity-building to further improve human rights in the Sudan	6 October 2020
45/26	Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights	6 October 2020
45/27	Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights	6 October 2020
45/28	Promoting and protecting the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000)	7 October 2020
45/29	Promoting, protecting and respecting women's and girls' full enjoyment of human rights in humanitarian situations	7 October 2020
45/30	Rights of the child: realizing the rights of the child through a healthy environment	7 October 2020
45/31	The contribution of the Human Rights Council to the prevention of human rights violations	7 October 2020
45/32	Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights	7 October 2020
45/33	Technical cooperation and capacity-building for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines	7 October 2020
45/34	Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	7 October 2020
45/35	Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic	7 October 2020

II. Decisions

Decision	Title	Date of adoption
45/101	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Kyrgyzstan	28 September 2020
45/102	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Guinea	28 September 2020
45/103	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Lao People's Democratic Republic	28 September 2020
45/104	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Lesotho	28 September 2020
45/105	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Kenya	28 September 2020
45/106	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Armenia	28 September 2020
45/107	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Sweden	29 September 2020
45/108	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Grenada	29 September 2020
45/109	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Turkey	29 September 2020
45/110	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Kiribati	29 September 2020
45/111	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Guinea-Bissau	5 October 2020

Decision	Title	Date of adoption
45/112	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Guyana	5 October 2020
45/113	Postponement of the implementation of certain activities mandated by the Human Rights Council	6 October 2020

III. President's statement

President's statement	Title	Date of adoption
PRST/45/1	Report of the Advisory Committee	6 October 2020

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-fifth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 14 September to 7 October 2020. The President of the 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 of the forty-fifth session was held on 31 August 2020.
- 3. The forty-fifth session consisted of 39 meetings over 18 days (see para. 14 below).

B. Attendance

4. 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, as well as 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. Agenda and programme of work

- 5. At its 1st meeting, on 14 September 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted the agenda and programme of work of the forty-fifth session.
- 6. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council decided to hold an urgent debate on the situation of human rights in Belarus under agenda item 1, on 18 September 2020.

D. Organization of work

- 7. At its 1st meeting, on 14 September 2020, the Human Rights Council decided to endorse the extraordinary modalities recommended by the Bureau of the Council, similar to those applied at the forty-fourth session in view of the coronavirus disease (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 by video messages and video link.
- 8. At the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council referred to the online system for the inscription of speakers on the lists for all interactive dialogues, general debates and panel discussions, which had been opened on 8 September 2020. The President also referred to the modalities and schedule of the online inscription.
- 9. Also at the same meeting, the President stated that the deadline for the submission of draft proposals was 25 September 2020, and that an extension of the deadline for the submission of a draft proposal could be approved by the Human Rights Council under exceptional circumstances, one time only, for a maximum period of 24 hours.
- 10. At the same meeting, the President outlined the speaking time limits for the interactive dialogues, which would be one and a half minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and other observers.

- 11. At the 3rd meeting, on 15 September 2020, the President outlined the speaking time limits for the general debates, which would be two and a half minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council and one and a half minutes for observer States and other observers.
- 12. At the 7th meeting, on 17 September 2020, the Vice-President outlined the speaking time limits for the panel discussions, which would be two minutes for all participants.
- 13. At the 9th meeting, on 18 September 2020, the President stated that the urgent debate on the situation of human rights in Belarus would follow the modalities of a general debate. The President stated that the speaking time limits would be two and a half minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council and one and a half minutes for observer States and other observers.

E. Meetings and documentation

- 14. The Human Rights Council held 39 fully serviced meetings during its forty-fifth session.¹
- 15. The list of the resolutions, decisions and President's statement adopted by the Human Rights Council is contained in part one of the present report.

F. Visits

16. At the 1st meeting, on 14 September 2020, the Minister for Women and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia, Marise Payne, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council (by video message).

G. Election of members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

17. At its 39th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the Human Rights Council elected, pursuant to Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, seven experts to the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee. The Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/HRC/45/59 and Add.1) containing the nomination of candidates for election, in accordance with Council decision 6/102, and the biographical data of the candidates (see annex IV).

H. Selection and appointment of mandate holders

18. At its 39th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the Human Rights Council appointed, pursuant to Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21 and Council decision 6/102, eight special procedure mandate holders (see annex V).

I. Urgent debate on the situation of human rights in Belarus

- 19. At the 1st meeting, on 14 September 2020, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that, on 11 September 2020, she had received a request from Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Council, to hold an urgent debate on the situation of human rights in Belarus.
- 20. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany made a statement to introduce the proposal.
- 21. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Czechia, Denmark, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made statements on the holding of the urgent debate. The representative of Belarus made a statement as the State concerned.

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

22. At the same meeting, at the request of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a recorded vote was taken on the proposal to hold the urgent debate. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Against:

Philippines, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Angola, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 23. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council decided to hold the urgent debate on 18 September 2020, by 25 votes to 2, with 20 abstentions.
- 24. At the 9th meeting, on 18 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held the urgent debate on the situation of human rights in Belarus.
- 25. At the same meeting, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement.
- 26. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Belarus made a statement as the State concerned.
- 27. At the same meeting, the following made statements: Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, Anaïs Marin (on behalf of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures) (by video message); Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya (by video message); civic activist, Ekaterina Novikava (by video message).
- 28. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Belarus made a statement as the State concerned.
- 29. During the ensuing discussion, at the same meeting, the following made statements:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria (by video message), Canada² (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America), Czechia, Denmark (also on behalf of Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) (by video message), Eritrea, Germany (also on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Ukraine), Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands (by video message), Peru, Philippines, Poland (by video message), Slovakia (by video message), Spain, Ukraine (by video message), Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, China, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia (by video message), Finland, Greece, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland (by video message), Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia (by video message), Liechtenstein, Lithuania (by video message), Luxembourg (by video message), Malta, Myanmar (by video message), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania (by video message), Russian Federation, Slovenia, Sweden (by video message), Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (by video message), Holy See;

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

- (c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women);
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Human Rights House Foundation, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists (also on behalf of International Bar Association), International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, United Nations Watch, World Organization against Torture.

J. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

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

- 30. At the 10th meeting, on 18 September 2020, the representative of Germany, on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1, sponsored by Germany, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Canada, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Costa Rica joined the sponsors.
- 31. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendments A/HRC/45/L.2, A/HRC/45/L.3, A/HRC/45/L.4, A/HRC/45/L.5, A/HRC/45/L.6, A/HRC/45/L.7, A/HRC/45/L.8, A/HRC/45/L.9, A/HRC/45/L.10, A/HRC/45/L.11, A/HRC/45/L.12, A/HRC/45/L.13, A/HRC/45/L.14, A/HRC/45/L.15, A/HRC/45/L.16, A/HRC/45/L.17 and A/HRC/45/L.18 to the draft resolution.
- 32. Amendments A/HRC/45/L.2, A/HRC/45/L.3, A/HRC/45/L.5, A/HRC/45/L.7, A/HRC/45/L.8, A/HRC/45/L.10, A/HRC/45/L.12, A/HRC/45/L.14 and A/HRC/45/L.16 were sponsored by the Russian Federation and co-sponsored by China and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Amendments A/HRC/45/L.4, A/HRC/45/L.6, A/HRC/45/L.9, A/HRC/45/L.11, A/HRC/45/L.13, A/HRC/45/L.15, A/HRC/45/L.17 and A/HRC/45/L.18 were sponsored by the Russian Federation and co-sponsored by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
- 33. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of 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.
- 34. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution and on the proposed amendments.
- 35. At the same meeting, the representative of Belarus made a statement as the State concerned.
- 36. 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 the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) made a statement on the budgetary implications of the draft resolution.
- 37. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council took action on amendments A/HRC/45/L.2, A/HRC/45/L.3, A/HRC/45/L.4, A/HRC/45/L.5, A/HRC/45/L.6, A/HRC/45/L.7, A/HRC/45/L.8, A/HRC/45/L.9, A/HRC/45/L.10, A/HRC/45/L.11, A/HRC/45/L.12, A/HRC/45/L.13, A/HRC/45/L.14, A/HRC/45/L.15, A/HRC/45/L.16, A/HRC/45/L.17 and A/HRC/45/L.18.

38. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.2. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Eritrea, Indonesia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 39. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.2 by 21 votes to 6, with 20 abstentions.
- 40. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.3. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Argentina, Cameroon, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 41. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.3 by 21 votes to 7, with 19 abstentions.
- 42. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.4. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 43. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.4 by 21 votes to 5, with 21 abstentions.
- 44. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.5. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay

- 45. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.5 by 19 votes to 11, with 17 abstentions.
- 46. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.6. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 47. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.6 by 21 votes to 7, with 19 abstentions.
- 48. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.7. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Cameroon, Eritrea, Indonesia, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

Abstaining:

Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay

- 49. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.7 by 20 votes to 7, with 20 abstentions.
- 50. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.8. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay

- 51. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.8 by 21 votes to 6, with 20 abstentions.
- 52. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.9. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 53. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.9 by 21 votes to 5, with 21 abstentions.
- 54. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.10. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 55. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.10 by 21 votes to 2, with 24 abstentions.
- 56. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.11. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Eritrea, India, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 57. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.11 by 23 votes to 3, with 21 abstentions.
- 58. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.12. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Eritrea, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 59. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.12 by 22 votes to 2, with 23 abstentions.
- 60. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.13. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Eritrea, India, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 61. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.13 by 22 votes to 4, with 21 abstentions.
- 62. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.14. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Eritrea, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 63. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.14 by 22 votes to 2, with 23 abstentions.
- 64. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.15. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay

- 65. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.15 by 20 votes to 10, with 17 abstentions.
- 66. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.16. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 67. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.16 by 22 votes to 5, with 20 abstentions.
- 68. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.17. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 69. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.17 by 23 votes to 4, with 20 abstentions.
- 70. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.18. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Cameroon, Eritrea, India, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 71. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/4/L.18 by 22 votes to 6, with 19 abstentions.
- 72. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution (by video message).
- 73. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (by video message), a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Against:

Eritrea, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Angola, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

74. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 23 votes to 2, with 22 abstentions (resolution 45/1).

Report of the Advisory Committee

- 75. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft President's statement A/HRC/45/L.30.
- 76. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft President's statement (PRST/45/1).

Postponement of the implementation of certain activities mandated by the Human Rights Council

- 77. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft decision A/HRC/45/L.50.
- 78. 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.
- 79. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft decision without a vote (decision 45/113).

K. Adoption of the report on the session

- 80. At the 39th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the representatives of Azerbaijan, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Switzerland, Switzerland (also on behalf of Australia, Belgium, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Portugal, Sweden and Uruguay), Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Viet Nam made statements as observer States on the adopted resolutions.
- 81. At same meeting, the Vice-President and Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council made a statement on the draft report of the Council on its forty-fifth session.
- 82. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted ad referendum the draft report (A/HRC/45/2) and entrusted the Rapporteur with its finalization.
- 83. At the same meeting, the following made statements on the session:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Haiti² (also on behalf of Albania, Austria, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Nauru, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu and Viet Nam), Indonesia, Qatar;
 - (b) Representative of an observer State: Mauritius;
- (c) Observer for a non-governmental organization: International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association for Progressive Communications, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Center for Reproductive Rights, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Child Rights Connect, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Franciscans International, International Federation for Human Rights, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism and World Organization against Torture).
- 84. 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. Update by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

- 85. At the 1st meeting, on 14 September 2020, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement providing an update on the activities of her Office.
- 86. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/2, an oral update on the situation of human rights in Nicaragua.
- 87. Also at the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/4, an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
- 88. At the 3rd meeting, on 15 September 2020, the representatives of Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements as the States concerned (by video message).
- 89. At the 3rd and 4th meetings, on 15 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on the oral updates by the High Commissioner, during which the following made statements:
- Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan² (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, China² (also on behalf of Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe), Czechia, Denmark, Denmark (also on behalf of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Eritrea, Germany (also on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Liechtenstein, Montenegro and North Macedonia), India, Italy, Japan, Libya, Mexico, Morocco² (also on behalf of Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Gabon, the Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and the United Arab Emirates), Namibia, Nepal (by video message), Netherlands, Netherlands (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Ukraine), Nigeria, Norway² (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden), Pakistan (on behalf of the European Union, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Australia, Iceland, Canada, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay² (also on behalf of Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador and Peru), Peru (by video message), Philippines (by video message), Qatar, Senegal, Slovakia, Spain, Sudan, Timor-Leste² (also on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Cuba, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, South Africa, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe) Ukraine, Ukraine (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia,

Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland² (also on behalf of Canada, Germany, Montenegro and North Macedonia), Uruguay (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message);

- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Botswana, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, China (by video message), Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar (by video message), Niger, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe;
- Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Association of Jurists (also on behalf of Asociación Española para el Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos, Habitat International Coalition, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples and Right Livelihood Award Foundation), Amnesty International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Association pour les victimes du monde, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Caritas Internationalis - International Confederation of Catholic Charities, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, Ingénieurs du monde, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International-Lawyers.org, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and New Humanity), 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, Iuventum, Le pont, Make Mothers Matter, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Stichting CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality, Tamil Uzhagam, United Nations Watch, World Evangelical Alliance.
- 90. At the 4th meeting, the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Chad, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Morocco, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Viet Nam made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

B. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the report of the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar

- 91. At the 1st meeting, on 14 September 2020, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/3, a written report on the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar (A/HRC/45/5 and Add.1).
- 92. At the same meeting, the following made statements: Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva, Kyaw Moe Tun (by video message); Chair of the Advisory Board of Progressive Voice, Khin Ohmar (by video message).

- 93. During the ensuing enhanced 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: Armenia, Australia, Bangladesh, Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), India, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines (by video message), Senegal, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: China, Egypt, France, Ireland, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia (by video message), Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (by video message), Lutheran World Federation, Next Century Foundation (by video message).
- 94. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner and the presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

C. Interactive dialogue on the report of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar

- 95. At the 2nd meeting, on 14 September 2020, the Head of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar, Nicholas Koumjian, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 39/2, the report of the Independent Investigative Mechanism (A/HRC/45/60).
- 96. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Head of the Independent Investigative Mechanism questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Netherlands, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines (by video message), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Canada, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Malaysia (by video message), New Zealand, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (by video message), CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, International Commission of Jurists, Jubilee Campaign (by video message).
- 97. At the same meeting, the Head of the Independent Investigative Mechanism answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

D. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update of the High Commissioner on the human rights impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

- 98. At the 2nd meeting, on 14 September 2020, the High Commissioner provided, pursuant to President's statement PRST/43/1, an oral update on the human rights impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 99. At the same meeting, the following made statements: Deputy Director General for Policy of the International Labour Organization (ILO), Martha E. Newton; Executive Director of the Health Emergencies Programme of the World Health Organization (WHO), Mike Ryan (by video message).

- 100. During the ensuing enhanced interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 3rd meeting, on 15 September 2020, the following made statements and asked the High Commissioner questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Fiji (by video message), Finland² (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Mozambique² (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Namibia (by video message), Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Georgia, Greece, Guyana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malaysia (by video message), Maldives, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar (by video message), Nauru (by video message), Paraguay, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam;
- (c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF, United Nations Development Programme (by video message), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UN-Women;
- (d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (by video message);
- (e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta (by video message);
- (f) Observers for national human rights institutions: Commission on Human Rights (Philippines) (by video message), Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions:
- (g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, FIAN International (by video message), Friends World Committee for Consultation, Institute for NGO Research (by video message), International Catholic Child Bureau, Minority Rights Group, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Penal Reform International (by video message), Reporters sans frontières international (by video message).
- 101. At the 3rd meeting, the High Commissioner and presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.
- 102. At the 4th meeting, on 15 September 2020, the representatives of Brazil and China made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

E. Interactive dialogue on the report of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen

- 103. At the 26th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the Chair of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen, Kamel Jendoubi, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/2, a comprehensive written report (A/HRC/45/6) (by video message).
- 104. At the same meeting, the representative of Yemen made a statement as the State concerned.
- 105. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair and the members of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Czechia, Germany, Ireland² (also on behalf of Belgium, Canada, Luxembourg and the Netherlands), Japan, Norway² (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden), Qatar;
- (b) Representatives of observer States: China, Croatia, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- (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: Amnesty International, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Baha'i International Community, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (by video message), Defence for Children International, Human Rights Watch, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (by video message), Reporters sans frontières international (by video message), Save the Children International (also on behalf of Defence for Children International, Intersos Humanitarian Aid Organization, Médecins du monde (international) and Oxfam International), Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (by video message).
- 106. At the same meeting, the Chair and the members of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts, Melissa Parke and Ardi Imseis, answered questions and made their concluding remarks (by video message).

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

- 107. At the 14th meeting, on 22 September, the Director of the Human Rights Council and the Treaty Mechanisms Division of OHCHR presented the thematic reports prepared by the High Commissioner, OHCHR and the Secretary-General under agenda items 3 and 8.
- 108. At the same meeting, and at the 18th meeting, on 24 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 3, including on the thematic reports presented by the Director of the Human Rights Council and the Treaty Mechanisms Division of OHCHR (see chap. III, sect. D).
- 109. At the 28th meeting, on 30 September 2020, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights presented a report of the Secretary-General on cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights (A/HRC/45/36) under agenda items 2 and 5, followed by an interactive dialogue (see chap. V, sect. B).
- 110. At the 29th meeting, on 1 October 2020, the High Commissioner, in her capacity as coordinator of the International Decade for People of African Descent, presented a midterm report on her activities in follow-up to the implementation of the programme of activities within the framework of the Decade (A/HRC/45/47), followed by a general debate on agenda item 9 (see chap. IX, sect. B).
- 111. At the 32nd meeting, on 2 October 2020, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/34, a comprehensive report on the human rights situation and the activities of the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/HRC/45/49), followed by an enhanced interactive dialogue (see chap. X, sect. B).
- 112. At the 35th meeting, on 5 October 2020, the Director of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR presented the reports of the Secretary-General and the reports of the High Commissioner submitted under agenda items 2 and 10.
- 113. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 10, including on reports under agenda items 2 and 10, presented by the Director of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR (see chap. X, sect. E).

G. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Strengthening cooperation and technical assistance in the field of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

- 114. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.55/Rev.1, sponsored by the Islamic Republic of Iran and co-sponsored by the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Belarus, Burundi, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Lebanon, the Russian Federation and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 115. At the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement as the State concerned (by video message).
- 116. 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.
- 117. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Eritrea, Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Mexico and Peru (also on behalf of Brazil and Chile) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 118. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Peru (also on behalf of Brazil and Chile), a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Eritrea, Fiji, Indonesia, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Brazil, Chile, Marshall Islands, Peru, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, Togo

119. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 14 votes to 7, with 26 abstentions (resolution 45/2).

Situation of human rights in Yemen

- 120. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of the Netherlands, also on behalf of Belgium, Canada, Ireland and Luxembourg, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.25, sponsored by Belgium, Canada, Ireland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Denmark and Monaco joined the sponsors.
- 121. At the same meeting, the representatives of Australia, Bahrain, Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Peru and Qatar made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 122. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Yemen made a statement as the State concerned.
- 123. 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.

- 124. At the same meeting, the representatives of Denmark, Japan and the Sudan made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 125. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Bahrain, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Uruguay

Against:

Afghanistan, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Eritrea, India, Libya, Mauritania, Pakistan, Philippines, Somalia, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Japan, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo

126. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 22 votes to 12, with 12 abstentions (resolution 45/15).

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

A. Panel discussions

Biennial panel discussion on the right to development

- 127. At the 7th meeting, on 17 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 42/23, a biennial panel discussion on the right to development.
- 128. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Maldives, Abdulla Shahid (by video message), and the Director General of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (by video message), made opening statements for the panel discussion.
- 129. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Vaqif Sadiqov; Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; Executive Director of the South Centre, Carlos Correa; main representative of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII to the United Nations in Geneva and Coordinator of the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Forum of Catholic-Inspired NGOs in Geneva, Maria Mercedes Rossi.
- 130. 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: Afghanistan, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), India, Maldives³ (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Fiji, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Singapore and Vanuatu), Mauritania, Qatar, United Arab Emirates³ (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Viet Nam³ (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations);
 - (b) Representatives of observer States: Cuba, Morocco, Sierra Leone;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Iuventum (by video message), International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Sikh Human Rights Group.
- 131. 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: Bahamas, Cabo Verde³ (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Indonesia, Libya, Togo;
- (b) Representatives of observer States: China, Ethiopia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam;
- (c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Chinese Association for International Understanding (by video message), International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.
- 132. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

³ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Panel discussion on the rights of indigenous peoples

- 133. At the 17th meeting, on 23 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 18/8, 39/13 and 42/19, a panel discussion on the rights of indigenous peoples on the theme "Protection of indigenous human rights defenders".
- 134. At the same meeting, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel discussion.
- 135. Also at the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: indigenous woman from the Páez peoples of Colombia and Human Rights Counsellor of the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia, Aida Quilcue Vivas (by video message); Executive Director of Front Line Defenders, Andrew Anderson (by video message); indigenous woman from the Kankanaey Igorot peoples of the Cordillera Region of the Philippines and former Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz (by video message); Chair of the Board of Directors of the Indigenous Peoples Network for the Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Director of the National Alliance for Support and Promotion of Areas and Territories Conserved by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Joseph Itongwa (by video message).
- 136. 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: Brazil, Mexico (also on behalf of Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay and Peru), Pakistan, Philippines (by video message), Sweden³ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway), Ukraine;
 - (b) Representatives of observer States: Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Ireland;
- (c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;
 - (d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (e) Observer for a national human rights institution: Office of the Ombudsman (Ecuador) (by video message);
- (f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers and International Commission of Jurists) (by video message).
- 137. 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: Armenia, Indonesia, Nepal, Senegal, Spain, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
 - (b) Representatives of observer States: Costa Rica, Morocco;
- (c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Conectas Direitos Humanos (by video message), Conselho Federal da Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil (also on behalf of Justiça Global and Terra de Direitos) (by video message), Minority Rights Group (by video message).
- 138. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

B. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences

- 139. At the 5th meeting, on 16 September 2020, the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, Tomoya Obokata, presented his reports (A/HRC/45/8 and Add. 1) (by video message).
- 140. At the same meeting, the representative of Togo made a statement as the State concerned.
- 141. 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, Australia, Cameroon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Nepal, Norway³ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia and Lithuania), Pakistan, Philippines (by video message), Senegal, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chad, China, Egypt, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Morocco, Paraguay, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:
- (c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women;
 - (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 (by video message);
- (f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development (by video message), Anti-Slavery International (by video message), Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (by video message), Conectas Direitos Humanos (by video message), Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development and Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco) (by video message), International Humanist and Ethical Union (by video message), International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Minority Rights Group, Prahar (by video message), Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie (by video message).
- 142. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.
- 143. At the 6th meeting, on the same day, the representative of Brazil made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on the right to development

- 144. At the 5th meeting, on 16 September 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the right to development, Saad Alfarargi, presented his reports (A/HRC/45/15 and Add. 1) (by video message).
- 145. At the same meeting, the representative of Switzerland made a statement as the State concerned.
- 146. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 5th and 6th meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Burkina Faso (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Cabo Verde³ (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Cameroon, Chile, Fiji (by video message),

India, Indonesia, Libya, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (also on behalf of Belgium and Luxembourg), Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines (by video message), Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

- (b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chad, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Mozambique, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Zimbabwe, Holy See (by video message);
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (by video message), Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of American Association of Jurists, Edmund Rice International, International Accountability Project, International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and New Humanity), Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges (by video message), Centre Europe-tiers monde, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (by video message), Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (by video message), Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group (by video message), Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.
- 147. At the 6th meeting, on 16 September 2020, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.
- 148. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.
- 149. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

- 150. At the 6th meeting, on 16 September 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, Léo Heller, presented his reports (A/HRC/45/10 and Add.1–3 and A/HRC/45/10/Add.3/Rev.1 and A/HRC/45/11) (by video message).
- 151. 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, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Fiji (by video message), Germany, India, Indonesia, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, Poland, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Cambodia, Chad, China (by video message), Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Holy See (by video message), State of Palestine;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta (by video message);
- (e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-Haq (by video message), China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS) (by video message), Comisión Mexicana

- de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (by video message), Earthjustice, Franciscans International (by video message), Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries (also on behalf of Swedish Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights) (by video message), International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, Make Mothers Matter, Sikh Human Rights Group.
- 152. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.
- 153. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of China, Israel and Ukraine made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

- 154. At the 7th meeting, on 17 September 2020, the Chair of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, Chris Kwaja, presented the reports of the Working Group (A/HRC/45/9 and Add.1) (by video message).
- 155. At the same meeting, the representative of Switzerland made a statement as the State concerned.
- 156. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair of the Working Group questions:
- (a) Representative of a State member of the Human Rights Council: Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Chad, China, Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Russian Federation;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS) (by video message), Friends World Committee for Consultation, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights (by video message), Next Century Foundation (by video message).
- 157. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Working Group answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence

- 158. At the 8th meeting, on 17 September 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, Fabian Salvioli, presented his reports (A/HRC/45/45 and Add. 1–3) (by video message).
- 159. At the same meeting, the representatives of El Salvador, the Gambia and Sri Lanka made statements as States concerned.
- 160. 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: Angola, Armenia, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Chile, Estonia³ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Nepal, Peru (by video message), Peru (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay), Republic of Korea, Sudan, Switzerland³ (also on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Maldives, Morocco, Peru and Uruguay), Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, Botswana, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Egypt, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Liechtenstein,

Morocco, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

- (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism (by video message), Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (by video message), Conscience and Peace Tax International (CPTI), International Commission of Jurists, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Lesbian and Gay Association (also on behalf of Swedish Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights) (by video message), International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (also of behalf of Amnesty International and Franciscans International), International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education (also on behalf of Catholic International Education Office, New Humanity and Teresian Association) (by video message), Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Public Organization "Public Advocacy" (by video message).
- 161. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.
- 162. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Japan and the Republic of Korea made statements in exercise of the right of reply.
- 163. At the same meeting, the representatives of Japan and the Republic of Korea made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

- 164. At the 11th meeting, on 21 September 2020, the Chair of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, Leigh Toomey, presented the reports of the Working Group (A/HRC/45/16 and Add. 1–2) (by video message).
- 165. At the same meeting, the representatives of Greece and Qatar made statements as the States concerned.
- 166. Also at the same meeting, the national human rights institution National Human Rights Committee (Qatar) made a statement (by video message).
- 167. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair of the Working Group questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Libya, Lithuania³ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden), Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Botswana, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Morocco, Myanmar, Russian Federation, South Africa, Switzerland, State of Palestine;
- (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: Article 19: International Centre against censorship (by video message), Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (by video message), Defence for Children International, Freemuse: The World Forum on Music and Censorship (by video message), Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (by video message), Ingénieurs du monde (also on behalf of United Nations Watch), International Association of Democratic Lawyers (by video message), International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT), Law Council of Australia (by video message), Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (also on behalf of Lawyers for Lawyers).
- 168. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Working Group answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

169. At the 13th meeting, on 21 September 2020, the representatives of Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Israel made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

- 170. At the 11th meeting, on 21 September 2020, the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, Claudia Mahler, presented her reports (A/HRC/45/14 and Add. 1–2) (by video message).
- 171. At the same meeting, the representatives of China and New Zealand made statements as the States concerned.
- 172. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 11th and 12th meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Chile, Costa Rica³ (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), India, Indonesia, Italy, Libya, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal³ (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Singapore³ (also on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Montenegro, El Salvador, Namibia, Portugal, Slovenia, Tunisia and Uruguay), Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Cambodia, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Georgia, Iraq, Israel (by video message), Kenya, Malaysia, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Holy See (by video message);
- (c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (by video message), UNFPA, UN-Women;
 - (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 (by video message);
- (f) Observer for a national human rights institution: Commission on Human Rights (Philippines) (by video message);
- (g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alliance Defending Freedom, China Family Planning Association (by video message), China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS) (by video message), Global Action on Aging, HelpAge International (by video message), International Lesbian and Gay Association (also on behalf of Swedish Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights) (by video message), International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (also on behalf of AGE Platform Europe, International Federation on Ageing, International Longevity Center Global Alliance and Make Mothers Matter), Iuventum (by video message), Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (by video message), Society for Threatened Peoples (by video message).
- 173. At the 12th meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

- 174. At the 12th meeting, on 21 September 2020, the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, Livingstone Sewanyana, presented his report (A/HRC/45/28) (by video message).
- 175. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, India, Indonesia, Libya, Pakistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

- (b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Chad, China, Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of);
- (c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS) (by video message), Chinese Association for International Understanding, Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (by video message), Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad (by video message), Iraqi Development Organization, Iuventum (by video message), Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Sikh Human Rights Group, South Youth Organization (by video message), United Nations Association of China (by video message).
- 176. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

- 177. At the 12th meeting, on 21 September 2020, the Chair of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, Luciano Hazan, presented the reports of the Working Group (A/HRC/45/13 and Add. 1–4) (by video message).
- 178. At the same meeting, the representatives of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan made statements as the States concerned.
- 179. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 12th and 13th meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Chair of the Working Group questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, France³ (also on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and Uruguay), Iceland³ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Japan, Libya, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru (by video message), Philippines (by video message), Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belgium, Botswana, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Honduras (by video message), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Maldives, Montenegro, Morocco, Portugal, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Turkey;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
 - (d) Observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross;
- (e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: British Humanist Association (by video message), Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (by video message), International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Bar Association (by video message), International Commission of Jurists, International-Lawyers.org, International Service for Human Rights (by video message), Jubilee Campaign (by video message), Movement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples (also on behalf of American Association of Jurists, Asociación Española para el Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos and Right Livelihood Award Foundation), Peace Brigades International Switzerland.
- 180. At the 13th meeting, the Chair of the Working Group answered questions and made his concluding remarks.
- 181. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, Croatia, Cyprus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Iraq, Japan, Pakistan and Serbia made statements in exercise of the right of reply.
- 182. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Serbia made a statement in exercise of a second right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes

- 183. At the 13th meeting, on 21 September 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, Marcos A. Orellana, presented his reports (A/HRC/45/12 and Add. 1–2) (by video message).
- 184. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil and Canada made statements as the States concerned.
- 185. 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: Angola, Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Chile, India, Indonesia, Libya, Marshall Islands, Nepal, Pakistan, Senegal, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of):
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Botswana, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Morocco, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, State of Palestine;
- (c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Environment Programme (by video message);
 - (d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (e) Observer for a national human rights institution: Scottish Human Rights Commission (by video message);
- (f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Center for Reproductive Rights and International Service for Human Rights), Center for International Environmental Law, Child Rights Connect, Conectas Direitos Humanos (by video message), Earthjustice, Franciscans International (by video message), Iuventum (by video message), Justiça Global (by video message), Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Terra de Direitos (by video message).
- 186. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.
- 187. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Brazil made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights

- 188. At the 14th meeting, on 22 September 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, Alena Douhan, presented her report (A/HRC/45/7) (by video message).
- 189. 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, Bahrain, Bahrain (also on behalf of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates), Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Fiji (by video message), Indonesia, Libya, Pakistan, Qatar, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic³ (also on behalf of Cambodia, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Myanmar, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Botswana, Chad, China, Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Malaysia, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Zimbabwe, State of Palestine;

- (c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development (by video message), Caritas Internationalis – International Confederation of Catholic Charities (also on behalf of ACT Alliance - Action by Churches Together, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, New Humanity and World Evangelical Alliance), China NGO Network for International International Exchanges, Chinese Association for Understanding, Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social (by video message), Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights (by video message), Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (also on behalf of Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection "Manshour-e Parseh", Disability Association of Tavana, Ertegha Keyfiat Zendegi Iranian Charitable Institute, Family Health Association of Iran, Iran Autism Association, Iranian Thalassemia Society and Maryam Ghasemi Educational Charity Institute), Sikh Human Rights Group, United Nations Association of China (by video message).
- 190. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples

- 191. At the 19th meeting, on 24 September 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, José Francisco Cali, presented his reports (A/HRC/45/34 and Add.1 and Add.3) (by video message).
- 192. At the same meeting, the representative of the Congo made a statement as the State concerned.
- 193. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 19th meeting, on 24 September 2020, and at the 21st meeting, on 25 September 2020, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Guatemala³ (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru (by video message), Philippines (by video message), Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Cambodia, Canada, China, Ecuador, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Morocco, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Thailand, Vanuatu, Holy See (by video message);
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNFPA, UN-Women;
- (e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Conectas Direitos Humanos (by video message), Conselho Indigenista Missionário (by video message), Edmund Rice International, Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit COC Nederland (by video message), FIAN International (by video message), Franciscans International (also on behalf of VIVAT International) (by video message), International Lesbian and Gay Association (by video message), Minority Rights Group, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Terra de Direitos (by video message).
- 194. At the 21st meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.
- 195. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil, India and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

C. Interactive dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development

- 196. At the 7th meeting, on 17 September 2020, the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, Bonny Ibhawoh, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/23, the annual report of the Expert Mechanism (A/HRC/45/29) (by video message).
- 197. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 8th meeting, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Chair and members of the Expert Mechanism questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), India, Indonesia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Chad, China, Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Morocco, United Republic of Tanzania, State of Palestine;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of Edmund Rice International, International Accountability Project, International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, New Humanity, Teresian Association, VIVAT International and World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center (by video message), Beijing Zhicheng Migrant Workers' Legal Aid and Research Center (by video message), Center for Environmental and Management Studies (by video message), China Family Planning Association (by video message), China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (by video message), International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, Iuventum (by video message), Sikh Human Rights Group, Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos Humanos (by video message).
- 198. At the same meeting, the Chair and members of the Expert Mechanism, Mihir Kanade and Armando Antonio de Negri Filho, answered questions and made their concluding remarks (by video message).

D. General debate on agenda item 3

- 199. At the 14th meeting, on 22 September 2020, the President of the Economic and Social Council, Munir Akram, briefed, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 37/25, the Human Rights Council on the discussions of the high-level political forum on sustainable development.
- 200. At the same meeting, the Director of the Human Rights Council and the Treaty Mechanisms Division of OHCHR presented the reports of the Secretary-General (A/HRC/45/20, A/HRC/45/30, A/HRC/45/42 and A/HRC/45/43), the reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/HRC/45/19, A/HRC/45/22, A/HRC/45/27 and A/HRC/45/4), the consolidated report of the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner (A/HRC/45/21) and the report of OHCHR (A/HRC/45/24) under agenda items 3 and 8.
- 201. At the same meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development, Zamir Akram, updated the Human Rights Council on the intersessional activities of the Working Group. The Council had before it the note by the Secretariat on the report of the Working Group on its twenty-first session, which was to be held from 4 to 8 May 2020, but was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic (A/HRC/45/17).

- 202. Also at the same meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to elaborate the content of an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies, Nozipho Joyce Mxakato-Diseko, presented to the Human Rights Council the note by the Secretariat on the report of the intergovernmental working group on its second session, which was to be held from 11 to 15 May 2020, but did not take place due to the COVID-19 pandemic (A/HRC/45/18).
- 203. At the same meeting, and at the 18th meeting, on 24 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on thematic reports under agenda item 3, during which the following made statements:
- Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay and the State of Palestine), Armenia, Australia (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, the Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Myanmar, Namibia, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine), Australia (also on behalf of the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu), Azerbaijan³ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Belgium³ (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay and the State of Palestine), Brazil (also on behalf Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Colombia, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Togo, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), China³ (also on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Brazil, Burundi, the Congo, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Indonesia, Kuwait (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe), Czechia (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Nepal, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the State of Palestine), Denmark (also on behalf of Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Fiji, Luxembourg, Portugal, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Uruguay), El Salvador³ (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Australia, China, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, Morocco, Peru, Portugal, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland and the State of Palestine), Estonia³ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Germany (on behalf of the European Union), India, Indonesia, Nepal, New Zealand³ (on behalf of Burkina Faso, Colombia and Estonia), Nigeria, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Panama³ (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica and Nicaragua), Peru (also on behalf of Ecuador) (by video message), Philippines (by video message), Republic of Korea, Sudan, Ukraine (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Cyprus, Estonia,

Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Denmark, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), United Arab Emirates³ (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

- (b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Costa Rica (also on behalf of Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia and Switzerland), Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Niger, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:
- (c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNFPA, UN-Women;
- (d) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Human Rights Commission (Nigeria) (by video message);
- Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Action of Human Movement, Africa culture internationale, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Asociación HazteOir.org, Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association Elmostakbell pour le développement, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of Alliance Defending Freedom, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, New Humanity and World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), Center for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre Europe-tiers monde (also on behalf of Andean Information Network, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales and International Association of Democratic Lawyers), Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, China NGO Network for International Exchanges, Chinese Association for International Understanding, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (also on behalf of Article 19: International Centre against Censorship and International Center for Not-for-Profit Law), Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Edmund Rice International, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and New Humanity), Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, Edmund Rice International, European Centre for Law and Justice, Federation for Women and Family Planning (also on behalf of Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Center for Reproductive Rights, International Service for Human Rights and Rutgers), Franciscans International (also on behalf of Center for International Environmental Law, Earthjustice, FIAN International and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom), Friends World Committee for Consultation, Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Ingénieurs du monde, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos (also on behalf of Center for Justice and International Law and Justica Global), International Association of Crafts and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Career Support Association, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT) (also on behalf of Advocates for Human Rights, Ensemble contre la peine de mort, International Bar Association, Reprieve and Union internationale des avocats), International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International-Lawyers.org, International Lesbian and Gay Association (also on behalf of OutRight Action International and Swedish Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights), International Muslim Women's Union,

International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation and Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants), International Yazidis Foundation for the Prevention of Genocide, Iraqi Development Organization, Iuventum, Jubilee Campaign, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Le pont, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés, Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Partners for Transparency, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Réseau international des droits humains, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Servas International, Sikh Human Rights Group, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Society for Threatened Peoples, Soka Gakkai International (also on behalf of Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Foundation for Gaia, Globethics.net Foundation, Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos, International Council of Jewish Women, International Disability Alliance, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, Teresian Association, UPR Info, World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations and World Federation of United Nations Associations), Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Stichting CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Tamil Uzhagam, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, Universal Rights Group, Villages unis, Women's Human Rights International Association, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Environment and Resources Council, World Evangelical Alliance, World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

204. At the 18th meeting, on 24 September 2020, the representatives of Brazil, China, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

E. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Enforced or involuntary disappearances

205. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of France, also on behalf of Argentina, Japan and Morocco, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.19, sponsored by Argentina, France, Japan and Morocco, and co-sponsored by Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Fiji, Guatemala, Libya, Mali, Mongolia, Panama, Poland, Serbia and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

206. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Cameroon and Peru made general comments on the draft resolution.

207. 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.

208. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/3).

Mandate of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

- 209. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.21, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Belarus, China, Egypt, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Tunisia and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Algeria, Bangladesh, Botswana, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Maldives, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 210. 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.
- 211. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 212. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of 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:

Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Sudan, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Brazil, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mexico, Peru, Somalia, Uruguay

213. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 22 votes to 15, with 10 abstentions (resolution 45/4).

Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

- 214. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Azerbaijan, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.22, sponsored by Azerbaijan, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. Subsequently, Colombia withdrew its original co-sponsorship of the draft resolution. Subsequently, China and the Russian Federation joined the sponsors.
- 215. At the same meeting, the representatives of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) and Peru made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 216. 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.
- 217. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Brazil, Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and Mexico made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In the statement, the representative of Armenia disassociated the respective member State from the consensus on the fourteenth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution.
- 218. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of 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:

Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay

- 219. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 27 votes to 15, with 5 abstentions (resolution 45/5).
- 220. At the 38th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the representative of Namibia made a general comment on the adopted resolution.

The right to development

- 221. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.23, sponsored by Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia). Subsequently, China, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation joined the sponsors.
- 222. At the same meeting, the representatives of Australia, India, Peru and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 223. 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.
- 224. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and Mexico made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In the statement, the representative of Armenia disassociated the respective member State from the consensus on the sixth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution.
- 225. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Australia, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

Abstaining:

Armenia, Brazil, Chile, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Uruguay

226. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 27 votes to 13, with 7 abstentions (resolution 45/6).

Local government and human rights

227. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of the Republic of Korea, also on behalf of Chile, Egypt and Romania, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.27, sponsored by Chile, Egypt, the Republic of Korea and Romania, and co-sponsored by

Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Ecuador, Fiji, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, the Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Thailand, Tunisia and Ukraine. Subsequently, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Croatia, the Dominican Republic, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Kuwait (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mongolia, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Uruguay and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

- 228. 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.
- 229. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/7).

The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

- 230. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Spain, also on behalf of Germany, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.28/Rev.1, sponsored by Germany and Spain, and co-sponsored by Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Honduras, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mongolia, Nauru, Norway, Panama, Timor-Leste, Togo, Vanuatu and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 231. At the same meeting, the representative of Argentina made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 232. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/8).

The role of good governance in the promotion and protection of human rights

- 233. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Poland, also on behalf of Australia, Chile, the Republic of Korea and South Africa, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.29, sponsored by Australia, Chile, Poland, the Republic of Korea and South Africa, and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and Ukraine. Subsequently, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Japan, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, the Philippines, Switzerland, Thailand and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the sponsors.
- 234. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines made a general comment on the draft resolution.
- 235. 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.
- 236. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/9).

Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence

237. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Switzerland introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.31, sponsored by Argentina, Morocco and Switzerland, and cosponsored by Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile,

Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay. Subsequently, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Mali, Malta, New Zealand, Panama, the Republic of Korea and Timor-Leste joined the sponsors.

- 238. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Armenia and Peru made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 239. 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.
- 240. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/10).

Terrorism and human rights

- 241. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representatives of Mexico and Egypt introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.33, sponsored by Egypt and Mexico, and cosponsored by Canada, France, the Philippines, Spain and Tunisia. Subsequently, Armenia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Greece, Japan, Kuwait (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Mali, Malta, Panama, Portugal, Uruguay and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 242. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cameroon, India, Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the Philippines made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 243. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/11).

Human rights and indigenous peoples

- 244. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Mexico, also on behalf of Guatemala, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.34, sponsored by Guatemala and Mexico, and co-sponsored by Australia, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Spain, Sweden and Ukraine. Subsequently, Armenia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania and Panama joined the sponsors.
- 245. At the same meeting, the representatives of Denmark, Eritrea, Indonesia and the Philippines made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 246. 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.
- 247. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/12).

Human rights and the regulation of civilian acquisition, possession and use of firearms

248. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Ecuador, also on behalf of Peru, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.35, sponsored by Ecuador and Peru, and co-sponsored by Australia, Chile, Cyprus, Greece, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Paraguay, Portugal, Switzerland and Thailand. Subsequently, Austria, the Bahamas, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Iceland, Jamaica, Malaysia, Norway, Panama, Singapore, Uruguay and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

- 249. At the same meeting, the representative of Peru made a general comment on the draft resolution.
- 250. 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.
- 251. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/13).

Eliminating inequality within and among States for the realization of human rights

- 252. At the 36th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of South Africa, also on behalf of Nepal and Pakistan, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.37, sponsored by Nepal, Pakistan and South Africa, and co-sponsored by Bangladesh, Sierra Leone and Turkey. Subsequently, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Libya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 253. At the same meeting, the representatives of Australia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 254. 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.
- 255. At the same meeting, the representatives of Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and Mexico (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile and Peru) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 256. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Australia, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Germany, Italy, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Peru, Republic of Korea, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

257. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 25 votes to 8, with 14 abstentions (resolution 45/14).

Mandate of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to elaborate the content of an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies

- 258. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.39, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States. Subsequently, Costa Rica joined the sponsors.
- 259. 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.
- 260. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 261. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/16).

Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes

- 262. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.41, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Chile and the Marshall Islands. Subsequently, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Kuwait (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Malaysia, Panama, Vanuatu and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 263. 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.
- 264. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/17).

The safety of journalists

- 265. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Austria, also on behalf of Brazil, France, Greece, Morocco, Qatar and Tunisia, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.42/Rev.1, sponsored by Austria, Brazil, France, Greece, Morocco, Qatar and Tunisia, and co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay. Subsequently, the Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Japan, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, New Zealand, Panama, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Timor-Leste and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 266. At the same meeting, the representatives of Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Chile and the Philippines made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 267. 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.
- 268. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/18).

Elimination of discrimination against women and girls in sport

269. As notified to the secretariat, draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.56, sponsored by South Africa, and co-sponsored by the Dominican Republic and San Marino, was withdrawn by the sponsor on 30 September 2020, prior to its consideration by the Human Rights Council.

Promoting and protecting the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000)

270. At the 38th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the representative of Spain introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.24/Rev.1 as orally revised, sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Finland, Iraq, Namibia, Spain and Tunisia, and co-sponsored by Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and Uruguay. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Costa Rica, Fiji, France, Guatemala, Israel, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Libya, Monaco, Panama, the

- Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the Sudan, Ukraine and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 271. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Denmark, Germany, India, Mexico and Peru made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.
- 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 resolution as orally revised.
- 273. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bangladesh and Pakistan made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 274. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 45/28).
- 275. At the same meeting, the representative of Namibia made a general comment on the adopted resolution as orally revised.

Promoting, protecting and respecting women's and girls' full enjoyment of human rights in humanitarian situations

- 276. At the 38th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the representative of Fiji, also on behalf of Canada, Georgia, Sweden and Uruguay, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 as orally revised, sponsored by Canada, Fiji, Georgia, Sweden and Uruguay, and cosponsored by Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Monaco, Panama, the Republic of Moldova, Turkey and Vanuatu joined the sponsors.
- 277. At the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that amendments A/HRC/45/L.65, A/HRC/45/L.66, A/HRC/45/L.67, A/HRC/45/L.68, A/HRC/45/L.69, A/HRC/45/L.70, A/HRC/45/L.71, A/HRC/45/L.72, A/HRC/45/L.73, A/HRC/45/L.74, A/HRC/45/L.75, A/HRC/45/L.76, A/HRC/45/L.77, A/HRC/45/L.78 and A/HRC/45/L.79 to the draft resolution as orally revised had been withdrawn by the sponsors.
- 278. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Afghanistan, Australia, Brazil, Denmark, Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Mexico, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) and Uruguay (also on behalf of Fiji) made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.
- 279. 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.
- 280. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 45/29).

Rights of the child: realizing the rights of the child through a healthy environment

281. At the 38th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the representatives of Germany and Uruguay (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.48/Rev.1 as orally revised, sponsored by Argentina, Austria, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia,

Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and cosponsored by Albania, Armenia, Canada, Fiji, Georgia, Iceland, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, Namibia, Nepal, North Macedonia, the Philippines, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Tunisia and Ukraine. Subsequently, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Japan, Libya, Madagascar, Monaco, Mongolia, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

- 282. At the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that amendments A/HRC/45/L.58, A/HRC/45/L.59, A/HRC/45/L.60, A/HRC/45/L.61, A/HRC/45/L.62 and A/HRC/45/L.63 to the draft resolution as orally revised had been withdrawn by the sponsor.
- 283. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendments A/HRC/45/L.57 as orally revised and A/HRC/45/L.64 to the draft resolution as orally revised.
- 284. Amendment A/HRC/45/L.57 as orally revised was sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently Bangladesh and Pakistan joined the sponsor. Amendment A/HRC/45/L.64 was sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently Pakistan joined the sponsor.
- 285. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of 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 as orally revised.
- 286. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of the Bahamas, India, Mexico and Ukraine made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised and on the proposed amendments.
- 287. 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.
- 288. At the same meeting, the representatives of Fiji and Uruguay made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/45/L.57 as orally revised.
- 289. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.57 as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan

Against:

Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Togo

- 290. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.57 as orally revised by 27 votes to 13, with 6 abstentions.⁴
- 291. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina and Australia made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/45/L.64.

⁴ The delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela did not cast a vote.

292. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/45/L.64. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia

Against:

Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Philippines, Sudan, Togo

- 293. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/45/L.64 by 27 votes to 13, with 6 abstentions.⁴
- 294. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bahrain and Senegal made statements in explanation of vote before the vote on the draft resolution as orally revised.
- 295. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 45/30).
- 296. At the same meeting, the representative of Nepal made a general comment in relation to all the draft proposals adopted under agenda item 3.

People-centred approaches in promoting and protecting human rights

- 297. Draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.49 was sponsored by China and Pakistan, and cosponsored by Bangladesh, Belarus, Egypt, Nepal, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Myanmar, Somalia and the Syrian Arab Republic joined the sponsors.
- 298. As notified to the secretariat, draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.49 was withdrawn by the sponsors on 7 October 2020, prior to its consideration by the Human Rights Council.

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

A. Interactive dialogue with a special procedure mandate holder

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

- 299. At the 15th meeting, on 22 September 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Thomas Andrews, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/26, an oral progress report (by video message).
- 300. At the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar made a statement as the State concerned.
- 301. 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: Australia, Bangladesh, Czechia, Denmark, Indonesia, Japan, Mauritania, Nepal, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Republic of Korea, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus, Belgium, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Maldives, Norway, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship (by video message), Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (by video message), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration (by video message), CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, European Centre for Law and Justice, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (by video message), Save the Children International (also on behalf of CARE International).
- 302. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.
- 303. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar raised a point of order in relation to visual material displayed during the meeting.
- 304. Four⁵ delegations supported the point of order while seven⁶ spoke against it.
- 305. Under rules 113 and 127 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council conducted a roll-call vote at the request of the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on the question of whether States members of the Council agreed with the assessment of the Bureau that the visual material could be displayed. The result of the vote was 25 in favour and 1 against, with 9 abstentions.

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

- 306. At the 15th meeting, on 22 September 2020, the Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/28, the report of the Commission of Inquiry (A/HRC/45/31) (by video message).
- 307. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

⁵ Belarus, China, Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

⁶ Australia, Bangladesh, Denmark, Czechia, Germany, Japan and the Netherlands.

- 308. During the interactive dialogue, at the 15th and 17th meetings, on 23 September 2020, 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, Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Chile, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Qatar, Sweden⁷ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Norway), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belarus, Belgium, China, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Georgia, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait (by video message), Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Nicaragua, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- (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: Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression) (by video message), Institute for NGO Research (by video message), International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights (by video message), Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association (by video message), Next Century Foundation (by video message), Partners for Transparency (by video message), Reporters sans frontières international (by video message), Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression (also on behalf of Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies) (by video message), Union of Arab Jurists, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (by video message).
- 309. At the 17th meeting, the Chair of the Commission of Inquiry and members of the Commission of Inquiry, Hanny Megally and Karen Koning Abuzayd, answered questions and made their concluding remarks (by video message).
- 310. At the same meeting, the representative of Ethiopia made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

C. Interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi

- 311. At the 16th meeting, on 23 September 2020, the Chair of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, Doudou Diène, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/26, the final report of the Commission of Inquiry (A/HRC/45/32) (by video message).
- 312. At the same meeting, the representative of Burundi made a statement as the State concerned.
- 313. 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: Australia, Netherlands, Norway⁷ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus, Belgium, China, Croatia, Egypt, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Kenya, Luxembourg, Myanmar, Russian Federation, South Sudan, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (by video message), East and Horn of

⁷ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Human Rights Watch, Institute for NGO Research (by video message), International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT), International-Lawyers.org (by video message), Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

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

D. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update by the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan

- 315. At the 16th meeting, on 23 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/27, an enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update by the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan.
- 316. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement for the enhanced interactive dialogue.
- 317. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, Yasmin Sooka, presented an oral update (by video message).
- 318. Also at the same meeting, the following made statements: Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs of the Republic of South Sudan, Ruben Madol Arol; Minister Counsellor for Political and Legal Affairs, Permanent Delegation of the African Union in Geneva, Yakdhan El Habib.
- 319. During the ensuing enhanced interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Germany, Mauritania, Netherlands, Norway⁷ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden), Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belgium, Burundi, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Ireland, Kenya, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (by video message), Lutheran World Federation, Next Century Foundation (by video message), Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation.
- 320. At the same meeting, the presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

E. Interactive dialogue with the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

- 321. At the 16th meeting, on 23 September 2020, the Chair of the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Marta Valiñas, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/25, the report on the findings of the independent international fact-finding mission (A/HRC/45/33) (by video message).
- 322. At the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement as the State concerned (by video message).
- 323. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 17th meeting, on the same day, and at the 19th meeting, on 24 September 2020, the following made statements and asked the Chair and the members of the independent international fact-finding mission questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Czechia, Denmark, Eritrea, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Peru, Peru (also on behalf of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama and Paraguay), Poland, Slovakia, Spain;
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belarus, Belgium, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, France, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Myanmar (by video message), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- (c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, Organization of American States;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (by video message), Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social (by video message), Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International-Lawyers.org (by video message), International Service for Human Rights (by video message), Next Century Foundation (by video message).
- 324. At the 19th meeting, members of the independent international fact-finding mission, Pauls Seils and Francisco Cox Vial, answered questions and made their concluding remarks (by video message).

F. General debate on agenda item 4

- 325. At the 20th meeting, on 25 September 2020, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/25, an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
- 326. At the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement as the State concerned (by video message).
- 327. At its 20th and 21st meetings, on 25 September 2020, and at its 22nd meeting, on 28 September, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 4, during which the following made statements:
- Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Azerbaijan⁷ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Ecuador), Brazil, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Germany (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Germany (also on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Liechtenstein, Montenegro and North Macedonia), India, Japan, Netherlands, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Peru, Peru (also on behalf of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama and Paraguay), Philippines (by video message), Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of Belarus, Burundi, China, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Russian Federation and the Syrian Arab Republic) (by video message);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Myanmar (by video message), Norway,

Paraguay, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (by video message);

- (c) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Commission for Human Rights (Greece) (by video message);
- Observers for non-governmental organizations: Africa culture internationale, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Alsalam Foundation, American Association of Jurists, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, Arab NGO Network for Development, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Association of World Citizens, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association Thendral, Baha'i International Community, Baptist World Alliance (also on behalf of World Evangelical Alliance), Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Center for Environmental and Management Studies, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre Europe-tiers monde (also on behalf of Andean Information Network and International Association of Democratic Lawyers), Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, China NGO Network for International Exchanges, Chinese Association for International Understanding, 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 peoples, 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, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, "Coup de pousse" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud, Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers (also on behalf of Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, Franciscans International, Lutheran World Federation and Soka Gakkai International), East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Ensemble contre la peine de mort, European Centre for Law and Justice, European Union of Jewish Students, France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Human Rights Watch (also on behalf of Access Now, Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Freedom House, International Commission of Jurists, International Service for Human Rights, Lawyers for Lawyers, Minority Rights Group, People for Successful Corean Reunification and Philippine Human Rights Information Center), Ingénieurs du monde, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Association of Crafts and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Career Support Association, International Catholic Migration Commission, International Commission of Jurists, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Educational Development, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International-Lawyers.org, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Muslim Women's Union, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain and CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation), International Yazidis Foundation for the Prevention of Genocide, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iraqi Development Organization, Iuventum, Jubilee Campaign, Justiça Global, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, La manif pour tous, Liberation, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Minority Rights Group, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Partners for Transparency, Peace Brigades International Switzerland (also on behalf of Franciscans International), Prahar, Presse emblème campagne, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Reprieve, Réseau international des droits humains, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Society for

Threatened Peoples, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Stichting CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Tamil Uzhagam, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, Villages unis, Women's Human Rights International Association, World Environment and Resources Council, 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 Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress, World Organization against Torture (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, 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, Franciscans International, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Harm Reduction Association and International Service for Human Rights), Zéro pauvre Afrique.

- 328. At the 22nd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Lebanon, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.
- 329. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Turkey made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

G. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Situation of human rights in Burundi

- 330. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Germany, on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.36/Rev.1, sponsored by Germany, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Canada, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Iceland, Monaco and Ukraine joined the sponsors.
- 331. At the same meeting, the representative of Burundi made a statement as the State concerned.
- 332. 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.
- 333. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cameroon and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 334. 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, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Against:

Cameroon, Pakistan, Philippines, Somalia, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Qatar, Senegal, Sudan

335. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 24 votes to 6, with 17 abstentions (resolution 45/19).

Situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

- At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Peru (also on behalf of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama Paraguay) Guyana, Honduras, and introduced draft A/HRC/45/L.43/Rev.1, sponsored by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay and Peru, and cosponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Czechia, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco and the Netherlands joined the sponsors.
- 337. At the same meeting, the representatives of Australia, Brazil, Eritrea and Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 338. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement as the State concerned (by video message).
- 339. 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.
- 340. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Czechia, Mexico and the Netherlands made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 341. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Eritrea, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

Against:

Eritrea, Philippines, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

- 342. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 22 votes to 3, with 22 abstentions (resolution 45/20).
- 343. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Peru made a general comment on the adopted resolution.

Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

- 344. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, the Netherlands, Qatar and Turkey) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.45, sponsored by France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, the Netherlands, Qatar, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Belgium, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Somalia, Spain, Sweden and Ukraine. Subsequently, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Ecuador, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Micronesia (Federated States of), North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland joined the sponsors.
- 345. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and Japan made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 346. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.
- 347. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Chile (also on behalf of Brazil and Mexico) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 348. 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, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, Togo, Ukraine, Uruguay

Against:

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Sudan

- 349. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 27 votes to 1, with 19 abstentions (resolution 45/21).
- 350. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Bahrain made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote and general comments on all the draft resolutions adopted under agenda item 4.

V. Human rights bodies and mechanisms

A. Interactive dialogue with the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

- 351. At the 20th meeting, on 25 September 2020, the Chair of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, Lazhari Bouzid, presented the reports of the Advisory Committee (A/HRC/45/39 and A/HRC45/40) (by video message).
- 352. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair of the Advisory Committee questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Ecuador⁷ (also on behalf of Algeria, Italy, Peru, Romania and Thailand), India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru (by video message), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: China, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Russian Federation;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: China NGO Network for International Exchanges, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS) (by video message), Institute for NGO Research (by video message), International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (Switzerland) (by video message), Iuventum (by video message), South Youth Organization (by video message).
- 353. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Advisory Committee answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

B. Interactive dialogue with the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights on the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights

- 354. At the 28th meeting, on 30 September 2020, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and Head of OHCHR in New York presented the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights (A/HRC/45/36).
- 355. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 29th meeting, on 1 October 2020, the following made statements and asked the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Australia, Austria (also on behalf of Liechtenstein, Slovenia and Switzerland), Belgium⁷ (also on behalf of Luxembourg and the Netherlands), Czechia, Germany, India, Lithuania⁷ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden), Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Philippines (by video message), Slovakia, Uruguay (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and Peru), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Andorra (by video message), Botswana, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Egypt, France, Georgia, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam, State of Palestine;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (by video message), Commission on Human Rights (Philippines) (by video message);

- (e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (by video message), Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (by video message), Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Chinese Association for International Understanding (by video message), CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (by video message), East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Human Rights House Foundation (by video message), International Service for Human Rights, Right Livelihood Award Foundation (by video message).
- 356. At the 29th meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights answered questions and made her concluding remarks.
- 357. At the 28th meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, India and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.
- 358. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

C. Interactive dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

- 359. At the 19th meeting, on 24 September 2020, the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Laila Susanne Vars, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 33/25, the reports of the Expert Mechanism (A/HRC/45/35 and A/HRC/45/38) (by video message).
- 360. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair of the Expert Mechanism questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia (by video message), Brazil, Finland⁷ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Guatemala⁷ (also on behalf of Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru), Indonesia, Nepal, Peru (by video message), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Russian Federation;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-Haq (also on behalf of Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies) (by video message), China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS) (by video message), Conselho Indigenista Missionário (by video message), International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (by video message), International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights (by video message), International-Lawyers.org (by video message), International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Réseau international des droits humains, World Organization against Torture (by video message).
- 361. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Expert Mechanism answered questions and made her concluding remarks.
- 362. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Brazil made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

D. Human Rights Council complaint procedure

363. At its 21st meeting, on 25 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held a closed meeting on the complaint procedure.

- 364. At the same meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Situations, Zbigniew Czech, presented the report of the Working Group on Situations on its twenty-fifth session, held in closed meetings from 27 to 31 January 2020.
- 365. At the 22nd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Vice-President of the Human Rights Council made a statement on the outcome of the meeting, stating that the Council had examined, in its closed meeting, the report of the Working Group on Situations on its twenty-fifth session under the complaint procedure established pursuant to Council resolution 5/1. The Vice-President added that no case had been referred by the Working Group on Situations to the Council for action at the forty-fifth session.

E. General debate on agenda item 5

- 366. At the 25th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the President of the Human Rights Council updated the Council, pursuant to decision 43/117, on progress in relation to the open consultations with States and relevant stakeholders, aiming to formulate draft methods of work of the Consultative Group of the Human Rights Council, in full compliance with resolutions 5/1 and 16/21.
- 367. At its 25th and 26th meetings, on the same day, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 5, during which the following made statements:
- Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan⁷ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Ecuador), Germany (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine), India, India (also on behalf of Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Burundi, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Indonesia, Japan, Kuwait⁷ (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Latvia⁷ (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and the State of Palestine), Mexico (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama and Uruguay), Nepal, Norway⁷ (also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand and Switzerland), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Portugal⁷ (also on behalf of Angola, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Haiti, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, Seychelles, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia and Uruguay), Uruguay (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the State of Palestine), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam⁷ (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Russian Federation, Switzerland;
- (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf;

- Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, African (d) Green Foundation International, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Alsalam Foundation, Amnesty International (also on behalf of Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Center for Reproductive Rights, Child Rights Connect, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Genève pour les droits de l'homme: formation internationale, International Commission of Jurists, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Service for Human Rights and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom), Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Association Thendral, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Global Welfare Association, Health and Environment Program, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Commission of Jurists, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, Iraqi Development Organization, Iuventum, Jeunesse étudiante tamoule, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés, Partners for Transparency, Prahar, Réseau international des droits humains, Tamil Uzhagam, Universal Rights Group, World Barua Organization, World Muslim Congress.
- 368. At the 26th meeting, the representatives of Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Iraq made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

F. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

The contribution of the Human Rights Council to the prevention of human rights violations

- 369. At the 38th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the representatives of Sierra Leone (also on behalf of Norway, Switzerland and Uruguay) and Switzerland introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.32, sponsored by Norway, Sierra Leone, Switzerland and Uruguay, and cosponsored by Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Czechia, Estonia, Fiji, France, Georgia, Haiti, Iceland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, the Marshall Islands, Paraguay and Sweden. Subsequently, Armenia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Libya, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Timor-Leste and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the sponsors.
- 370. At the same meeting, the representative of Switzerland orally revised the draft resolution.
- 371. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Australia, Cameroon, Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), India, Japan and Uruguay made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.
- 372. 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.
- 373. At the same meeting, the representatives of Denmark, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Sudan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.
- 374. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Slovakia, Spain, Togo, Ukraine, Uruguay

Against:

Bahrain, Cameroon, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Somalia, Sudan

- 375. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised by 32 votes to 3, with 11 abstentions (resolution 45/31).8
- 376. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Eritrea (also on behalf of Bahrain and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote. In the statement, the representative of Eritrea disassociated the respective member States from the consensus on the adopted resolution.

⁸ The delegation of Libya did not cast a vote.

VI. Universal periodic review

- 377. 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-fifth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, held from 20 to 31 January 2020.
- 378. At the opening of agenda item 6, on 28 September 2020, the Vice-President stated that, pursuant to the Human Rights Council decision taken at the forty-fourth session, the adoption of the outcomes of 12 States out of the 14, which had been examined during the thirty-fifth session, namely Kyrgyzstan, Guinea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Kenya, Armenia, Guinea-Bissau, Sweden, Grenada, Turkey, Kiribati and Guyana, had been postponed to the forty-fifth session, based on the expressed agreement by or in the absence of objections from those States, as one of the extraordinary measures to be applied during the forty-fourth session. The Vice-President also stated that the outcomes of the other two States, namely Kuwait and Spain, had been considered and adopted at the forty-fourth session.
- 379. The Vice-President furthermore referred to the meeting of the Bureau on 25 September 2020, during which the secretariat of the universal periodic review had informed the Bureau that it had to date not received the official positions of Guinea-Bissau and Guyana on the recommendations received during their reviews and that Guinea-Bissau had requested a postponement of the adoption of its outcome to a date later than the forty-fifth session of the Council. The Vice-President indicated that the two States had subsequently submitted their positions on the recommendations and that some clarifications and time for translation were, however, still needed. The Vice-President therefore proposed to the Council a postponement of the adoptions of their outcomes to Monday 5 October 2020, in order to avoid a situation where a clear position on each recommendation would not have been received from either of those two States at the time of their adoptions. There was no objection from the States members of the Council, and it was so decided.
- 380. In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the Vice-President stated that all 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 the recommendations by indicating that it either "supported" or "noted" them.

A. Consideration of universal periodic review outcomes

381. 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.

Kyrgyzstan

- 382. The review of Kyrgyzstan was held on 20 January 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 Kyrgyzstan 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.6/35/KGZ/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.6/35/KGZ/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.6/35/KGZ/3 and Corr.1).
- 383. At its 22nd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Kyrgyzstan (see sect. C below).
- 384. The outcome of the review of Kyrgyzstan comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/4), 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/44/4/Add.1).9

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

- 385. The delegation of Kyrgyzstan introduced to the Human Rights Council the State's positions on the recommendations received during its third universal periodic review.
- 386. Kyrgyzstan had supported 193 recommendations out of the 232 recommendations it had received during its third review and had noted the remaining 39. The supported recommendations meant that they had already been implemented, were being implemented or were planned to be implemented. However, 39 recommendations had been noted, as they warranted considerable review and consultations and, due to various objective reasons, could not be implemented. All recommendations had been widely discussed with civil society organizations and the OHCHR Regional Office for Central Asia, in Bishkek.
- 387. Regarding the ratification of international conventions, the delegation asserted that, although Kyrgyzstan was not party to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, Kyrgyzstan had in 2019 become the first country to eradicate statelessness. As such, the ratification of those conventions would be considered following examination of the instruments.
- 388. A review was also being undertaken on accession to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, while the delegation deemed that the State's criminal legislation contained provisions that envisaged a punishment for enforced disappearance.
- 389. Concerning the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the delegation stated that some provisions contradicted those of the Constitution of Kyrgyzstan, including the required commitment to hand over a suspect to the Court, whereas the Constitution enshrined the prohibition of handing over its citizens.
- 390. Accession to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) was also being studied, while the law of 2017 on security and protection from family violence laid out the legal foundations for preventing and suppressing family violence.
- 391. The delegation asserted that the ratification of the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) was not envisaged since it was not viewed as relevant to the local context.
- 392. With respect to the recommendation to ensure in the Constitution the supremacy of international human rights law over domestic law, the delegation stated that, in accordance with the Constitution, the international treaties that had come into force in the manner prescribed by the law, and to which Kyrgyzstan was a party, were a constituent part of the State's legal framework.

⁹ See https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/45session/Pages/Oral-statements.aspx.

- 393. In terms of vulnerable groups, while Kyrgyzstan had noted the recommendations pertaining to the protection and advancement of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community and the adoption of comprehensive legislation against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, the delegation underlined that nobody in Kyrgyzstan could be subject to discrimination based on gender, race, language, disability, ethnic affiliation, religion, age, political or other beliefs, education, origin, property or other. Kyrgyzstan was taking steps to adapt its national legislation to international standards regarding lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, including the right to gender reassignment and associated changes in passport details, affirmed by law.
- 394. On torture, the delegation noted the recommendation to create an independent body for investigating all allegations of torture, and it stated its belief that the State's existing legislation contained adequate provisions in that respect. It asserted that, under the criminal legislation of Kyrgyzstan, pretrial procedures were conducted by independent bodies governed by law, the military prosecutor's office and the State Committee for National Security.
- 395. With respect to adopting a comprehensive law on freedom of information in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the delegation deemed that existing legislation contained adequate provisions to protect mass media, freedom of speech and freedom of expression.
- 396. On inciting racial, ethnic, national, religious and transregional hatred, and the recommendation to amend article 313 of the Criminal Code to bring it into compliance with articles 19 (3) and 20 (2) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the delegation asserted its belief that the article of the Criminal Code did not contradict those articles of the Covenant.

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

- 397. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Kyrgyzstan, 13 delegations made statements.
- 398. Saudi Arabia expressed its appreciation for the efforts of Kyrgyzstan to further bolster human rights in line with international standards. It recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report of the Working Group and it expressed the hope that Kyrgyzstan would succeed in implementing the recommendations supported.
- 399. Sri Lanka appreciated that Kyrgyzstan had accepted 193 out of the 232 recommendations received from delegations, including five out of the six recommendations made by Sri Lanka. It noted the Government's efforts to combat trafficking in persons and the legislative amendments introduced for improvements in fair trial guarantees and the independence of the judiciary. Sri Lanka recommended the adoption of the report on Kyrgyzstan.
- 400. Turkey commended Kyrgyzstan for having accepted the majority of the recommendations made. Turkey welcomed the steps taken to bring legislation into line with the Constitution and international human rights treaties, and for progress in the implementation of the two national action plans on gender equality. Turkey hoped that the Human Rights Council would adopt the report on Kyrgyzstan with consensus.
- 401. UN-Women welcomed the allocation of dedicated funding for crisis centres and the adoption of gender quotas for local elections. It recommended the State take urgent actions on the protection of the rights of women survivors of violence, leaders and human rights defenders; women's political participation, gender parity in decision-making, and access to decent jobs and entrepreneurship development; adequate resources and decision-making authority for Parliament's national council for women and gender development; and to ensure disaggregated data.
- 402. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed the State's support for all three of its recommendations. It expressed sadness at the death of Mr. Azimjan Askarov in prison despite international calls for his release, and it called upon Kyrgyzstan to

continue to protect the safety of journalists. It urged Kyrgyzstan to improve the situation of gender-based violence during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 403. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was pleased with the ratification by Kyrgyzstan of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and related programmes. It highlighted the country's protection of women and the family through the protection plan 2018–2028. It recognized the efforts of Kyrgyzstan to comply with its human rights commitments and it wished Kyrgyzstan success in implementing the recommendations accepted.
- 404. Afghanistan positively noted the acceptance by Kyrgyzstan of the majority of the recommendations, and both recommendations made by Afghanistan, on providing access to quality, multilingual and inclusive education for children, especially for children with disabilities and minorities, and on adopting a comprehensive strategy for gender equality in economic, social and cultural rights. Afghanistan supported the adoption of the universal periodic review outcome of Kyrgyzstan.
- 405. Armenia noted with appreciation that Kyrgyzstan had accepted a significant number of the recommendations received, including those made by Armenia. Armenia appreciated the progress made in strengthening equality between men and women and it welcomed the State's commitment to the participation of women in the political and economic life of the country. Armenia supported the adoption of the universal periodic review outcome of Kyrgyzstan.
- 406. Belgium appreciated the acceptance by Kyrgyzstan of its recommendation to allow for the laws on forced marriages and domestic violence to achieve their full effect, and it sought information on measures for implementation. Belgium noted that its other recommendations had not been accepted, particularly those on a freedom of information law and on ensuring compensation for victims of the conflict in 2010, regarding which Kyrgyzstan had indicated the sufficiency of its legislation. Belgium invited the authorities to reconsider their position.
- 407. China appreciated the efforts of Kyrgyzstan on sustainable economic and social development, poverty reduction, social protection, the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, and the fight against extremism and terrorism. China hoped that Kyrgyzstan would continue to promote economic and social development, advance poverty reduction, combat extremism and terrorism, and actively participate in international anti-terrorism cooperation, to provide a safer environment for enjoyment of all human rights. China supported the adoption of the report on Kyrgyzstan by the Human Rights Council.
- 408. Cuba appreciated the large number of recommendations accepted by Kyrgyzstan, including those made by Cuba. It urged Kyrgyzstan to work on the effective implementation of the national strategy for gender equality and on national efforts to provide comprehensive care to persons with disabilities and older persons. Cuba wished Kyrgyzstan every success in implementing the recommendations accepted.
- 409. Egypt commended the acceptance by Kyrgyzstan of most of the recommendations, its national human rights action plan for 2019–2021, the ratification of the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the promotion of the independence of the judiciary, and the fight against extremism and terrorism. Egypt encouraged Kyrgyzstan to continue its cooperation with the treaty bodies and it recommended the adoption of the report.
- 410. Uzbekistan noted the responsible approach of Kyrgyzstan during the universal periodic review process. Uzbekistan was pleased that the country had accepted the majority of the recommendations, including its own. It welcomed the constructive cooperation of Kyrgyzstan with the special procedure mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and it stated that the effective implementation of the recommendations would facilitate improvements to the human rights system in Kyrgyzstan. Uzbekistan recommended the adoption of the report on Kyrgyzstan.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

- 411. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Kyrgyzstan, six other stakeholders made statements.
- 412. Article 19: International Centre against Censorship (by video message) was concerned by the Government's attempts to control and restrict freedom of expression on the Internet as part of the state of emergency enacted in response to COVID-19, notably the adoption of the law on the manipulation of information in June 2020. It had seen an increase in the number of independent journalists and media organizations being called in for questioning for having criticized the authorities in relation to social media. Article 19 welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations to enhance the protection of journalists and create favourable conditions for freedom of the media, while calling upon the Government to fully implement those recommendations. It voiced its concern that Kyrgyzstan had not accepted the recommendation to amend article 313 of its Criminal Code, which provided for sanctions for "incitement" offences. In bringing sanctions, neither the consequences of the speech or action were considered, nor whether they reached the threshold of incitement under international human rights law. It called for a review of that law to clarify that incitement required proof of intent.
- 413. Amnesty International (by video message) welcomed the acceptance by Kyrgyzstan of 193 out of the 232 recommendations, including those on eradicating torture, combating domestic violence and the inclusion of persons with disabilities. It regretted that the recommendations on eliminating discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and on setting up an independent body to investigate torture had been noted. Human rights defender Azimjan Askarov, who had been sentenced to life imprisonment in 2010 under false charges and following a trial not meeting international fair trial standards, had died in detention in July 2020, despite repeated calls for his release given the risk to his health during the COVID-19 pandemic. The organization called upon the Government to thoroughly investigate the cause of Askarov's death and to ensure that anyone found responsible was held accountable. It remained concerned that people with disabilities faced barriers to inclusion. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons also encountered discrimination and violence. It urged the authorities to implement the recommendations from the previous universal periodic review cycle to fully investigate human rights violations that had occurred during the ethnic violence in June 2010.
- 414. Human Rights Watch was dismayed that Kyrgyzstan had not taken action on the recommendations to release Azimjan Askarov from prison, had denied him adequate medical care and had left him to die in custody in July 2020. It asserted that the Government of Kyrgyzstan had ignored its international human rights obligations and bore responsibility for his death. It called upon Kyrgyzstan to ensure an independent investigation into his imprisonment and death and to provide remedy. The organization stated that, although Kyrgyzstan had supported the recommendations to combat violence against women, impunity was still the norm, and the authorities should enforce relevant legislation and hold perpetrators accountable. It noted worrying developments on freedom of speech and nongovernmental organizations. Kyrgyzstan should ensure that journalists and activists could work without retaliation by the authorities. Human Rights Watch was disappointed that Kyrgyzstan had not supported the recommendation to ensure the primacy of international human rights law over domestic law, and it recommended the withdrawal of a bill before Parliament removing the obligation for courts to reconsider criminal cases in which an international human rights body had found a violation.
- 415. United Nations Watch (by video message) expressed that it was wary that, out of the 89 country statements in the report of the Working Group, no less than 78 had praised the Government's human rights record. It questioned the claim by Kyrgyzstan that the State was attempting to form a trilingual generation of citizens and preserve the native language of ethnic communities, given that it had mandated high school examinations to be in Kyrgyz or Russian languages, and the drop in the number of Uzbek schools. The organization was concerned about the use of vague counter-terrorism laws to block Internet access and shut down independent news agencies. It queried: if the new Code of Criminal Procedure had established that evidence obtained through torture was inadmissible, why had the Supreme Court in May upheld the sentence against Azimjan Askarov, when the United Nations Human

Rights Committee had found that he had been tortured? It asked whether Kyrgyzstan in the future would release others convicted through the use of torture, and if the report accurately reflected the situation on the ground.

- 416. The International Fellowship of Reconciliation urged further action on the right to conscientious objection to military service and stated that, while the State's military service of 12 months was obligatory for males, only limited conscientious objection provisions had been introduced by a law of 1994 on alternative service. It indicated that the United Nations Human Rights Committee had noted that conscientious objection to military service was allowed only to members of registered religious organizations whose teachings prohibited the use of arms. Kyrgyzstan had not justified why the provision on alternative service entailed a period of service twice as long as that required of military conscripts and why persons of higher education served for a considerably shorter period. The Committee had recommended that conscientious objection be provided for in law in a manner consistent with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The International Fellowship of Reconciliation also expressed concern about the provision permitting the buying out of military service.
- 417. Action Canada for Population and Development (by video message) welcomed the many recommendations adopted by Kyrgyzstan but stressed its concern about the absence of attention given to the human rights of sex workers. Even in the absence of a legislative ban, the police acted as though sex work had been criminalized, and sex workers were systemically detained arbitrarily, accompanied by humiliation, extortion and other forms of violence. The organization noted that new legislation had made the plight of sex workers worse and the police had begun to extort more money from that group. It asserted that sex workers were stigmatized, had insufficient access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, and conditions had become more difficult due to the COVID-19 crisis, as they were unable to work and the State had not provided financial assistance. It urged Kyrgyzstan to review all existing standards that impacted the rights of sex workers; establish a violence monitoring mechanism against the police with respect to sex workers; ensure access to sexual and reproductive medical services; and expand social protection for sex workers.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

- 418. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 232 recommendations received, 193 had enjoyed the support of Kyrgyzstan and 39 had been noted.
- 419. Concerning the recommendation on ensuring compensation to all victims of the conflict in 2010, specifically vulnerable groups such as ethnic minorities, women and children, the delegation indicated that the Government had approved the procedure for the payment of an additional monthly social benefit to the family members of persons who had died or had been injured in the events of April to June 2010. Legislation on social protection, as well as other regulatory legal acts, was being applied.
- 420. In terms of amending the overly broad definition of extremism contained in the law on countering extremist activities, to ensure the compatibility of the legislation with international legal standards, an interagency working group was developing a draft law with new language.
- 421. Regarding the recommendation to release Mr. Azimjan Askarov, the delegation stated that the courts had carried out all the required procedural actions under the criminal case in compliance with the requirements of criminal procedure legislation. Kyrgyzstan, bearing in mind the views of the United Nations Human Rights Committee, within the framework of its national legislation, and taking into account its international commitments, had taken all the steps required to ensure the rule of law and human rights protection. The delegation asserted that, in view of the State's aspiration to cooperate on the basis of the Committee's views in the case of Mr. Askarov, in 2016–2020, new judicial proceedings had been carried out in accordance with fair trial principles, and all the international norms had been respected. The delegation stated that Mr. Askarov had died following pneumonia and cardiovascular disease, and all the necessary investigative procedures, set out in the decision for the appointment of

- additional forensic expertise with the involvement of highly qualified doctors in the field of pulmonology and cardiology, were being carried out.
- 422. Concerning peaceful assemblies, the delegation stated that it was not allowed to prohibit and restrict the conduct of peaceful assemblies or to refuse support due to the absence of notice on the conduct of the peaceful assembly. Human rights and freedoms could be restricted by the Constitution and laws in order to protect national security, public order, the protection of the population's health and morals, or the protection of other persons' rights and freedoms. The law on peaceful assemblies regulated enforcement mechanisms and the obligations of government authorities to ensure peaceful assemblies.
- 423. On violence against women, the delegation reported that the recommendation to adopt legislation criminalizing marital rape and to take effective measures to end the practice of bride kidnapping had been noted. It pointed out that the new Criminal Code that had come into force on 1 January 2019 contained several new articles relating to bride kidnapping in particular.
- 424. Regarding the law on non-governmental organizations, the delegation stated that the President of Kyrgyzstan, S. Zheenbekov, had signed on 25 July 2020 an objection to the law on the manipulation of information, which had been adopted by Parliament in June 2020 with the proposal to revise the law.
- 425. With respect to joining the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the delegation indicated that Kyrgyzstan had been studying the issue and, should there be positive consideration, a plan for its implementation would be developed.

Guinea

- 426. The review of Guinea was held on 21 January 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 Guinea 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.6/35/GIN/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.6/35/GIN/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.6/35/GIN/3).
- 427. At its 22nd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Guinea (see sect. C below).
- 428. The outcome of the review of Guinea comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/5), 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/44/5/Add.1).

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

429. The delegation of Guinea (by video message) affirmed that, in 2010, 2015 and 2020, Guinea had regularly presented and submitted its achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights to the appreciation of the Human Rights Council. Guinea had worked to implement the recommendations made by member States because those contributed to cementing human rights in the country.

- 430. In January 2020, 213 recommendations had been made to Guinea with a view not only to consolidate the achievements made but also to allow for the continuation of the irreversible march towards the construction of the rule of law respectful of human rights. On 24 January 2020, during the conclusion of the review of Guinea, the government delegation had requested that the country be able to take, and had obtained, the time to consult all local institutional, political and social actors before deciding on the recommendations.
- 431. Upon returning home, a vast information and awareness campaign on the recommendations had been efficiently organized to allow each of the actors to better understand them and to feel involved and engaged in their implementation. The result of that broad information and consultation with the various stakeholders had led to the following position: out of the 213 recommendations made, 203 recommendations had been accepted and 10 recommendations had been noted.
- 432. The Government of Guinea was committed to implementing the recommendations accepted. The challenges in the area of human rights should be highlighted because they were imperative, and the various Governments needed to take them seriously. The absolute condition of peace and justice was the respect for human rights. The quest to make those effective was a struggle for human dignity, freedom and justice for every citizen. It was with honour and determination that the Government of Guinea would lead that fight, by relying on the precious support of all countries.

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

- 433. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Guinea, 12 delegations made statements.
- 434. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela commended Guinea for having established a national agency for health security and the provision of free health care, where women had qualified medical personnel during childbirth. It commended the efforts of Guinea to combat female genital mutilation and the policies aimed at reducing poverty.
- 435. Botswana welcomed the efforts of Guinea to prohibit female genital mutilation and improve reproductive health, to strengthen the national human rights institution and the national Ombudsman, and its acceptance of the recommendation made by Botswana to protect of the rights of persons with albinism.
- 436. Burkina Faso hailed Guinea for its efforts to improve human rights across the country, including combating violence against women and girls. Burkina Faso encouraged Guinea to continue its efforts and it called upon the international community to support the State.
- 437. Burundi appreciated the efforts made to combat child marriage, eradicate female genital mutilation, and combat impunity and domestic violence. It also praised the efforts to protect the rights of persons with disabilities and the State's National Economic and Social Development Plan to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.
- 438. Cabo Verde thanked Guinea for the efforts made and it encouraged the State to respond positively to requests from special procedure mandate holders to visit the country. Cabo Verde encouraged Guinea to bolster measures to promote political and civil rights and completely abolish capital punishment.
- 439. Chad congratulated Guinea for having accepted the majority of the recommendations and it called upon the Human Rights Council to adopt the universal periodic review outcome document on Guinea.
- 440. China welcomed the active participation of Guinea in the universal periodic review process and it commended the country for its commitment to reducing poverty, promoting employment, boosting agricultural production, developing health and education programmes, and protecting the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children and persons with disabilities. China thanked Guinea for having accepted the recommendations made by China and it hoped the country would continue to implement the National Economic and Social Development Plan.

- 441. Cuba congratulated Guinea on the large number of recommendations that the country had accepted and it appreciated that the recommendations made by Cuba had enjoyed the support of Guinea. It encouraged Guinea to continue to place priority on work to reduce poverty and improve access to and the quality of health-care services and inclusive education, particularly in rural areas. It encouraged Guinea to implement all the recommendations accepted.
- 442. Djibouti welcomed the additional presentation, which had highlighted the efforts and commitments made by Guinea to promote and protect human rights. It congratulated Guinea for having accepted 203 of the 213 recommendations received and it expressed appreciation to Guinea for having accepted two recommendations made by Djibouti.
- 443. Egypt commended Guinea for the national efforts made to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in all fields, including strengthening the legislative and institutional infrastructure through the establishment of an independent national commission for human rights and the accession to a number of international human rights instruments. It thanked Guinea for having accepted its recommendations on the empowerment of women in the political, economic and social fields and inclusive education.
- 444. Ethiopia welcomed the continued engagement of Guinea with the universal periodic review process and the State's acceptance of the recommendation made by Ethiopia to maintain the best practice of providing compulsory education for all children free of charge. It stressed that the universal periodic review should remain to provide an opportunity for sharing best practices and a platform where only a constructive exchange took place.
- 445. Gabon noted with satisfaction that the authorities of Guinea had taken important steps to guarantee civil, political, social and cultural rights, including the strengthening of the national human rights institutions, the abolition of the death penalty through the new Criminal Code, the criminalization of torture and the adoption of the Children's Code.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

- 446. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Guinea, four other stakeholders made statements.
- 447. The International Service for Human Rights (by video message) welcomed the acceptance by Guinea of a number of recommendations in an effort to create a safe environment for human rights defenders and to tackle the challenges they faced to ensure freedom of expression. It noted that, during a constitutional referendum in March 2020, a number of human rights violations had taken place, most notably against civil society. It appealed to Guinea to put an end to the impunity enjoyed by the security forces and to respect its commitment to human rights, and to guarantee the enjoyment of freedom of expression and freedom of assembly. It stressed that it was key that the Government of Guinea work in close collaboration with civil society to try to make progress in the promotion and protection of human rights defenders by strengthening the legal framework that protected them.
- 448. Amnesty International (by video message) welcomed the cooperation of Guinea with the universal periodic review and the State's acceptance of 203 out of the 213 recommendations, including the call for the commutation of all death sentences, the strengthening of the national human rights institution, the guarantee of freedom of expression, and the investigation of alleged human rights violations by security forces. It particularly welcomed the authorities' commitment to end impunity and refrain from the disproportionate use of force against demonstrators, which had been weakened by the State's rejection to update the law on enforcement and the use of firearms in line with international standards. It further noted that at least 20 people had been killed by security forces between March and July 2020, yet no member of the security forces had been tried for those crimes. As Guinea prepared for elections in October, the Guinean authorities had already arrested and detained opponents of a third term, with some incommunicado. The organization deplored the rejection by Guinea of all the recommendations concerning freedom of sexual orientation and gender identity, the decriminalization of defamation and the revision of the repressive law on cybercrime.

- 449. Plan International (by video message) welcomed the commitment of States to combat gender-based violence and it stated that, in Guinea, the efforts of the Government and the support of partners had allowed for the ratification of international and legal instruments. It noted the critical importance of trying to combat female genital mutilation. It also stressed its deep dismay that, among an estimated 51 per cent of victims of child marriages, there had been 146 cases of rape in one month, and that 95 per cent of women aged 15 to 49 years had been subjected to genital incisions in Guinea. There was still much to be done. It emphasized how children were being mutilated and then married at very young ages, and it urged Guinea to take immediate action. It recommended that Guinea implement laws to combat female genital mutilation, introduce programmes in schools that educated against female genital mutilation, and implement programmes to both empower and support women and girls.
- 450. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme noted the reforms undertaken by Guinea since the State's previous two universal periodic review cycles, including to abolish the death penalty, criminalize torture and create a steering committee to deal with the massacre in 2009. It expressed deep frustration that, 62 years after the country had said no to the referendum on the Constitution in 1958, there had been hope in the country for a better future, but that, since gaining independence, Guinea had seen extreme abuses of human rights. It urged Guinea, in keeping with international standards, to respect the right to peaceful assembly, guarantee freedom of press, combat sexual violence and combat torture in places of detention, and it stressed the urgent need to guarantee the integrity and transparency of the electoral system.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

- 451. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 213 recommendations received, 203 had enjoyed the support of Guinea and 10 had been noted.
- 452. The delegation underlined that the 10 recommendations noted mainly concerned lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex issues. It was not a refusal by the Government, but the authorities must take into account the weight of traditions and the context in which the country found itself. In order to be able to establish the universality of rights, the Government must take into account the realities of Guinean society.
- 453. The general trend that had emerged from the review of Guinea was first and foremost an acknowledgement of genuine progress in human rights in Guinea. The acceptance of the recommendations made was a testimony to the Government's resolute desire to renew its commitment to the Human Rights Council to implement the various recommendations made by the various delegations, which were considered as important contributions to human rights in Guinea. The Government wished to reassure the Council of its resolute commitment to promote human rights in all their components, including civil and political rights, economic, social and cultural rights, and the right to development.
- 454. That was why, at the end of the work of the session, the Government of Guinea, through its interministerial committee for the implementation of human rights instruments and practices, was committed to further promote its awareness-raising campaigns on human rights through workshops, seminars, conferences and thematic debates. That process would be followed by the necessary progressive harmonization of national legislation and legal instruments with the international and/or regional conventions ratified by Guinea. Furthermore, all the international commitments made by Guinea would be upheld.
- 455. The delegation highlighted the decision of the Council of Ministers, despite the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, to provide more substantial support to the Ministry of Citizenship and National Unity, in charge of human rights issues, with the hope of also benefiting from the support of the State's bilateral and multilateral partners to fund the various projects and programmes introduced by Guinea to further cement the process of development and the promotion of human rights in the country.
- 456. The Council of Ministers also reaffirmed the country's adherence to human rights and its willingness to cooperate fully with all the United Nations specialized agencies in charge of human rights. The Government was aware that that approach would be the best way to

promote human rights and to promote socioeconomic development in the country for the greater good of the population of the country.

Lao People's Democratic Republic

- 457. The review of the Lao People's Democratic Republic was held on 21 January 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 Lao People's Democratic Republic 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.6/35/LAO/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/HR/WG.6/35/LAO/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.6/35/LAO/3).
- 458. At its 23rd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (see sect. C below).
- 459. The outcome of the review of the Lao People's Democratic Republic comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/6), 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/44/6/Add.1).

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

- 460. The delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic started by emphasizing that the universal periodic review was an international forum for constructive dialogue on human rights.
- 461. After the universal periodic review in January 2020, the national committee on human rights of the Lao People's Democratic Republic had consulted relevant ministries and sectors, including civil society organizations.
- 462. The Lao People's Democratic Republic had supported 160 out of the total 226 recommendations received and noted the remaining 66 recommendations.
- 463. The delegation noted that the 160 recommendations supported were in line with the Constitution, laws and realities. It added that a number of those recommendations had already seen some progress and notable changes since the previous cycle, while the implementation of others was to commence in the near future.
- 464. As for the 66 recommendations that had been noted, the Lao People's Democratic Republic had in fact partially supported some of the recommendations noted, as it viewed them as part of its ongoing human rights efforts, while some required future consideration, and others were inapplicable as they were incomplete, incompatible with the Constitution or laws, or did not reflect the realities of the country.
- 465. The delegation provided detailed explanations on the recommendations noted.
- 466. The Lao People's Democratic Republic had supported the recommendations to consider ratifying the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. However, it needed more time to study the conditions to become a party to the other conventions as recommended.

- 467. The delegation reiterated the engagement of the Lao People's Democratic Republic with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council. It recalled the State's cooperation with such mechanisms in the previous cycle and said that the State would continue to extend invitations on a case-by-case basis and based on the readiness of both sides.
- 468. The Lao People's Democratic Republic had already established several mechanisms to promote and protect human rights in the country, including the national committee on human rights, the national commission for the advancement of women, mothers and children, and the national committee on persons with disabilities and older persons. According to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the current environment called for keeping existing domestic mechanisms while maintaining good cooperation with international and regional human rights mechanisms.
- 469. With regard to the recommendations to adopt comprehensive legislation on antidiscrimination, the delegation stated that the Lao People's Democratic Republic was making notable progress. The Constitution explicitly prohibited discrimination on various grounds. Additionally, the State had adopted specific laws and legislation with provisions on antidiscrimination against women, the promotion of gender equality, and non-discrimination against persons with disabilities, and ethnic and religious groups. Nonetheless, the Lao People's Democratic Republic was not ready to support the recommendation contained in paragraph 115.46 for the present cycle.
- 470. Regarding the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, the delegation stated that the Lao People's Democratic Republic did not restrict or prohibit them from social activities. However, the State had not supported the recommendations, which were not in line with its national cultural values and morals.
- 471. Concerning the recommendations to establish a de jure moratorium on the death penalty, the delegation reiterated that the Lao People's Democratic Republic had been implementing a de facto moratorium for many years. It recalled that, in 2017, the National Assembly had thoroughly debated and voted on the issue and the result was in favour of keeping the death penalty in the Penal Code that had been adopted and promulgated in 2018.
- 472. On the recommendations to amend legislation on the rights to freedom of speech, expression and information, the Lao People's Democratic Republic could not support the recommendations to remove the few limitations in the law on the media and other legislation because they did not restrict the people of the Lao People's Democratic Republic from expressing their views in society. Rather, those rights to freedom of expression should be fully enjoyed with a heightened sense of ethics and morality, in line with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- 473. As for the recommendations to investigate cases of enforced disappearance, the Lao People's Democratic Republic could not support them, as official investigation orders must be issued based on a credible claim, factual information and evidence. Regarding the case of Sombath Somphone, the investigation committee had continued to investigate with the purpose of bringing the perpetrators to justice.
- 474. The delegation stressed that all ethnic groups were equal before the law without any discrimination and the State respected and protected all religious activities and believers. For that purpose, the Government had adopted Decree 315 on the administration and protection of religious activities, after extensive consultations with religious groups.

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

- 475. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 13 delegations made statements.
- 476. Singapore welcomed the assurance of the Lao People's Democratic Republic that it would continue to cooperate with all United Nations human rights mechanisms. Singapore noted the State's duty to search for missing citizens and it hoped that the authorities would resolve the case of Mr. Sombath Somphone expeditiously. Singapore wished the State continued success in improving the lives of all its people and in achieving graduation from least developed country status in 2024.

- 477. Sri Lanka appreciated the resolve of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to develop its human rights system through institutional structures and normative frameworks. It took note of the inclusion of amendments in the Constitution acknowledging the State's obligations vis-à-vis human rights. It welcomed the creation of a legal database, allowing people to access legal information and encouraging comments on draft laws. It also commended the efforts to address the issue of children dropping out of schools and to reduce child education costs.
- 478. Thailand commended the Lao People's Democratic Republic for its effective COVID-19 response. It welcomed the acceptance of its recommendations, including one relating to the incorporation of the rights of various groups into the State's national socioeconomic development plan and the adoption of integrated approaches in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and human rights. Thailand encouraged the preparation of a voluntary midterm report and the maintenance of a regular dialogue with national stakeholders.
- 479. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland commended the Lao People's Democratic Republic for its effective response to COVID-19. It expressed concerns regarding restrictions on foreign news agencies and the use of intimidation against critics of the State and it urged the Government to protect the right to freedom of expression for all. It noted with concern that the case of Sombath Somphone was yet to be resolved and it asked that investigations into all enforced disappearances be carried out. It regretted that its recommendation to undertake impartial, thorough and transparent investigations into all enforced disappearances had not been supported.
- 480. UNICEF acknowledged the efforts of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to realize the rights of children and it welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations to further strengthen health, education and child protection systems to provide services for the most vulnerable children. It welcomed the Government's decision to further address trafficking in children, child marriage and infant mortality. However, it regretted that the recommendation to develop a comprehensive national strategy on the rights of the child, with a specific budget line and monitoring mechanism, had only been noted.
- 481. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela appreciated the efforts made by the Lao People's Democratic Republic to implement the recommendations accepted. It commended the Government's policy on poverty reduction and the rate achieved in 2018. It also commended the Government's policies in education and health aimed at protecting the most vulnerable. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela wished the Lao People's Democratic Republic every success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.
- 482. Viet Nam thanked the Lao People's Democratic Republic for having accepted its recommendation on poverty reduction and social economic development. It acknowledged the efforts made by the Lao People's Democratic Republic in that regard. Viet Nam also welcomed the country's support for its recommendation on improving access to affordable medical services and educational opportunities for its people in remote areas.
- 483. Belgium welcomed the acceptance by the Lao People's Democratic Republic of its recommendations to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and to ensure that any restriction to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly complied with international human rights standards. Belgium asked which concrete measures were envisaged for their implementation. It regretted that its recommendation to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, had not been accepted and it invited the authorities to reconsider their position.
- 484. Brunei Darussalam appreciated the update on the progress made by the Lao People's Democratic Republic since its review in January 2020. In particular, it commended the efforts to protect the right of children to education and the advances in health care for mothers and children. It appreciated the fact that the Lao People's Democratic Republic had accepted the recommendations made by Brunei Darussalam in those areas.
- 485. China welcomed the efforts of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to promote economic and social development, to improve living standards and reduce poverty, to

develop education and health, and to guarantee the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. It appreciated the fact that the Lao People's Democratic Republic had supported the recommendations China had made in those areas.

- 486. Cuba congratulated the Lao People's Democratic Republic on the large number of recommendations accepted. It urged the State to continue to eliminate poverty, to improve the quality and scope of its education and health systems, particularly in remote areas, and to continue to improve the standard of living of its population. Cuba wished the State success in implementing the recommendations accepted.
- 487. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea stated that the interactive dialogue with the Lao People's Democratic Republic had been an opportunity to understand the State's policies and experiences in the promotion and protection of human rights. It welcomed the acceptance of many recommendations, including those made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to make further efforts in the field of human rights.
- 488. Egypt commended the Lao People's Democratic Republic for the progress made. In particular, it highlighted the establishment of the national commission for the advancement of women, mothers and children, the national committee on persons with disabilities and older persons, and the national committee to combat trafficking in persons. Egypt encouraged the Lao People's Democratic Republic to continue to cooperate with the treaty bodies and special procedures.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

- 489. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, six other stakeholders made statements.
- 490. The Alliance Defending Freedom appreciated the commitment by the Lao People's Democratic Republic to review and amend Decree 315 on the administration and protection of religious activities, and to streamline administrative procedures to eliminate discrimination against religious minorities by local officials. It commended the Government's openness to provide countrywide training on the rights of religious minorities to public officials, police and other key actors. It further welcomed the Government's willingness to ensure accountability for acts of violence, discrimination and the persecution of ethnic and religious minorities. It looked forward to the establishment of a mechanism for individuals to appeal to a national authority for arrests and decisions made by local officials. It noted that the Lao People's Democratic Republic had accepted the recommendations relating to the protection of refugees and asylum seekers. However, the organization deeply regretted the Government's unwillingness to acknowledge the human rights violations suffered in its territory by Hmong and Montagnard Christians fleeing from persecution in Viet Nam. It called upon the Government to uphold the rights of those vulnerable groups, including the principle of non-refoulement. It regretted that the Lao People's Democratic Republic had rejected calls to amend Decree 238 on associations despite its detrimental impact on the activities of religious groups, both registered and non-registered. The latter in particular faced serious curtailments to their freedom of association, including abuse by local officials.
- 491. Amnesty International (by video message) regretted that the Lao People's Democratic Republic had not accepted the recommendations to abolish the death penalty, to ratify all international human rights treaties and protocols, to investigate grave human rights violations, including enforced disappearances and torture, to establish a national human rights commission, and to amend legislation to protect the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association. It also regretted that the Lao People's Democratic Republic still had to implement the recommendations it had supported during the previous universal periodic review, including those on the enforced disappearance of Sombath Somphone and treaty ratification. It welcomed the State's undertaking to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and it urged that that be done without reservations. However, it lamented that the Lao People's Democratic Republic had not accepted the recommendations on investigating the situation of missing Thai and Lao political activists, feared to have been subjected to enforced disappearances. It also welcomed the undertaking of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to release those detained solely for having exercised their rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association. It

praised the State for its support for the recommendations on international standards on land acquisition and displacement. Displaced communities continued to report a lack of adequate consultations and compensation, and damage to their livelihoods and environment.

492. Christian Solidarity Worldwide (by video message) welcomed the acceptance by the Lao People's Democratic Republic of the recommendations on the right to freedom of religion or belief. While there had been some improvements during the reporting period, the weak rule of law, ambiguous terms and obstacles to registration continued to undermine the rights of the State's religious communities. The organization also welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations calling for Decree 315 on the administration and protection of religious activities to be reviewed and amended, but it regretted that the recommendation to allow all religious communities to meet and conduct activities freely, regardless of registration, had only been noted. It observed that, in general, improvements had mostly been restricted to urban areas. Christians in rural areas had reported incidents of arbitrary detention, forced eviction, the confiscation of land and livestock, the destruction of property, harassment and discrimination. It called upon the Government to immediately and unconditionally release anyone detained in connection with the peaceful practice and observance of religion or belief. It also urged the Lao People's Democratic Republic to review its declaration pertaining to article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to ensure that the guarantees enshrined in article 18 were applied to all citizens. It concluded its statement by urging States Members of the United Nations to monitor and assist with the implementation of the recommendations made in the context of the review.

493. United Nations Watch (by video message) was deeply concerned about the human rights situation in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, in particular when it came to children. It called upon the Human Rights Council to do its utmost to protect the rights of children in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, namely the right to education, to be free from child labour, and to be free from the plight of child marriage and the predicament of early pregnancy. Concerning education, it noted that secondary school enrolment was still lagging behind. Girls from certain ethnic communities were at a disadvantage. It also echoed the call of the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization to ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education. Regarding child labour, it considered the situation very worrying. It cited ILO, according to whom 178,000 children were subjected to child labour. The majority were children from rural areas and 50 per cent of them were girls. On the third issue, it stated that the marriage of girls and early pregnancies were preventing girls of getting out of poverty. It cited UNICEF, according to whom the Lao People's Democratic Republic had the highest rate of child marriage in East Asia, with 37 per cent of women aged 20 to 49 years having been married by the age of 18 years.

494. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, in a joint statement with the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, regretted that the Government had not accepted several recommendations relating to fundamental freedoms and the protection of human rights defenders. Following the second cycle in 2015, the Lao People's Democratic Republic had committed to reassessing the restrictions on fundamental freedoms in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. However, the organization noted that the Government's actions since then had stood in stark contrast to those commitments, as well as the constitutional guarantees of those rights. It observed that criticism of the Government continued to be criminalized by using defamation charges. It cited the case of a woman human rights defender, Houayheuang Xayabouly. It also expressed concerns regarding Decree 238 on associations. It called upon the Lao People's Democratic Republic to create and to maintain, in law and in practice, an enabling environment for civil society organizations, the media, journalists and human rights defenders by repealing or reviewing all repressive legislation in accordance with international standards. It also regretted the Government's failure to accept key recommendations to investigate the enforced disappearance of Sombath Somphone and it called upon the Government to establish a new independent and impartial investigative body. It concluded by calling upon the Government to set out a comprehensive, measurable and time-bound action plan for the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations, in full cooperation and consultation with civil society.

495. The Society for Threatened Peoples regretted that the Lao People's Democratic Republic had not accepted key recommendations affecting indigenous and minority rights. It drew the attention of the Human Rights Council to the systematic persecution of Hmong people, who endured State persecution and were often victims of violent attacks and enforced disappearances. Facing the risk of discrimination, persecution and military violence, large numbers of Hmong people had fled to Western countries or had attempted to seek refuge in neighbouring countries during previous decades. The remaining Hmong had been excluded from Lao society and some of them had been forced to hide in the jungle. Today, of those who had fled to the jungle, only small groups were left due to the active persecution that they still suffered. The organization provided details regarding the case of a group of people who had gone missing on 12 March 2020 while fleeing severe starvation and constant military attacks. That was just one of many examples of gross human rights violations committed against the Hmong people in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The organization regretted that the authorities continued to deny the existence of the issue and refused to have any meaningful dialogue about it. It called for an investigation of the human rights violations in the region.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

- 496. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 226 recommendations received, 160 had enjoyed the support of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and 66 had been noted.
- 497. The delegation expressed its sincere appreciation to all the participants in its universal periodic review. It thanked in particular the delegations for their constructive assessment of the State's achievements and for their understanding of the constraints and challenges it faced.
- 498. The delegation reiterated the commitment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to realize human rights through the implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the treaties to which the country was a party and the universal periodic review recommendations accepted. It expressed the hope that the international community would continue to support its efforts, including the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations.

Lesotho

- 499. The review of Lesotho was held on 22 January 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 Lesotho in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/35/LSO/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.6/35/LSO/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.6/35/LSO/3 and Corr.1).
- 500. At its 23rd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Lesotho (see sect. C below).
- 501. The outcome of the review of Lesotho comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/8), 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.

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

502. The delegation stated that Lesotho appreciated the objective and impartial manner in which the State's review had been conducted and it applauded the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and welcomed its report. Lesotho had received a total of 211 recommendations. Of those, 168 recommendations had enjoyed the State's support, as they were considered to be in line with the Government's laws and policies, and some were already being implemented. Examples of such recommendations included incorporating into domestic law the provisions of international instruments already ratified; expediting the establishment of a human rights commission; combating more effectively acts of trafficking in persons, which mostly affected women and girls, by taking all the necessary legal measures against perpetrators; strengthening efforts to combat domestic violence by enacting a law on it and supporting its implementation; and intensifying efforts to address extreme poverty and food insecurity.

503. A total of 43 recommendations had been noted, as they were considered to be against government laws, policies, cultures and traditions. Those included abolishing the death penalty; ratifying optional protocols to various treaties dealing with a communications procedure; amending the Marriage Act of 1974 to include the marriage of same-sex couples; and amending or repealing section 18 (4) (c) of the Constitution with a view to protecting women and persons with disabilities from discrimination. They had not been accepted as some would require vigorous sensitization to bring a change in the mindset of the citizenry. Although Lesotho had noted almost the same recommendations in the second and third cycles, there had been progress regarding the recommendations noted, and in the light of upcoming national reforms, some of those issues would be co-opted in the process.

504. Lesotho had already started to implement some of the recommendations and it was optimistic that they would benefit rights holders at the national level. Those included Cabinet's approval of the amendments to the Human Rights Commission Act of 2016 and tabling such in Parliament so as to enable the Act to be in compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), and the submission of the periodic report on the domestic implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. In order to address poverty reduction and food insecurity, the Government would support farmers with a 60 per cent subsidy for summer cropping in 2020/21. Furthermore, the Lesotho agricultural census of 2019/20 had been launched, which would assist in the formulation of policies and programmes relating to agriculture. In order to alleviate gender-based violence, the Ministry of Gender, Youth, Sports and Recreation and the Office of the First Lady had signed a memorandum of understanding, whose aim was to explore measures that could be undertaken to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls and to work together on issues of gender-based violence in the country. As a means of addressing child marriage, Princess Senate Seeiso, who was a champion of ending child marriage, had made a call to parents and caregivers, policymakers and community leaders to protect children in all aspects, as no violence against children was justifiable.

505. As the universal periodic review was not an event but a process, Lesotho intended to bring all relevant stakeholders on board to ensure commitment to the implementation of the recommendations from the onset. Also, Lesotho anticipated establishing a national mechanism on reporting and follow-up, which would ease the tracking of the recommendations. In its absence, the Government would devise a workplan to ensure the coherent implementation of the recommendations. Lesotho intended to submit a voluntary midterm report on the implementation of the recommendations akin to that for the second cycle.

506. Making reference to COVID-19, which was not only a public health emergency but also a human rights crisis, the delegation reiterated the importance of the indivisibility of human rights and respect for human rights across the spectrum, which would be fundamental to the success of the public health response. While most Governments were continually devising strategies on how to curb the virus and protect their citizens, they also had to ensure that everyone was protected and included in the various responses and strategies. It was through the concerted efforts of the United Nations system, its international and national

partners, the international community and national Governments that they would be able to build more effective and inclusive solutions through a human rights-based approach.

507. As Lesotho commenced its journey in the implementation of the recommendations, its ambition was to move expeditiously towards the best practice in the field of human rights. The pace in that journey was determined by the availability of the requisite resources, capacity and receptiveness of the society upon which the adopted human rights were being applied. Despite the largely exogenous setbacks and challenges, including a decline in agricultural production as a result of deteriorating rangeland conditions, soil erosion and periodic droughts, food insecurity, unemployment, the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS, which had increased child mortality and maternal health, there continued to be progress on most fronts. Lesotho remained committed to its obligations under international law and the universal periodic review mechanism, which had proven to be a great multilateral achievement, in the pursuit of the realization of human rights. Lesotho appreciated the technical and financial support and the good cooperation received from several United Nations agencies and individual countries, which had enhanced its strides in the promotion and protection of human rights of its citizens.

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

- 508. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Lesotho, 12 delegations made statements.
- 509. Gabon was impressed by the efforts made by Lesotho in the area of gender equality and women's empowerment and it highlighted the State's African Gender Award in 2016 for promoting the social and economic rights of women. Gabon commended the domestic violence bill, aimed at reducing trafficking in persons and violence against women. However, it noted that, despite that progress, the eradication of gender-based violence remained a challenge.
- 510. India praised the efforts and commitment of Lesotho during the entire review. It was impressed that Lesotho had accepted 168 recommendations, including all four from India, out of a total of 211, which showed the State's strong commitment to the universal periodic review process. India congratulated Lesotho on its successful review and it recommended the adoption of the report.
- 511. Libya was pleased with the active participation of Lesotho in the universal periodic review process and it commended all the efforts to meet the State's international commitments to advance human rights. Libya was impressed by the progress of Lesotho in empowering women in various social and economic areas, including employment, education and health, through awareness-raising campaigns.
- 512. Malawi commended Lesotho for all the positive measures it had taken to improve the human rights situation in the country and it appreciated all the commitments the Kingdom had made.
- 513. The Marshall Islands was encouraged by the efforts of Lesotho to further streamline and domesticate all the international human rights treaties that the State had ratified. It commended the State's actions to alleviate gender-based violence through the signing of a memorandum of understanding aimed at the consideration of additional measures to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls. The Marshall Islands welcomed the Government's poverty reduction initiative, in line with the launch of the agricultural census, to further assist in the formulation of agricultural policies and programmes. It noted that Lesotho had received the simplified reporting procedures from OHCHR for the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
- 514. Mauritania appreciated the remarkable efforts made by Lesotho to promote human rights in education and health and the protection of the rights of the child, and to combat corruption. It called upon the Government to continue with the ongoing constitutional and institutional reforms. Mauritania encouraged Lesotho to ensure the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

- 515. Namibia commended Lesotho for the smooth and peaceful transition of power. It was pleased to note that the new Government was committed to ensuring the full and comprehensive implementation of the national reform process. While welcoming those positive steps, it encouraged Lesotho as per its recommendations to take further steps to promote and protect the rights of women and girls.
- 516. Nepal commended Lesotho for having accepted most of the recommendations received during the third cycle. It appreciated that both of its recommendations, on enhancing efforts to establish a national human rights commission and on continuing measures to improve access to health services, had enjoyed the State's support.
- 517. Nigeria was pleased to note the concerted efforts made by Lesotho to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a view to fulfilling its international human rights obligations. It commended the Government's efforts with regard to the right to education and in upholding the rights of persons with disabilities.
- 518. The Philippines (by video message) was encouraged by the commitment of Lesotho to advance the realization of human rights and it welcomed the State's adoption of national strategies on inclusive and sustainable growth, social and economic development, and the strengthening of governance and accountability.
- 519. Senegal supported the efforts made by Lesotho to strengthen its legal and institutional human rights frameworks. It applauded the ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa and the implementation of the second national strategic development plan. It commended the State's political will to develop a society in which human rights would constitute the highest standards for a peaceful and democratic coexistence.
- 520. Sierra Leone commended the efforts of Lesotho to advance human rights domestically by having accepted the majority of the recommendations received during the State's third universal periodic review, including those made by Sierra Leone on timely reporting and follow-up and on legislative reforms to combat gender-based violence. Sierra Leone was confident that Lesotho would remain committed in its efforts to reform its human rights institutions and mechanisms with the aim of promoting and protecting all human rights, including the implementation of previously accepted recommendations.
- 521. South Africa encouraged Lesotho to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It highlighted the need to fully implement poverty alleviation programmes though agricultural policies. It praised the State's efforts to alleviate gender-based violence through the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Gender, Youth, Sports and Recreation and the Office of the First Lady to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls. It appreciated the efforts to establish a human rights commission in line with the Paris Principles.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

- 522. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Lesotho, four other stakeholders made statements.
- 523. The International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (by video message), in a joint statement with the International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Milieus and Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 110.109 and 110.113, aiming to make primary education inclusive, compulsory and free for all. However, it was deeply concerned about the dropout and low enrolment rates in secondary schools, disproportionately affecting children living in rural areas. It welcomed the acceptance of the recommendation contained in paragraph 110.152 to combat child labour. However, children in Lesotho continued to be exposed to the worst forms of child exploitation, including herding, domestic work and sexual exploitation. It called upon Lesotho to allocate resources to subsidize school-related expenses for disadvantaged students in primary school and facilitate access to secondary school through the progressive elimination of fees, especially in rural areas; to fully implement the national action plan on

the elimination of child labour and the Children's Protection and Welfare Act of 2011 to eliminate the worst forms of child labour; and to adopt policies and programmes to eliminate all forms of exploitation, violence and gender discrimination against women and girls.

- 524. The Center for Global Nonkilling, in a joint statement with Conscience and Peace Tax International (CPTI), stated that Lesotho was the country with the highest suicide rate in Africa. The homicide rate was also too high and Lesotho was one of the countries still retaining in its Constitution a permit to kill in case of arrest, escape, mutiny or riot. Lesotho should be an example of protecting the right to life. In its Sustainable Development Goal voluntary national review for 2019, Lesotho had stated it had established a "directorate for dispute prevention and resolution". It advocated for the full funding of such peace initiatives.
- Action Canada for Population and Development (by video message) was encouraged by the acceptance of the recommendations that called for strengthened legislative and policy frameworks on health, including sexual and reproductive health services, for persons with disabilities, women and young people in particular. However, it was disappointed by the fact that Lesotho had not addressed rights relating to sexual orientation and gender identity. The State's use of culture and religion to justify its failure to accept those universal periodic review recommendations was in contradiction to resolution 275 of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and other international human rights commitments and it undermined the Constitution of Lesotho. The organization called upon Lesotho to: amend the legislative framework to explicitly decriminalize and protect same-sex persons and relationships; partner with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex organizations to train State actors, especially health-care workers and law enforcement, to eradicate stigma and promote non-discrimination; urgently approve the domestic violence bill of 2018, especially with the rampant rise in gender-based violence, with a focus on the child and gender protection unit, to ensure access to safe and legal abortions and thereby reduce the rate of maternal mortality and morbidity.
- 526. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme (by video message) commended Lesotho for its advancement of human rights through structural reforms such as the Children's Protection and Welfare Act and the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act. It took note of the State's efforts to align its legislation with international human rights instruments, such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, as well as the progress made towards the establishment of a human rights commission. However, it noted that gender-based violence was still prevalent and that, in 2020, one in three women had suffered physical or sexual violence. It was also alarmed by the increase in corruption, which significantly hindered development. It called upon Lesotho to take measures against corruption, the abuse of power and any form of gender-based violence, and to promote an open and transparent Government.

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 211 recommendations received, 168 had enjoyed the support of Lesotho and 43 had been noted.
- 528. The delegation expressed its gratitude to the speakers who had made constructive statements during the review. Lesotho had taken good note of all the recommendations made during its review in January 2020. It had embarked on that journey with an open and positive approach and was keen to continue to do so during the implementation stage.
- 529. Lesotho viewed the universal periodic review process as one of the transparent mechanisms where States had an opportunity to introspect and continue in their pursuit of upholding and safeguarding the human rights of their people according to international human rights standards. Lesotho would continue to implement all the recommendations accepted in accordance with its domestic laws and regional and international human rights jurisprudence, to the best of its ability.
- 530. Lastly, the delegation extended its appreciation to the staff of the universal periodic review secretariat for their unwavering support during the entire process and it thanked the

representatives of States and non-governmental organizations for their participation in that important and collective exercise.

Kenya

- 531. The review of Kenya was held on 23 January 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 Kenya 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.6/35/KEN/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.6/35/KEN/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.6/35/KEN/3 and Corr.1).
- 532. At its 23rd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Kenya (see sect. C below).
- 533. The outcome of the review of Kenya comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/9), 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/44/9/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 thanked the troika, the secretariat and those States that had submitted advance questions and made statements during the review.
- 535. Since the review, a number of measures had been put in place to enhance access to justice, including the establishment of four high courts, bringing the total number of high courts to 43. In July 2020, the first digital case management system had been launched. The system was designed to track and monitor the status and progress of files and would facilitate the electronic filing of pleadings and disclosure of evidential material.
- 536. A new prosecution policy provided for a two-stage test. The evidential test required prosecutors to assess rebuttal evidence against the realistic prospect of a conviction. The public interest test required prosecutors to consider the culpability of the suspect, the impact, or harm to the community or victim, the suspect's age at the time of the offence and whether prosecution was a proportionate response. Also developed were plea bargain guidelines, diversion guidelines, deferred prosecution guidelines, guidelines on delegated prosecution, practice directions on the delegation of prosecutorial powers, guidelines for the administration and management of the prosecution fund, and traffic rules and guidelines.
- 537. Kenya welcomed the guidelines issued by the special procedures mechanism and OHCHR to ensure that the policies and decisions made during the COVID-19 pandemic were consistent with the protection of human rights.
- 538. A number of law enforcement officers had been indicted based on the alleged use of excessive force while enforcing COVID-19 measures, including the dusk-to-dawn curfew and the proper wearing of facemasks. The President of Kenya had issued a public apology for that excessive use of force.
- 539. The lockdown had also led to an upsurge of gender-based violence. A toll-free telephone line had been established to enable those victims of sexual violence who were

dissatisfied with the handling of their cases to seek redress. A victim support unit had also been established.

- 540. Kenya had received 319 recommendations, of which 261 had been immediately supported, 53 had been noted and 5 had been deferred for further consideration. Following further examination and consultation, two of the five recommendations deferred had since been supported and the remaining three recommendations had been noted. The acceptance of a large number of the recommendations was testament to the commitment of Kenya to the meaningful improvement in the enjoyment of human rights for its people.
- 541. Some of the recommendations had not enjoyed the support of Kenya due to the elaborate nature of the processes and procedures necessary for the ratification or accession to treaties, and Kenya was concerned that some of those recommendations, particularly those expressed in mandatory phraseology, might not be implemented before the next review.
- 542. The process of abolishing the death penalty would take considerable time, considering factors including changing the public perception on the death penalty and lobbying Parliament on the importance of reviewing the relevant law. In the light of the declaration by the Supreme Court of Kenya in 2017 that the mandatory nature of the death sentence as provided for in section 204 of the Penal Code was unconstitutional, the task force that had been established to look into that issue had recommended the abolition of the death penalty. The process of evaluating that recommendation was ongoing.
- 543. Given the specific measures put in place to stem the COVID-19 pandemic, it was not practical to arrange a date for a visit by the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity at that stage. The request by the Independent Expert would be considered after the pandemic was brought under control.
- 544. Same-sex unions were prohibited by the Constitution and relevant national laws and contravened the culture and values of Kenya. Nevertheless, the provision of all public services was actively promoted to all persons without discrimination, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression. Several pieces of legislation attested to the realization of the principles of equality and non-discrimination. No one was required to indicate his or her sexual orientation when applying for jobs or accessing any government services. The courts had protected the rights of intersex persons, who had been officially recognized in the national population census of 2019.
- 545. Polygamy was a deeply entrenched practice under customary law and was recognized and codified as a customary marriage by the Marriage Act of 2014. All registered marriages under the Act had the same legal status. Polygamous marriages did not violate a woman's right to equality and non-discrimination on the basis that adult couples had the discretion to choose the kind of union they preferred.
- 546. Kenya was concerned that, if financial assistance were to be provided to civil society organizations, their independence in monitoring, investigating and reporting on the observance of human rights by the State would be compromised.
- 547. The Constitution permitted abortion only under certain well-defined circumstances. The standards and guidelines on reducing maternal mortality and morbidity relating to unsafe abortion and the training curriculum for medical professionals in public hospitals had been submitted to stakeholders for further multisectoral discussions. There was also a need for further engagement on reproductive health services and comprehensive sexual education for all women and girls, and consequently the recommendations on those issues had been noted.
- 548. Kenya would continue to take steps towards addressing the noted recommendations in accordance with its national implementation processes and circumstances.
- 549. A consolidated action plan would be prepared to monitor the implementation of the recommendations and Kenya would undertake to apprise the Human Rights Council on the progress in implementing the recommendations.

2. General comments made by the national human rights institution of the State under review

550. The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (by video message) welcomed the acceptance by Kenya of the majority of the recommendations received. Kenya should step up efforts in the recognition, protection and promotion of the rights of vulnerable groups, including intersex persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous groups. Kenya should also introduce transparency and accountability in the use of social protection funds intended for the needlest in society.

3. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review

- 551. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Kenya, 13 delegations made statements.
- 552. Rwanda congratulated Kenya on its constructive engagement with the universal periodic review mechanism. It commended Kenya for the reforms undertaken in the judicial and security sectors and for its efforts to promote women's rights. It also commended Kenya for having supported the majority of the recommendation received, including one of the two recommendations made by Rwanda.
- 553. Senegal welcomed the specific initiatives taken by Kenya to improve the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms. It noted the efforts made by Kenya, which had led to social and economic progress. It noted actions to promote health services, to eradicate poverty and to increase the representation of women in public life.
- 554. Sierra Leone congratulated Kenya on having accepted the majority of the recommendations received. It took positive note of the commitment by Kenya to ratify pending international human rights instruments. Sierra Leone remained hopeful that Kenya would remain steadfast in its efforts to reform its human rights institution.
- 555. South Africa supported the request by Kenya for assistance in establishing a database to collect data on the realization of human rights, in building the capacity of government officials in the use of a human rights-based approach for planning, programming and policy development, and in building the capacity of judicial officers in the area of human rights.
- 556. South Sudan expressed its appreciation to Kenya for the updated information provided and it commended Kenya for its efforts to promote and protect human rights, particularly through its public sector reforms. It noted the bold decision by Kenya to accept the majority of the recommendation received, including one of the two recommendations made by South Sudan.
- 557. Sri Lanka commended Kenya for its constructive engagement in the State's third universal periodic review and it welcomed the acceptance of recommendations, including one recommendation made by Sri Lanka. It recognized the cooperation of Kenya with the United Nations and African Union human rights systems and it noted the establishment of the national committee on international and regional human rights obligations. Sri Lanka acknowledged the challenges posed by the scarcity of water in the realization of human rights and it noted the process to develop a water harvesting policy. It applauded the development of the public service diversity policy.
- 558. The Sudan thanked Kenya for having provided updated relevant information and for having undertaken consultations with stakeholders. It commended Kenya for the efforts to improve the human rights situation in the country and thanked Kenya for the recommendations the State had accepted, including the recommendations made by the Sudan. It encouraged Kenya to continue its efforts to promote and protect human rights.
- 559. Uganda congratulated Kenya on having successfully completed the State's third review. The universal periodic review mechanism was effective in the promotion of human rights, and it thanked Kenya for embracing the true spirit of the mechanism and for having accepted the majority of the recommendations, including the two recommendations made by Uganda. It called for increased technical assistance and support to Kenya for the implementation of the recommendations supported.

- 560. UN-Women commended Kenya for significant gains in the passage of gender-related laws and policy frameworks. It reiterated the importance of accelerating the realization of gender-related provisions in the Constitution through the immediate enactment of a law guiding their implementation. It highlighted concerns about the proposed merger of the National Gender and Equality Commission with the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, as that would weaken the national institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women. It reiterated its commitment to work with Kenya to advance gender equality and to implement the gender-responsive universal periodic review recommendations.
- 561. The United Arab Emirates appreciated the efforts made by Kenya to promote and protect human rights and the readiness of the country to fulfil its commitments during the third cycle of the universal periodic review. It noted the ongoing efforts to achieve good governance at all levels to ensure equality and equal opportunities for all citizens. It called upon the Human Rights Council to take into consideration the willingness of Kenya to address its challenges.
- 562. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the full cooperation of Kenya with the universal periodic review mechanism and expressed satisfaction with the replies from the Government. It noted the plans and programmes to ensure the availability of housing for people with low incomes and it welcomed the progress made towards universal health coverage. It also noted an increase in the number of educational institutions. It encouraged Kenya to continue its successful social policy for the benefit of the neediest.
- 563. Afghanistan commended Kenya for having updated the information on the implementation of the recommendations and for its overall constructive engagement with the universal periodic review mechanism during the third cycle. It noted with appreciation that Kenya had accepted the three recommendations made by Afghanistan. It welcomed the commitment to ensure the protection of asylum seekers and refugees and to provide them with adequate food and health services, which was more crucial during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 564. Algeria thanked Kenya for the additional information provided. It welcomed the acceptance by Kenya of the two recommendations made by Algeria and it wished Kenya success in the implementation of all the recommendations supported.

4. General comments made by other stakeholders

- 565. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Kenya, 10 other stakeholders made statements.
- 566. Edmund Rice International, in a joint statement with Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers, urged Kenya to expedite the implementation of the recommendations on the prohibition of corporal punishment in schools and public institutions and on the review of the policy on special needs education. It urged Kenya to adopt the draft bills on children, mental health and persons with disabilities, and to consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It further urged Kenya to collaborate with relevant stakeholders to implement the recommendations on affordable housing for low-income people, and on the development of the national public waterworks for water resources storage.
- 567. Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco (by video message), in a joint statement with the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Edmund Rice International, the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, the International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus and New Humanity, stated that COVID-19 had made even more urgent the need to take concrete measures to protect the rights of the most vulnerable children and young people. Kenya should ensure accessibility to education for all, especially children in rural areas and vulnerable girls who were victims of gender-based violence, female genital mutilation and child marriage. Kenya should also increase the budget for education for teacher training and to ensure adequate facilities. The organization remained alarmed about the rise in the online trafficking, recruitment and exploitation of children, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. It called upon Kenya to strengthen national policies and programmes for the protection and rehabilitation of children and other victims of trafficking,

sexual exploitation and violence, and to investigate such cases and prosecute alleged perpetrators.

- 568. The East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (by video message) recommended that Kenya adopt a law protecting human rights defenders and the model human rights defenders protection policy. It called for the enactment of several protection bills and laws ensuring the operation of non-governmental organizations in line with the right to freedom of expression. Kenya should also create a safe and enabling environment for human rights defenders and civil society organizations. It called for the revision and enactment of the data protection bill to ensure the right to privacy. It recommended that Kenya ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
- 569. The Center for Global Nonkilling stated that Kenya should urgently ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.
- 570. Article 19: International Centre against Censorship (by video message) expressed concern about the recent attacks and harassment of journalists. Kenya must investigate all human rights violations against journalists and prosecute alleged perpetrators of such violations. It expressed alarm at the growing police brutality in the context of COVID-19. It was time for Kenya to fully operationalize the Public Benefit Organizations Act and amend the associations bill.
- 571. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme stated that the COVID-19 pandemic had affected reforms in relation to the distribution of the wealth generated by trade and exploitation of natural resources. It expressed concern with the situation of the labour force and women in particular, and it requested Kenya to establish a safety net to ensure better protection for those with no income. It requested the international community to support Kenya in relation to the influx of migrants from neighbouring countries.
- 572. The International Humanist and Ethical Union (by video message) stated that police violence against journalists, activists and other civilians had not been investigated and compensation for victims was unheard of. The Government justified police violence by the need to fight terrorism or to enforce lockdowns. The organization urged Kenya to end its tacit endorsement of police violence and guarantee freedom of expression and association and to repeal the Security Laws (Amendment) Act of 2014. It also urged Kenya to honour the commitments made during the Nairobi Summit in 2019 to make sexual and reproductive rights an integral part of its universal health-care plan and it called for the passage of the reproductive health-care bill, which provided a framework for ending unsafe abortions.
- 573. The Federation for Women and Family Planning (by video message) welcomed the acceptance by Kenya of the recommendations to adopt legislative and administrative measures to combat discrimination against women, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. It called upon the State to develop a matrix for implementing those recommendations with a monitoring framework for follow-up and accountability. It expressed concern about the lack of acceptance of the recommendations to respect, protect and fulfil sexual and reproductive health rights for young people, sexual and gender minorities and other marginalized groups. It called upon Kenya to pass the reproductive health-care bill.
- 574. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (by video message) stated that, during the second cycle, Kenya had supported 20 of the 29 recommendations on civic space, of which 8 had been partially implemented and 12 had not been implemented. During the third cycle, Kenya had accepted several recommendations on civic space. However, Kenya had continued to restrict the right to peaceful assembly and expression through the disproportionate use of force and through the arrest and detention of peaceful protestors, human rights defenders and journalists. The organization called upon Kenya to prosecute those law enforcement officers who were allegedly responsible for such violations and to create an enabling environment for human rights defenders, media houses and journalists.
- 575. The Alliance Defending Freedom applauded Kenya for its acceptance of the recommendation to reaffirm, inter alia, that the right to life existed from conception. It urged Kenya to resist external pressure to reverse its principled position and to ensure that all

women received the necessary support throughout their pregnancy and motherhood. Kenya was under no obligation to legalize abortion when implementing the supported recommendation to, inter alia, review legal, policy and structural barriers that impeded the provision of sexual and reproductive health services.

5. Concluding remarks of the State under review

- 576. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 319 recommendations received, 263 had enjoyed the support of Kenya and 56 had been noted.
- 577. The delegation expressed its appreciation to the Vice-President and the secretariat. It also thanked the delegations for their enriching contributions through their statements.
- 578. The universal periodic review was a critical process that assisted States with the promotion and protection of human rights. Through that mechanism, Kenya had been able to review its performance in promoting and protecting human rights, and to display its strengths, successes and achievements, while also addressing challenges.
- 579. Kenya would implement the recommendations supported and would undertake to address the recommendations noted, within the provision of national processes and frameworks. Kenya was also committed to considering the issues raised by the non-governmental organizations in the context of enhancing human rights in the country.

Armenia

- 580. The review of Armenia was held on 23 January 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 Armenia 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.6/35/ARM/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.6/35/ARM/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.6/35/ARM/3).
- 581. At its 24th meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Armenia (see sect. C below).
- 582. The outcome of the review of Armenia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/10), 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/44/10/Add.1).

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

- 583. The delegation stated that Armenia had always been a strong supporter of the universal periodic review process and had engaged in it in a constructive and effective manner. It emphasized the importance of maintaining the objectives and principles of the process, particularly its non-confrontational and non-politicized character.
- 584. Armenia was a party to almost all the international human rights treaties, without any reservation to their provisions. The Constitution of Armenia explicitly prohibited the death penalty. The Rome Statute was incompatible with the Constitution of Armenia. With regard to a recommendation on the ratification of the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention,

- 1930 (No. 29), that required further scrutiny. The existing legal framework also sufficiently regulated that area.
- 585. Armenia continued effective cooperation with all United Nations treaty bodies, including through the submission of its reports, and had extended a standing invitation to all special procedures since May 2006.
- 586. Regarding a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up, the Government had adopted a decision on 20 June 2020 regulating relations between ministries and other competent bodies responsible for the implementation of the provisions of human rights conventions. Those activities were coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 587. Armenia had accepted all the recommendations in relation to countering discrimination, hate crime and hate speech. The Criminal Code had been amended in April 2020 to include a new article providing liability for inciting or publicly justifying hatred based on race, colour, ethnic origin, genetic characteristics, language, religion or other views, social status, birth, disability, age or other grounds.
- 588. Armenia was also planning to introduce a new package of reforms on fighting hate crime and hate speech.
- 589. A new amendment to the Law on Police stipulated that the entrances and exits of the administrative buildings of the police units and the rooms used for interrogation were to be equipped with video and audiovisual recording systems, in order to prevent and detect possible cases of human rights violations, torture, or inhuman or degrading treatment.
- 590. Along with legislative reforms, a broad range of programmes aimed at promoting gender equality were being implemented, such as the gender policy implementation strategy of Armenia for 2019–2023. Armenia was also determined to accelerate its efforts to prevent gender-based violence, provide redress and appropriate services to victims of violence, and support activities and programmes for their social inclusion.
- 591. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government was implementing rehabilitation programmes to mitigate the adverse socioeconomic impacts of the crisis. Priority was attached to meeting the needs of the most vulnerable groups, including women and girls, implementing social protection measures and fighting domestic violence.
- 592. As a part of the implementation of the national action plan on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), the Government prioritized the strengthening of the gender component in the army and the police.
- 593. Armenia had supported all the recommendations relating to the rights of the child and the rights of persons with disabilities. It had noted one recommendation on the presumed detention of migrant children, since no such incident had ever been registered in Armenia.
- 594. Since the universal periodic review, Armenia had drafted the law on the rights of persons with disabilities. Amendments to the Constitution were also envisaged and the clause "prevention and treatment of disability" would be revised.
- 595. The protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities and the preservation of their language and cultural heritage were among the policy priorities of Armenia.
- 596. Armenia was particularly proud that it was home to the world's largest Yezidi temple. It was an important centre for pilgrimage, symbolizing solidarity and hope for its Yezidi citizens and Yezidis throughout the world.
- 597. Armenia had adopted in June 2020 its sixth national plan for organizing the fight against trafficking in and exploitation of persons, covering the upcoming three years. It focused in particular on improving the legislative measures and mechanisms for the identification of and support to victims of trafficking and exploitation.
- 598. Armenia remained resolute in its fight against corruption and sought to promote an independent, impartial and effective judiciary and the equality of citizens before the law. Systemic corruption in the country had been uprooted. Armenia planned to introduce integrity checks throughout the whole Prosecutor General's system.

- 599. On 25 March 2020, the National Assembly had adopted amendments to the Judicial Code and related laws, aimed at strengthening the integrity of the judiciary. In particular, the order of formation of the commission on ethics and disciplinary issues of judges, as well as the regulations on disciplinary liability, had been amended.
- 600. The Government was determined to carry out significant judicial reforms to ensure the principle of equality before the law and would contribute to the establishment of a truly independent, efficient and accountable judicial system that enjoyed the confidence of the public at large.

2. General comments made by the national human rights institution of the State under review

- 601. The Human Rights Defender (Armenia) (by video message) noted concerns about violence against women and domestic violence. Although some progress had been made through the establishment of protective mechanisms, there was still a lack of effective implementation. Significant steps needed to be made to break stereotypes, increase the quality of investigations, train professionals and conduct large-scale public awareness campaigns.
- 602. It noted that the penitentiary system overall continued to be of a punitive nature. The deprivation of liberty, including arrest and detention, must be measures of last resort. Resocialization and rehabilitation programmes needed to be introduced to prepare inmates for freedom, including early conditional release.
- 603. Practical and legislative steps needed to be taken to solve systemic issues relating to police apprehension and arrest, as well as ensuring minimum rights as safeguards against ill-treatment.
- 604. The Criminal Code did not provide a definition of inhuman or degrading treatment and responsibility for such acts. The effective investigation of torture cases needed to be enhanced.
- 605. The Human Rights Defender (Armenia) welcomed the ongoing deinstitutionalization reforms in the country. However, given that most of the children in institutions had some form of disability, urgent steps needed to be taken to address child rights' issues at community, regional and national levels, paying attention to their special needs by ensuring a variety of community services.
- 606. The monitoring of social networks showed a considerable increase in hate speech. General preventive measures, including awareness-raising campaigns, needed to be conducted.

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

- 607. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Armenia, 13 delegations made statements.
- 608. Egypt welcomed the cooperation of Armenia with the human rights mechanisms, including the visits by two special rapporteurs in the previous years. Egypt also welcomed the strategy to combat corruption covering the period 2019–2022.
- 609. Ethiopia appreciated the measures aimed at improving the living standards and social standing of citizens, by strengthening the capacities of vulnerable families and reducing their long-term dependence on State support.
- 610. Greece commended Armenia for its already significant achievements, including in the areas of conducting free and fair elections, and freedoms of assembly and expression since the Velvet Revolution.
- 611. India appreciated the action already taken towards implementing some of the accepted recommendations since the review in January 2020. It highlighted the drafting of a new national strategy for human rights protection and its action plan with the full engagement and

participation of all stakeholders, government institutions, civil society and international partners as a significant development.

- 612. The Islamic Republic of Iran appreciated the endeavours of the Government against trafficking in persons and it appreciated the relevant programmes to assist victims and prevent their revictimization, including the provision of shelters and in-kind assistance, legal protection, access to State health-care, education and social programmes, and rehabilitation and reintegration.
- 613. Kyrgyzstan commended Armenia for having accepted the majority of the recommendations, including those made by Kyrgyzstan relating to cooperation with the United Nations human rights treaty bodies and the implementation of the government strategy on gender policy implementation.
- 614. Nepal noted the implementation of the national action plan on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and the signing of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. The Armenia National SDG Innovation Lab would contribute to strengthened partnerships for the acceleration of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 615. The Philippines (by video message) commended Armenia for its regular submission of midterm reports providing updates on the recommendations accepted. It recognized the measures to further advance the promotion and protection of human rights, especially of vulnerable groups, including women, children and persons with disabilities.
- 616. The Russian Federation commended the steps to strengthen legal instruments for human rights protection, including the adoption of new laws and the reforms of administrative and judicial systems. It noted with satisfaction the efforts to implement specific programmes on, inter alia, the rule of law, the development of democratic institutions, combating corruption, economic development and enhancing the effectiveness of public expenditures.
- 617. Sri Lanka commended the continued progress in the reduction of infant mortality rates through effective maternal and child health-care policy interventions. It applauded the high participation of women and girls in the information and communications technology sector. It acknowledged the steps taken to strengthen the national human rights framework through several policy instruments, including the national strategy for human rights protection and its action plan. It noted with appreciation the adoption of the first national action plan on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).
- 618. The Syrian Arab Republic commended Armenia for its spirit of cooperation and positive engagement during the universal periodic review.
- 619. Namibia recognized the transparency and constructive engagement of Armenia since the start of the review process. It particularly appreciated the commitment of Armenia to judicial independence, including through the strategy on judicial and legal reforms for 2019–2023.
- 620. The United Arab Emirates commended Armenia for the progress made at the national level on the promotion of human rights for the benefit of all citizens. It appreciated the positive developments mentioned in the report as a sign of the commitment of Armenia to human rights, including through reforms and legislative amendments seeking equal opportunities and the promotion of all rights for all.

4. General comments made by other stakeholders

- 621. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Armenia, six other stakeholders made statements.
- 622. The International Catholic Child Bureau congratulated Armenia on the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention). It encouraged Armenia to promptly ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against

Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It also encouraged Armenia to harmonize its domestic legislation with those instruments. It called upon Armenia to allocate resources to child related programmes and to strengthen efforts to end child sexual exploitation and abuse. It called upon Armenia to submit a midterm report with specific details on the concrete steps taken to ensure the effective protection of children against all forms of violence, including sexual abuse.

- 623. Action Canada for Population and Development (by video message) noted that the three-day mandatory waiting period and arbitrary conscientious objections by doctors continued to be barriers preventing women from accessing abortion services. Urgent action was required to introduce sexuality education in schools. It recommended that Armenia establish comprehensive sexuality education as a stand-alone subject in schools, designed in collaboration with young people and women's rights organizations, and develop and implement alternative comprehensive sexuality education programmes.
- 624. The Human Rights House Foundation (by video message) stated that challenges remained in guaranteeing the rights of human rights defenders. Smear campaigns had been launched against human rights defenders, including hate speech and online harassment directed at women human rights defenders and their organizations. Environmental activists were continuously targeted by private mining companies and sometimes by the police during peaceful demonstrations. Harassment and discrimination against LGBTQI defenders remained widespread. The organization recommended that Armenia: conduct a high-level public campaign in support of human rights defenders, with the official and public condemnation of attacks on defenders and their families when they occurred; carry out independent and prompt investigations into such attacks to end the atmosphere of impunity; and compile statistics on attacks, along with information relating to their investigation and rates of prosecution.
- 625. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation acknowledged the steps taken by the Government in managing the political transition and addressing some of the human rights concerns. However, it was concerned about ongoing restrictions on the activities of human rights defenders, the targeting of the independent media and smear campaigns by some government officials. It noted instances of violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation. It remained concerned about restrictions targeting some peaceful assemblies and the arbitrary arrests and judicial persecution of those who took part in such protests. It recommended that Armenia carry out independent investigations into past violence and excessive use of force by law enforcement, and into attacks against human rights defenders. It welcomed the fact that Armenia had accepted the recommendations relating to the enjoyment of fundamental freedoms, and it recommended the State take steps to implement those recommendations.
- 626. The International Fellowship of Reconciliation noted that Armenia had introduced legislation on the recognition of conscientious objection and the provision of alternative civilian service, which the European Commission for Democracy through Law had found to be in complete accordance with international standards. It expressed its deep concern about the current clashes between Armenia and another country.
- 627. The Center for Global Non-Killing thanked Armenia for its tireless efforts to prevent genocide.

5. Concluding remarks of the State under review

- 628. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 252 recommendations received, 239 had enjoyed the support of Armenia and 13 had been noted.
- 629. The delegation welcomed the encouraging statements acknowledging the democratic progress in Armenia in recent years. Ever since the Velvet Revolution, Armenia had resolutely embraced the centrality of the protection and promotion of human rights, the consolidation of democratic institutions and the enhancement of the rule of law and good governance among the priorities of the Government. Armenia was resolute to address the challenges ahead with determination, based on the rule of law, in close consultation with

international partners and in cooperation with national human rights institutions and civil society. Armenia had already embarked on the implementation of the recommendations received during its third universal periodic review.

- 630. The delegation made reference to the rapidly deteriorating situation in the region, which had a severe impact on the human rights situation. It drew the attention of the Human Rights Council to the fact that the ongoing military offensive indiscriminately targeted civilians and constituted a flagrant violation of the core international human rights instruments and the norms of international humanitarian law.
- 631. Armenia voiced its strong support for the universal periodic review process, as it provided an important collaborative space for States and a wide range of stakeholders for a thorough consideration of the overall human rights situation, the identification of best practices and an exchange of views on the protection and promotion of human rights around the globe.

Sweden

- 632. The review of Sweden was held on 27 January 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 Sweden 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.6/35/SWE/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.6/35/SWE/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.6/35/SWE/3 and Corr.1).
- 633. At its 25th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Sweden (see sect. C below).
- 634. The outcome of the review of Sweden comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/12), 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/44/12/Add.1).

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

- 635. The delegation of Sweden stated that promoting and respecting universal human rights remained a core value and a central priority for the Government of Sweden and a cornerstone of its foreign policy. The universal periodic review had been vital for promoting and upholding human rights, democracy and the rule of law around the world. Therefore, the Government welcomed the opportunity provided by the universal periodic review to engage with interested parties in the human rights work that Sweden had been carrying out.
- 636. The Government aimed to ensure full respect for its international human rights obligations. The national strategy for human rights, which had been adopted in 2016, reaffirmed that commitment. The strategy formed the basis of the Government's systematic work on human rights. Sweden had been striving for greater transparency in the human rights situation, including through dialogue with civil society organizations. The Government had placed great importance on their views, and at times criticism, and had held several rounds of consultations with civil society organizations during the universal periodic review. The Government would continue such consultations.

- 637. The Government welcomed the recommendations received during the third universal periodic review of Sweden, which had been held on 27 January 2020. Sweden had received 300 recommendations. The Government considered them highly valuable for its continued national development. During the consideration of those recommendations, the approach of the Government had been to accept those recommendations where the Government could foresee measures before the next review, or where measures had already been or were being implemented.
- 638. After careful consideration of the recommendations, the Government had submitted an addendum to the report of the Working Group on 1 June 2020 with an annex, which included the Government's responses to all the recommendations and explanations with regard to those recommendations that had been noted. The Government had accepted 214 recommendations, partially accepted one recommendation and noted 85 recommendations.
- 639. The delegation provided some comments regarding the main themes that had been covered in the recommendations. Thirty-seven recommendations had concerned the establishment of an independent national human rights institution. The Government had accepted 36 of those recommendations and noted one recommendation. The establishment of an independent national human rights institution remained a matter of high priority for the Government, which considered that the institute should be assigned to advance the safeguarding of human rights in Sweden. The institute would be established in 2021.
- 640. Twenty-seven recommendations had concerned measures to combat discrimination and segregation and to promote the integration of newly arrived immigrants. The Government had accepted 25 of those recommendations and noted two of them.
- 641. Sweden had strengthened its legislative protection against discrimination (for instance, regarding accessibility for persons with disabilities) and had increased the budget for anti-discrimination measures. An inquiry had been established to analyse whether the current provisions regarding the supervision of active measures were appropriate for effective compliance with the law.
- 642. In order to decrease and combat socioeconomic segregation, the Government had adopted a long-term cross-sectoral strategy. The Government had established a government agency the Swedish agency against segregation with the task of supporting the implementation of the strategy and coordinating efforts at all levels. The agency, in cooperation with municipalities, regions, civil society, the private sector and other actors, supported the development of innovative methods in the field and developed knowledge and networks for the exchange of knowledge and experiences. In addition, the Government provided grants to municipalities, regions and civil society organizations to contribute to their work to promote integration and combat and prevent segregation.
- 643. Sixty-one recommendations had concerned measures to combat racism and hate crime. The Government had accepted 43 of those recommendations and noted 18 of them. The Government had adopted in 2016 a comprehensive national plan to combat racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime, which served as a foundation for the State's work against all forms and manifestations of racism and hate crime. The plan provided all relevant actors with a common platform and better conditions for working together in order to ensure that initiatives could be followed up and work could be developed on a holistic basis.
- 644. The Government and government agencies had been implementing a range of measures in that area. For example, the Living History Forum had carried out major educational initiatives on racism and training for public sector employees, including school staff, police officers and social workers. The Government intended to take further action to strengthen the national plan in the near future.
- 645. Measures within the judiciary system and the Swedish Police Authority had also been intensified. For example, a national contact point for hate crime had been established. Dedicated hate crime units had been established in the three metropolitan police regions and additional resources had been allocated in every police region in the country.
- 646. Measures and funding to enhance security for civil society and schools had been increased considerably. The Swedish Police Authority and the Swedish Security Service

- were constantly assessing whether there were grounds to increase security and safety at national and regional levels.
- 647. Twenty-three recommendations had concerned measures for gender equality and preventing men's violence against women. The Government had accepted 21 of those recommendations and noted two of them.
- 648. Gender mainstreaming with gender-responsive budgeting was the most important tool for implementing the Government's feminist policy. The establishment in January 2018 of the Swedish Gender Equality Agency had been an important improvement in the gender equality infrastructure.
- 649. In 2016, the Government had adopted a 10-year cross-sectoral national strategy for preventing and combating men's violence against women and protecting and supporting women and children subjected to violence. The policy and the strategy covered honour-related violence a collective oppression including harmful practices such as female genital mutilation and child and forced marriages.
- 650. Fifteen recommendations had concerned measures for the rights of the child. The Government had accepted 10 of those recommendations and noted five of them. The Convention on the Rights of the Child had become Swedish law on 1 January 2020 and thus the Convention had obtained the status of Swedish law, entailing a clearer obligation on courts and legal practitioners to consider the rights contained in the Convention in deliberations and assessments.
- 651. Twenty-four recommendations had concerned measures for the rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities. The Government had accepted 19 of those recommendations and noted five of them.
- 652. In the Statement of Government Policy in 2019, the Prime Minister had set out the Government's commitment to strengthen the self-determination and influence of the indigenous Sami people. The Government intended to continue to step up its work in the area of policy relating to the Sami people. There were several important processes currently under way to that end, for example, the development of a consultation procedure, a Nordic Sami convention, and the preservation and revitalization of the Sami languages.
- 653. The Government of Sweden had strengthened legislation to support all national minorities. One important improvement was the requirement for all municipalities and regions to adopt goals and guidelines for their work on minority policies, of which language and culture should be a key part. A central task for stakeholders working with national minorities was creating conditions that promoted the transfer of language and culture from one generation to the next.

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

- 654. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Sweden, 12 delegations made statements.
- 655. South Sudan noted with appreciation the efforts made by the Government of Sweden to protect and promote human rights, particularly those of persons with disabilities. It welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations, including those made by South Sudan, and the Government's commitment to implement them.
- 656. Sri Lanka welcomed the acceptance of 214 of the 300 recommendations received, including two recommendations made by Sri Lanka. The delegation took note of the assurances by Sweden to criminalize torture as a specific crime, to improve procedures in order to address statelessness and to accord a broad mandate to the proposed national human rights commission in accordance with the Paris Principles.
- 657. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela recommended criminalizing child abuse. It hoped that the Government would take measures to combat discrimination and crimes motivated by religious, racist and xenophobic prejudice. It expressed concern about the excessive use of force and ill-treatment by the security forces and it called for independent, rapid and impartial investigations of such complaints.

- 658. Viet Nam welcomed the acceptance by Sweden of two recommendations made by Viet Nam, to effectively combat discrimination and further facilitate the integration of migrants into society, and to continue its international development cooperation. Viet Nam welcomed the measures taken by the Government to promote gender equality and the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities, and to combat racism.
- 659. Botswana welcomed the national strategy on human rights and the inclusion of human rights education in the school curricula during the previous review. It regarded the adoption of a cross-sectoral strategy for preventing and combating men's violence against women and the provision of protection and support to women and child victims of violence as positive responses to the recommendations from the review.
- 660. Burkina Faso welcomed the acceptance of a large number of recommendations by Sweden, particularly those calling for efforts to continue to promote human rights and gender equality through the State's international cooperation.
- 661. Cabo Verde welcomed the efforts to combat racism and hate crime, and it encouraged Sweden to increase knowledge, education and research on racism and hate crime and to consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It called for the expansion of the mandate of the Equality Ombudsmen and the allocation of sufficient resources for its work. Cabo Verde encouraged Sweden to share good practices in the human rights area with other States through the State's cooperation mechanisms.
- 662. China noted the progress of Sweden in protecting human rights. It expressed concern about the discrimination faced by persons of African descent, Muslims and Roma in the context of a rise of xenophobia and religious intolerance. China hoped that Sweden would take effective measures to combat discrimination and hate crimes against those minorities and end violations of the rights of migrants. It recommended that Sweden take measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 663. Djibouti congratulated Sweden on having accepted 214 of the 300 recommendations received, in particular two recommendations made by the delegation.
- 664. Ethiopia welcomed the continued engagement of Sweden with the universal periodic review process and the acceptance of the recommendations made by the delegation. Ethiopia appreciated that the Swedish Transport Administration had increased its physical accessibility as a part of its policy on disability.
- 665. India appreciated that Sweden had supported 214 recommendations out of a total of 300 recommendations, including those made by India, and the constructive engagement of Sweden during the review. It welcomed the decision of Sweden to establish a national human rights institution in 2021 in accordance with the Paris Principles.
- 666. The Islamic Republic of Iran recommended that Sweden implement the recommendations supported. It urged Sweden to refrain from initiating country-specific mandates and from contributing to the human rights violations of Iranians by complying with unilateral sanctions levied against the country by the United States of America. The Islamic Republic of Iran requested that Sweden stop the sale of weapons to countries that resulted in serious violations of human rights and humanitarian law in Yemen, and address the increasing manifestations of xenophobia and racism against migrants and minorities.

3. General comments made by stakeholders

- 667. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Sweden, nine other stakeholders made statements.
- 668. The Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (by video message), in a joint statement with the Swedish Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights, welcomed the acceptance by Sweden of the recommendations to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, to respect the principle of non-refoulement for asylum seekers, to ensure access to adequate sexual and reproductive health services and to facilitate the legal recognition of the gender identity of transgender persons. It took note of the Government's promise to consider the protection of children's rights to

bodily integrity, autonomy and self-determination. It noted the commitment of Sweden to ensure the meaningful involvement of civil society throughout the universal periodic review process.

- 669. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (by video message) welcomed the support of Sweden for many recommendations relating to gender and women's rights. However, it expressed concern that Sweden had supported one out of five recommendations on arms exports. It urged Sweden to cease and deny arms exports to countries that violated international humanitarian and human rights law and to ensure that the implementation of new regulations on Swedish arms exports had a consistent gender perspective.
- 670. The Alliance Defending Freedom expressed concern regarding the unwillingness of Sweden to amend the requirement set for parents intending to home school their children. Although Sweden had not formally banned all home education, it was de facto prohibited by the imposition of the requirement of exceptional circumstances under the Education Act of 2010 and its application by courts. The organization believed that the rights of parents to choose the kind of education for their children did not hinder the protection of the right to education or the rights of the child.
- 671. The World Evangelical Alliance called upon Sweden to protect the rights of asylum seekers to leave their current religion or to change their religion for another, and to protect those who ran from the significant risks of persecution in their countries of origin, in particular Christian converts, and to include specific measures to combat all categories of hate crime in the State's national plan to combat racism and hate crime. It regretted that Sweden did not respect the right to conscientious objection for medical personnel unable to participate in abortions and it called upon Sweden to reconsider its position. It also called upon Sweden to renounce its proposed legislative ban on faith-based private schools.
- 672. The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence encouraged Sweden to continue its efforts in several areas, including combating racism, xenophobia and hate speech towards minorities and migrants, prohibiting the transit of arms to places where gross human rights violations were occurring, establishing an independent national human rights institution, maintaining high rates of women's representation in public and political life, combating violence against women and girls, ensuring that social transfers and benefits reached all children regardless of their legal status, implementing a plan of action to reduce homelessness, and ensuring that counter-terrorism measures protected fundamental human rights.
- 673. The Institute for NGO Research (by video message) noted that anti-Semitism in Sweden was increasing and the response of the Government was inadequate. The ritual condemnations of political leaders were insufficient. The work of the special envoy in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, whose duties included strengthening work against anti-Semitism, had no visible impact, while other government bodies were contributing to hate by singling the Jewish State for attack. The organization observed the continued failure of Sweden to respond effectively to anti-Semitism.
- 674. United Nations Watch (by video message) reported that the Swedish city of Malmö once used to be a safe haven for Jews. However, today, Jews were the target of abuse and attacks, especially within immigrant communities, and the Government had been incapable of resolving the problem. The organization referred to several cases of hate speech, discrimination and violence against Jewish people. It regretted that Sweden, albeit its promises, was failing to resolve the current situation and asked how long that situation would continue to go unseen.
- 675. Amnesty International (by video message) welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations by Sweden to combat sexual violence against women, address underreporting and ensure access to support for all survivors. It expressed concern about the State's non-acceptance of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 156.257 and 156.258 regarding specific rights of Roma. It called upon Sweden to ensure all citizens access to subsidized health care and to ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).

676. Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain was concerned that the Government of Sweden did not demonstrate a serious approach towards the problem of hate crimes. The rates of hate crimes had increased during the last several years in a disturbing trend. The Government failed to protect its citizens and residents from crimes driven by ethnic and religious hatred. The organization also expressed concern about the Government's counter-terrorism measures and about the fact that the Government used those measures to arrest and interrogate many Muslims and immigrants without due process.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

- 677. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 300 recommendations received, 214 had enjoyed the support of Sweden and 84 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.
- 678. In conclusion, the delegation of Sweden thanked all those who had participated during the adoption of the outcome of the universal periodic review of Sweden, as well as the troika and the secretariat for their excellent work throughout the process.
- 679. The delegation expressed the strong intention of the Government of Sweden to maintain a high level of ambition regarding the implementation of human rights issues at the national level. The universal periodic review process would continue to constitute a vital part of that work. The Government would continue to closely consult civil society and other stakeholders in the follow-up.
- 680. Significant steps had been taken to ensure the full respect for and fulfilment of the State's international obligations on human rights, but challenges remained. The work on achieving full respect for human rights in Sweden had not been completed. Thus, the Government would continue to work tirelessly to achieve it.

Grenada

- 681. The review of Grenada was held on 27 January 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 Grenada 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.6/35/GRD/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.6/35/GRD/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.6/35/GRD/3).
- 682. At its 25th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Grenada (see sect. C below).
- 683. The outcome of the review of Grenada comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/13), 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/44/13/Add.1).

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

684. The delegation expressed (by video message) that the fact that it was addressing the Human Rights Council remotely from the capital rather than in person was testament to the

- fundamental way in which COVID-19 had upended lives and altered the way the Council conducted its business. Grenada, like most countries around the world, had had to institute public health measures, which affected human rights such as restrictions on the freedom of movement, the closing of schools and mandatory quarantining.
- 685. The delegation noted that Grenada was proud to report that its efforts to prevent the transmission of the virus and to prevent hospitals and health-care services from becoming overwhelmed had been largely successful, to the extent that there had been only 24 positive cases of COVID-19 detected in Grenada, all of whom had recovered. Grenada was also pleased to inform to the Human Rights Council that no new positive cases had been recorded as of June 2020 and that the country remained steadfast in its determination to ensure that COVID-19 did not get a foothold in Grenada.
- 686. Despite the fact that the National Coordinating Committee had continued in its advisory role to the Cabinet of Ministers, including advising on the addendum to the outcome report on the third cycle of the universal periodic review, the addendum was the product of a consultative process that had involved government ministries and departments, non-governmental departments and civil society.
- 687. As with the previous two cycles of the universal periodic review, Grenada had welcomed the opportunity to participate in the third cycle, as it gave the country a chance to address shortcomings and build on the successes already achieved.
- 688. In the third cycle of the universal periodic review, Grenada had received 148 recommendations, an increase of 44 over the 104 recommendations received during the second cycle, in 2015. In the second cycle, 44 delegations had made statements during the interactive dialogue, while during the third cycle, 59 delegations had made statements during the interactive dialogue. The delegation highlighted that, of the 148 recommendations received during the third cycle, 99 recommendations had been accepted and 49 had been noted. Grenada viewed the increased number of delegations participating in the interactive dialogue as a symbol of an increased interest by States Members of the United Nations in the work that Grenada was doing in promoting and protecting human rights.
- 689. The delegation reaffirmed the State's commitment to the promotion and preservation of human rights and to implement the universal periodic review recommendations accepted. The continued engagement with OHCHR and with the treaty bodies remained a priority. That engagement would include the completion of the State's common core document, which was in an advanced stage of preparation.
- 690. Another priority area for Grenada was the strengthening of its institutional and human rights infrastructure, including the implementation of the National Sustainable Development Plan. In that regard, the delegation highlighted that the Government was in the process of establishing a national sustainable development institute whose purpose would be to ensure the coordinated and systematic implementation of the national plan to 2035. Draft legislation to take to Parliament was under discussion.
- 691. In order to strengthen the human rights infrastructure in the country, Grenada had continued its work towards the creation of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. That work would continue with technical support from the Commonwealth.
- 692. Grenada pledged to maintain its efforts in climate change mitigation and disaster mitigation through the Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment, Forestry, Fisheries and Disaster Management. It also pledged to continue its partnership with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, with a view to the ratification and eventual incorporation of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 693. During its three reviews, Grenada had received recommendations regarding the decriminalization of sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex. In that regard, the delegation noted that the Government of Grenada would continue to raise awareness with a view to combating discrimination based on sexual orientation. The delegation pointed out that the international partners of Grenada appreciated that those issues required fundamental policy change and the involvement of the wider Grenadian society

before any change could be considered for legislation. In that regard, Grenada would seek technical assistance from OHCHR for engagement with the relevant local stakeholders as it pertained to those issues.

- 694. The delegation thanked the secretariat for all its guidance in facilitating the participation of Grenada in the third universal periodic review cycle. The secretariat's guidance was even more important with the advent of COVIC-19. The delegation thanked the universal periodic review secretariat for having provided Grenada with assistance to prepare the pre-recorded video message in order to participate remotely in the adoption of the outcome report.
- 695. The delegation thanked the troika, consisting of Brazil, India and the Netherlands, for their efficiency throughout the review, including the early transmission of the advanced questions. It also thanked all the delegations that had participated in the interactive dialogue by having made statements during the interactive dialogue and having pushed the country to foster higher standards of human rights.
- 696. Lastly, the delegation thanked the Commonwealth for its support during the consultative process on the establishment of a national human rights institution, and it looked forward to its continued assistance.

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

- 697. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Grenada, 12 delegations made statements.
- 698. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela thanked Grenada for the efforts made in the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations accepted. It commended Grenada for the training of more than 3,000 young women and men through the labour incorporation programme, and for the significant decrease in unemployment. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela commended Grenada for the assistance provided to children in primary and secondary school through the delivery of books, school uniforms and transportation.
- 699. The Bahamas congratulated Grenada on having supported 99 of the 148 recommendations received, including three of the four recommendations made by the Bahamas. It encouraged Grenada to join the 126 States that had extended a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council. The Bahamas noted the numerous challenges faced by the Caribbean countries, including those due to vulnerability to the effects of climate change and natural disasters, recently exacerbated by the economic impacts of COVID-19. It congratulated Grenada on having contained the spread of the virus.
- 700. Barbados welcomed the continued engagement of Grenada with the universal periodic review. It welcomed the State's acceptance of all three of its recommendations, including to continue efforts aimed at achieving resilience to natural disasters and the impact of climate change. Barbados also commended Grenada for its efforts to address and mitigate the impact of climate change and to safeguard human rights and sustainable development. It highlighted the national climate change adaptation plan for Grenada, which sought to ensure that citizens, communities and consumers were aware of potential climate-related vulnerabilities and risks and the impact of greenhouse gas emissions.
- 701. Brazil congratulated Grenada on its engagement during the third cycle of the universal periodic review. It reiterated its appreciation for the State's efforts to address gender inequality, to guarantee birth registration to all, to provide access to health, to combat poverty and to address HIV/AIDS prevalence and treatment. Brazil praised Grenada for the launch of the special victims unit and the hotline to deal with victims of sexual crimes, domestic violence and child abuse. Brazil encouraged Grenada to adopt further measures aimed at preventing sexual harassment and combating domestic violence.
- 702. China welcomed the active participation of Grenada in the universal periodic review exercise. It commended Grenada for adopting and implementing the National Sustainable Development Plan. It valued the measures taken on education, health, gender equality, the

fight against trafficking in persons and for the protection of the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. It thanked Grenada for having accepted its recommendations. China hoped that Grenada would continue to promote economic and social development, increase people's standard of living and gender equality, fight trafficking in persons, and protect the rights of women and children.

- 703. Cuba congratulated Grenada on the large number of recommendations accepted. It welcomed the fact that the recommendations made by Cuba had been accepted by the State. It called upon Grenada to continue the effective implementation of the National Sustainable Development Plan to 2035, maintain efforts to reduce poverty and inequality and guarantee the well-being of the population, particularly children, women, older persons and persons with disabilities, in the plans addressing natural disasters. Cuba recognized the State's commitment to the universal periodic review and welcomed the progress made despite the challenges that Grenada faced as a small island developing State.
- 704. Fiji congratulated Grenada on its successful universal periodic review, on its acceptance of 99 of 148 recommendations and on having been the first Caribbean Community country to approve its national adaptation plan. It thanked Grenada for having accepted its recommendation on strengthening its national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up. As a fellow small island developing State, Fiji recognized the challenges faced by Grenada due to the adverse impacts of climate change on resources and infrastructure and on the capacity to implement the universal periodic review recommendations. Fiji called upon the international community to assist Grenada in its implementation of the recommendations accepted.
- 705. India noted that it had had the honour to facilitate the universal periodic review of Grenada as a member of the troika during the entire process. It appreciated the constructive engagement of the delegation of Grenada during the review, having accepted 99 recommendations, including two from India, out of the 148 recommendations received, showing the strong commitment of Grenada to the universal periodic review process. India congratulated Grenada on a successful review and wished the country every success in its efforts to implement the recommendations accepted.
- 706. Jamaica commended Grenada for its constructive engagement throughout its third universal periodic review cycle and for its acceptance of 99 out of the 148 recommendations received. Jamaica clearly underscored the continued commitment of Grenada to fulfil its international obligations in the field of human rights and to safeguard and advance the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all citizens. Jamaica took positive note of the legislative and policy measures adopted by Grenada, such as the establishment of its national gender policy and the entry into force of the trafficking in persons and juvenile justice acts, among others.
- 707. Libya thanked Grenada for its constructive participation in the universal periodic review and it thanked the State for having accepted 99 recommendations. Libya congratulated Grenada on the efforts made by the Government to address climate change and to create a safe environment for all. It noted that important progress had been made in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and human rights in the country.
- 708. Nepal appreciated the constructive engagement of Grenada with the universal periodic review process. It commended Grenada for having accepted most of the recommendations received during the third cycle, including both of its recommendations. Nepal welcomed the State's formulation of the National Sustainable Development Plan 2020–2035, putting people at the centre of sustainable development and placing emphasis on the development of climate- and disaster-resilient infrastructure. It noted the Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan 2014–2024 as an important measure for promoting equality and social justice, and it commended Grenada for the progress made in women's political representation.
- 709. Vanuatu supported the positive steps taken by Grenada to strengthen the legislative framework to promote and protect human rights. It urged Grenada to overturn old and discriminatory laws promoting gender equality and to continue to make efforts towards achieving equal access to quality education, especially for children and low-income families. Vanuatu wished the Government of Grenada the best in the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations accepted.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

- 710. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Grenada, two other stakeholders made statements.
- 711. Edmund Rice International urged the Government of Grenada to remain fully committed to the incorporation of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment into its domestic legislation and to take steps to improve the penitentiary system to bring it into line with international standards. It highlighted the fact that Ronnie Gittens and Rudolph Hall, whose mandatory death sentences had been commuted in 1991, remained in prison and were the only persons in Grenada serving life sentences, which had not been judicially imposed. It urged Grenada to take steps to refer those cases to the court. It also urged Grenada to expedite the implementation of the recommendations that had enjoyed the State's support during the third universal periodic review cycle, which included themes such as children's access to quality education on an equal basis, in particular children from low-income families, and resolving the long-standing deadlock with the Grenada Union of Teachers regarding docked pay issues and pension and gratuity payments. It urged Grenada to continue to promote gender equality, combat trafficking in persons, and enact legislation protecting women and children's rights.
- 712. The Center for Global Nonkilling noted that Governments had a share in preserving life. It encouraged Grenada to make further efforts in the protection of life and the ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. It asked Grenada to be the first Caribbean country to terminate the death penalty constitutionally.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

713. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council thanked the delegation of Grenada for its presentation, which had included its concluding remarks, and stated that, based on the information provided, out of 148 recommendations received, 99 had enjoyed the support of Grenada and 49 had been noted.

Turkey

- 714. The review of Turkey was held on 28 January 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 Turkey 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.6/35/TUR/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.6/35/TUR/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.6/35/TUR/3).
- 715. At its 25th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the State under review (see sect. C below).
- 716. The outcome of the review of Turkey comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/14), 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/44/14/Add.1).

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

- 717. The delegation of Turkey reiterated from the outset the State's strong commitment to the universal periodic review as a unique and comprehensive peer review mechanism. Turkey believed that, if conducted in a constructive spirit and a non-politicized manner, that mechanism could be a great tool for enhancing human rights standards globally and bring the State closer to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- 718. During the review, Turkey had received 321 recommendations, 19 of which had been rejected, as they had been politically motivated and had not been in line with the principle of non-confrontational conduct of the universal periodic review. Turkey was pleased to announce that 216 (about 72 per cent) of the recommendations had enjoyed the State's support, with some having already been implemented or in the process of implementation. Turkey had noted 86 recommendations for different reasons. Certain recommendations had addressed multiple issues and Turkey could not support the whole recommendation.
- 719. For some recommendations, the issues were not currently on the State's reform agenda and therefore additional measures were not planned for the time being. On the other hand, some recommendations contained inaccurate information, assumptions or allegations regarding Turkish law or practice, and that was why they had not been accepted.
- 720. Turkey considered that the high rate of recommendations supported demonstrated its commitment to the universal periodic review process and its strong will to enhance all aspects of human rights.
- 721. Unfortunately, shortly after the universal periodic review of Turkey, so much had changed all over the world, with exceptional and unprecedented challenges having been created by the COVID-19 pandemic for every country, having led to a global health and economic crisis, threatening to reverse progress in multilateral efforts on key human rights issues.
- 722. The delegation highlighted that the pandemic had also taught valuable lessons, namely that strong international cooperation and multilateralism were key in achieving the State's overarching goals of peace and human rights. Turkey had taken a human rights-based approach in its measures aimed at curbing the spread of the virus. Particularly, Turkey had considered the special challenges faced by vulnerable segments of society, such as women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants and refugees.
- 723. All citizens of Turkey, whether they had social security coverage or not, received the necessary treatment for COVID-19, free of charge. All school-aged children continued to receive quality distance education during that period through the centralized education information network created for that purpose. The total sum of social aid payments had been increased during the pandemic.
- 724. As pointed out by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, there was a heightened risk of domestic violence globally. Accordingly, Turkey had taken the necessary steps. Services provided to victims of violence had continued uninterrupted during that period.
- 725. In order to curb the spread of the virus among persons deprived of their liberty, Turkey had introduced various legislative amendments. In accordance with Law No. 7242, which had entered into force in April 2020, approximately 95,000 prisoners had been released and health measures within all penitentiary institutions had been strengthened.
- 726. The delegation emphasized that Turkey had continued to extend its generous hand to more than 4 million refugees in its territory, even during that difficult period. The delegation also underscored that, despite the pushbacks of tens of thousands of migrants by some countries, Turkey continued to uphold its international obligations, as well as the human rights and dignity of the people it was hosting. All temporary accommodation camps were disinfected regularly and social-distancing measures were strictly followed. The Communication Center for Foreigners also provided translation services to the Ministry of Health while responding to the COVID-19-related questions of refugees.

- 727. Turkey worked closely with international organizations like UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration in order to reduce the financial impact of the pandemic on refugees.
- 728. The delegation highlighted that the promotion and protection of human rights and the advancement of Turkish democracy to a higher level continued to be a top priority of the State's agenda. During the previous five years, Turkey had faced unprecedented security challenges. It had lost about 1,600 Turkish citizens in several terror attacks during that period. It continued with its reforms even in the face of grave security threats by multiple terrorist organizations, including Daesh, the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), the Kurdish People's Protection Units (a militia of the Partiya Yekitiya Demokrat) and the Fethullah terrorist organization/Parallel State Structure, which had attempted a coup d'état against Turkish democracy on 15 July 2016. That heinous terrorist coup d'état attempt had targeted the overthrowing of the elected Government, together with the President and the constitutional order, during which 251 innocent citizens had been killed and 2,391 had been wounded overnight. The delegation specified that the State's fight against terrorism protected the most fundamental rights of its citizens and millions in the region.
- 729. Turkey had made progress in its reform agenda since the termination of the state of emergency two years before (2018). The judicial reform strategy and the pursuant legislative reforms had been introduced before the State's universal periodic review session. The Government of Turkey maintained its strong political will to pursue its reform process with a view to expanding the scope of fundamental freedoms for all. The delegation announced that two more legislative amendment packages had been adopted since then. Those reform packages were mainly aimed at strengthening fundamental rights and freedoms, in particular freedom of expression and victims' rights. They had also introduced limitations to the length of pretrial detention while bringing about several improvements concerning the promotion of judges and prosecutors. Such measures were aimed at strengthening the independence and impartiality of the judiciary. Turkey considered that those amendments were the best manifestation of the State's resolve for further progress in the field of human rights.
- 730. In conclusion, the delegation noted that the State's resolve would continue unabated and the universal periodic review recommendations supported certainly proved to be helpful, both in shaping its future reforms and in drawing Turkey closer to the Sustainable Development Goals.

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

- 731. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Turkey, 13 delegations made statements.
- 732. Mauritania welcomed the comprehensive presentation by Turkey on all the points and recommendations and it valued the efforts made by Turkey in its institutional and legislative frameworks to promote and strengthen human rights protection mechanisms. It commended the efforts of Turkey in reviewing its national legislation to ensure compliance with international obligations under human rights treaties, following its universal periodic review. It welcomed the State's cooperation in submitting reports to the treaty bodies as part of its commitments to comply with its international obligations.
- 733. Morocco welcomed the acceptance by Turkey of more than 260 recommendations from the previous universal periodic review cycle, which underlined the State's willingness to continue to progress in the promotion and protection of human rights. In particular, Morocco commended Turkey for having accepted the recommendation made by its delegation. Morocco reiterated its appreciation for the strong and sincere engagement of Turkey with the universal periodic review process.
- 734. Namibia thanked the delegation of Turkey for its transparency and constructive participation during, and commitment to, the universal periodic review process. It attached great importance to the human rights of women and girls, as they continued to experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence. It praised the strong commitment of Turkey to enhance the protection of the human rights of women and girls, as

- demonstrated by the State's broad acceptance of the recommendations on that issue, including those made by Namibia.
- 735. Nepal appreciated the constructive engagement of Turkey with the universal periodic review process for the promotion and protection of human rights. It commended Turkey for having accepted most of the recommendations received during the third cycle of the review, including the acceptance of the recommendations made by Nepal. It welcomed the initiative taken by Turkey to increase women's participation in the economic sphere and it commended in particular the initiative to allow tax exemptions to employers for the provision of nurseries for the benefit of children of women employees.
- 736. Nigeria commended the Government of Turkey for its continued commitment to and engagement with the universal periodic review mechanism. Nigeria was pleased to note that Turkey had accepted its recommendations on combating trafficking in persons, on ensuring the protection of the rights of victims, and on strengthening measures with regard to non-discrimination, freedom of religion, and minority and refugee rights. It lauded the measures taken to combat trafficking in persons.
- 737. Oman congratulated Turkey on the methodology that the State had followed in engaging with the universal periodic review mechanism during the third cycle. It was briefed on the outputs of the universal periodic review of Turkey, which had taken place within the framework of an effective dialogue, and it thanked Turkey for its positive response to the recommendations of the Sultanate.
- 738. Pakistan commended Turkey for having accepted more than 70 per cent of the recommendations, including those made by Pakistan. It commended Turkey for its efforts to uphold human rights and for its provision of protection, free health care, education services, psychological support, vocational training and social activities to refugees living in Turkey. Pakistan appreciated the State's introduction of a comprehensive set of legislation to combat torture and ill-treatment.
- 739. The Philippines (by video message) acknowledged the efforts of Turkey in advancing the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular those of women and children, migrants and other vulnerable groups. It welcomed the State's efforts in further strengthening measures to combat trafficking in persons. It supported the adoption by the Human Rights Council of the report on Turkey.
- 740. Qatar commended the responses and explanations provided by Turkey, which reflected the extent of the Government's commitment to the objectives of the universal periodic review process and its keenness relating to positive and constructive cooperation with various human rights mechanisms. Qatar appreciated the efforts made and measures taken by Turkey to fulfil its human rights commitments and obligations, and to consolidate basic freedoms in Turkey, despite the challenges it faced, terrorism being foremost among them. Qatar encouraged the Government to continue its efforts and positive approach towards the recommendations made, in line with national priorities and international commitments, and it appreciated the acceptance by Turkey of the recommendations made by Qatar.
- 741. The Russian Federation noted positively the acceptance by Turkey of the overwhelming number of recommendations, including its own. It commended the steps taken by Turkey to strengthen legal instruments for the protection of human rights, in particular the adoption of new laws, the abolition of military courts and the launch of a large-scale strategy on judicial reform. The Russian Federation expected Turkey to continue to pursue its active work aimed at ensuring equal rights and opportunities for different categories of vulnerable groups of the population and at combating discrimination against women.
- 742. Senegal expressed gratitude to Turkey and encouraged the State to implement the recommendations accepted. It was delighted to see the measures taken by Turkey to consolidate and promote human rights, including combating torture, protecting children and the social integration of persons with disabilities. Senegal hailed the progress made by Turkey as part of international protection efforts, and the adoption of programmes and policies aimed at empowering women.
- 743. Sierra Leone commended Turkey for its resolve in upholding accountability for the highest human rights standards within its jurisdiction. It expressed appreciation to Turkey for

hosting the largest influx of refugees, about 4 million people, and for upholding its obligations towards the rights of the refugees. It appreciated that Turkey had supported the recommendations made by Sierra Leone. It also appreciated the State's commitment to uphold freedom of religion since the signing of the Treaty of Peace, signed at Lausanne, July 24, 1923. It welcomed the termination of the state of emergency in 2018 and it noted that, despite the promulgation of a state of emergency, Turkey maintained and upheld its international human rights obligations. It was encouraged by the State's firm commitment to cooperate with all human rights mechanisms.

744. Kazakhstan commended the continued efforts by Turkey to enhance compliance with recommendations from international human rights mechanisms in both law and practice. Turkey had implemented systemic measures to protect the rights of women, children and minorities and to promote the right to development. Kazakhstan expressed appreciation for the State's welcoming of Syrians fleeing war-torn zones since 2011 and the exemplary humanitarian efforts made towards protecting the rights of refugees.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

745. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Turkey, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

746. Lawyers for Lawyers (by video message), in a joint statement with The Law Society, welcomed the support of Turkey for some recommendations relating to human rights defenders, including lawyers, and it called upon Turkey to effectively implement the universal periodic review recommendations without delay. While noting that, in Turkey, many lawyers oftentimes faced harassment, arrest, intimidation and threats, especially those working on politically sensitive cases, it urged Turkey to take measures to safeguard the independence of lawyers and to guarantee their protection from interferences in their work. It also called upon Turkey to guarantee the independence of all bar associations and reverse all legislative measures impacting it.

747. The World Evangelical Alliance thanked Turkey for the constructive participation in the universal periodic review. It brought to the attention of the Human Rights Council and to the delegation of Turkey the fact that more than 60 Protestant Christians, who had lived in Turkey for many years, had been denied Turkish residence arbitrarily and without due process. It noted with regret that the Turkish authorities had justified that decision on the basis that they constituted a threat to national security according to confidential reports, which, however, had not been made accessible to the defendants' lawyers, which was a breach of international law. Lastly, it called upon Turkey to effectively review the decision to expel the 60 Protestant Church members and to undertake a fair examination of that decision.

748. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues regretted that the universal periodic review process had not been the occasion for Turkey to address serious violations of fundamental freedoms and human rights under domestic law. It regretted that all the related recommendations had been rejected on the basis that domestic law already guaranteed sufficient protection. However, it noted that Turkey was suppressing the voices of journalists, human rights defenders, including women's and LGBTI+ rights defenders, under different pretexts. It expressed concern that judicial reform in Turkey had failed to halt the arbitrary detention of those who expressed criticism of the Government. It urged the authorities to ensure an enabling environment for civil society and to stop any form of harassment against human rights defenders.

749. The International Service for Human Rights regretted that the number of recommendations made relating to human rights defenders had increased, signalling a growing concern about the deterioration of the protection of their rights. It recalled that, during the emergency rule, civil society actors had continued to be heavily harassed and arbitrarily detained and their space restricted. It urged the Government of Turkey to ensure that defenders could carry out their legitimate activities, including health rights defenders, especially in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. It called upon Turkey to ensure the free and undisturbed activity of human rights defenders and to adopt comprehensive legislation

for the protection of defenders, including the investigation of allegations of intimidation and reprisals.

- 750. Article 19: International Centre against Censorship (by video message) regretted that the continuing efforts of Turkey to suppress free expression since the State's previous universal periodic review reinforced serious doubts about its commitment to fulfil its human rights obligations. The Turkish authorities had rejected the recommendations regarding the arbitrary arrests of journalists, who were currently in detention for simply having conducted their work. The organization also regretted that Turkey had not accepted a number of recommendations to amend its Anti-Terror Law, while having falsely claimed that the already existing legislation was in line with international standards. It was concerned that, during the COVID-19 pandemic, human rights defenders, journalists and politicians detained under terrorism charges had been denied access to the prison release programme. Lastly, it urged the authorities to repeal all the provisions on counter-terrorism, which were incompatible with international law, and to narrowly and more precisely define "terrorist acts" within Turkish legislation.
- 751. The International Commission of Jurists welcomed the acceptance by Turkey of the recommendations to ensure the independence of the judiciary. However, it expressed regret about the statement made by Turkey that the recommendations concerning the independence of the judiciary had already been implemented. During the state of emergency, over 4,000 judges and prosecutors had been dismissed and over 2,000 had been detained through arbitrary processes that did not meet international standards. The judiciary did not enjoy basic guarantees of institutional independence because its council of judges and prosecutors was fully appointed by the executive and legislative powers, contrary to international standards of independence.
- 752. The International Humanist and Ethical Union (by video message) stated that, while the Government claimed that the expression of thoughts amounting only to criticism was not a criminal offence, its actions spoke otherwise. Journalists and activists continued to be persecuted for inciting terrorism or hatred, for insulting the President or for blasphemy in cases where their only crime had been to speak critically of the Government. Turkey clearly did not intend to end that practice, as seen by the recent passing of new legal restrictions on social media use and by the exclusion of those convicted of terrorism offences from the COVID-19 prison amnesty bill. Freedom of assembly in Turkey was under threat, as COVID-19 restrictions were being used to strip non-governmental organizations of the ability to meet in person, and laws insisting that non-governmental organizations disclosed the names of its members were putting activists' security at risk.
- 753. The British Humanist Association (by video message) expressed concern about the increasing normalization of hate speech and discriminatory statements in the public discourse in Turkey, which had led to discrimination against religious minorities and undermined longheld secular principles, as well as freedom of expression and social liberties. The organization expressed concern that such discriminatory attitudes were being perpetuated within the education system, where religious education was traditionally taught from the perspective of Sunni Hanafi Islam. Although freedom of expression was theoretically protected by the current Constitution, it was increasingly undermined in practice, as the Penal Code outlawed blasphemy, which was punishable by a prison sentence.
- 754. Human Rights Watch expressed disappointment about the Government's refusal to acknowledge key issues that were at the core of the human rights crisis that the country was facing today. If the Government were serious about its engagement with the universal periodic review process, it would commit to addressing the increasing erosion of judicial independence and the abusive use of criminal proceedings and detention to target perceived government critics. The organization expressed concern over the increasing restrictions on free speech and the failure to investigate abuses committed by State officials, such as torture and ill-treatment in custody.
- 755. Amnesty International (by video message) regretted the rejection of many recommendations. The most serious human rights violation was the lack of independence and impartiality of the judiciary, as evidenced in court decisions in the trials of human rights defenders, journalists and others. Since the review of Turkey, four human rights defenders

had been convicted, in July 2020, on terrorism-related charges in the absence of crimes committed to dissuade others from engaging in such activities and to paralyse civil society. The organization regretted the rejection by Turkey of the recommendations to decriminalize peaceful expression and it urged Turkey to amend articles in the Penal Code and the Anti-Terrorism Law. Despite the State's claim that it operated a policy of zero tolerance to torture, allegations of torture and other forms of ill-treatment remained.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

- 756. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council thanked the delegation of Turkey for its presentation, which had included its concluding remarks, and stated that, based on the information provided, out of 321 recommendations received, 216 had enjoyed the support of Turkey and 105 had been noted.
- 757. In its closing remarks, the delegation thanked the delegations that had taken the floor for their constructive comments. With regard to the issues raised by non-governmental organizations, the delegation stated that it was not going to answer those, as the State's policy was not to use any sort of reprisals against certain non-governmental organizations. The delegation also confirmed that Turkey had responded to most of the issues in a detailed way during the universal periodic review process in January 2020.
- 758. Lastly, the delegation emphasized that the State's will to expand the scope of human rights and advance its democracy to a higher level remained strong and that Turkey would maintain its close cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, including its constructive engagement with the universal periodic review. The delegation thanked the secretariat of the universal periodic review and the troika for their support during the review of Turkey.

Kiribati

- 759. The review of Kiribati was held on 28 January 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 Kiribati 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.6/35/KIR/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.6/35/KIR/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.6/35/KIR/3).
- 760. At its 25th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Kiribati (see sect. C below).
- 761. The outcome of the review of Kiribati comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/15), 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/44/15/Add.1).

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

762. The delegation of Kiribati (by video message) stated that Kiribati had accepted 88 recommendations out of a total of 129 recommendations received during the thirty-fifth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. The delegation informed the Human Rights Council that the Kiribati National Human Rights Task Force had

developed a plan for the implementation of the 88 recommendations accepted. The plan would guide the Government in implementing national measures pursuant to the recommendations and in collaboration with national, regional and international partners, including assistance from the Human Rights and Social Development Division of the Pacific Community (formerly known as the Regional Rights Resource Team), OHCHR and United Nations agencies.

- 763. Kiribati had noted 40 recommendations. The reasons for only having noted those recommendations at the present stage had been based on resource constraints and cultural impediments and sensitivity regarding religious beliefs and practices.
- 764. Kiribati would continue to collaborate with regional and international partners to address those capacity gaps. The delegation highlighted that, as part of the implementation plan, Kiribati would consult with all national stakeholders, in particular civil society, local communities and faith-based organizations to address cultural and religious barriers.
- 765. The delegation emphasized that Kiribati valued the importance of the universal periodic review process. In particular, it acknowledged the significance of an independent peer review, which was constructive, informative and premised on the extensive experience of member States. It was an honour for the Government of Kiribati to see that the number of States participating in its third universal periodic review had increased from 44 to 51 delegations since the previous review.
- 766. The delegation drew the attention of the Human Rights Council to the achievements made since the previous review, including the implementation of the Children, Young People and Family Welfare Act of 2013, the Education Act of 2013 and the Family Peace Act of 2014; the enactment of the Employment and Industrial Relation Code of 2015, the Juvenile Justice Act of 2015, the Early Childhood Care and Education Act of 2017 and the Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Act of 2019; and the amendment of the Constitution of 2016 and the Penal Code of 2017. At the policy level, Kiribati had also developed the mental health policy of 2016, the national disability policy of 2018, and the gender equality and women's development policy of 2019. The Government had also implemented programmes to address significant issues such as health and sanitation, social welfare and child protection, education and gender-based violence. Kiribati had also acceded to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment on 22 July 2019.
- 767. Kiribati had welcomed the recommendations on the integration of human rights in climate policies and responses to natural disasters, and on strengthening legislation to protect, promote and preserve the human rights of women, children and persons with disabilities. Kiribati was committed to implementing those recommendations within its resources.
- 768. The delegation also emphasized that Kiribati would continue to progress positively in its efforts to enhance the pursuit of legal, moral, ethical, equitable and inclusive human rights at the national level. In that regard, the delegation reiterated the State's recognition of the crucial role played by the universal periodic review and stated that Kiribati remained highly optimistic that the universal periodic review recommendations would assist Kiribati in achieving desired outcomes on substantive equality and justice.
- 769. The delegation re-emphasized that the Government would continue to collaborate and engage with its bilateral and multilateral partners and request technical and financial assistance, in particular from the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review, which would allow the Government to implement the recommendations and address capacity gaps.

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

- 770. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Kiribati, 12 delegations made statements.
- 771. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela commended Kiribati for its full cooperation with the universal periodic review mechanism, which underscored the State's commitment to protect human rights. It appreciated the progress made, despite the challenges faced by

Kiribati arising from climate change. It welcomed the State's strategies aimed at managing disaster risks. It also welcomed the accession of Kiribati to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the progress made in the area of water and sanitation.

- 772. The Bahamas welcomed the acceptance by Kiribati of the recommendations made by the Bahamas to consider establishing a national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up, and to ensure that adequate resources were allocated for sexual and reproductive health services with a view to reducing sexually transmitted infections among young people. It encouraged Kiribati to consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. It noted the challenges faced by Kiribati, including those due to limited human and financial resources, and as one of the world's most vulnerable nations to the effects of climate change. In that regard, it encouraged Kiribati to avail itself of the technical assistance and capacity-building support available from OHCHR towards the fulfilment of its human rights commitments, and it called upon the international community to support the country towards that end.
- 773. Barbados welcomed the acceptance by Kiribati of recommendations, particularly those relating to the advancement of children and sectoral improvements in the areas of education and health. It also commended Kiribati for the efforts aimed at mitigating the impacts of climate change.
- 774. Botswana welcomed the partnerships Kiribati had forged with some of the United Nations specialized agencies and other partners. It noted the technical assistance and capacity-building programmes rendered to Kiribati by those partners, which were welcomed by Kiribati. It highlighted the State's commitment to the recognition of gender equality, as demonstrated by the recently approved and launched gender equality and women's development policy. It further noted the implementation of the shared implementation plan to eliminate sexual- and gender-based violence and national action plan 2011–2021 to respond to gender-based violence.
- 775. China welcomed the effective actions taken by Kiribati to address climate change, to develop education and health, and to promote gender equality. Recognizing the challenges faced by Kiribati as a small island developing State, it called upon the international community to provide Kiribati with constructive assistance. It appreciated the State's acceptance of the recommendations of China to continue to promote sustainable development, to build the capacities to combat climate change and natural disasters, and to invest in health, aimed at better guaranteeing the right to health.
- 776. Cuba appreciated the acceptance by Kiribati of its recommendations and expressed the hope that Kiribati would make further progress in protecting the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities in the context of the national plans to address climate change and natural disasters. It noted the importance of continuing to give priority to the right to health, including the expansion of access to and an improvement of the quality of health services. It emphasized the need for the international community to provide assistance to Kiribati due to the challenges faced by Kiribati as a small island developing State.
- 777. Fiji appreciated the acceptance by Kiribati of all four of its recommendations, which covered human rights-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation, sexual education curricula, and comprehensive approaches to sexual and reproductive health programmes and services. Fiji recognized the challenges faced by Kiribati due to the adverse impacts of climate change on the State's resources and infrastructure, and it called upon the international community to assist Kiribati in its implementation of the recommendations accepted.
- 778. India appreciated the constructive engagement of Kiribati with the universal periodic review. It appreciated the State's acceptance of a large number of recommendations, including those made by India, and it wished Kiribati the successful implementation of the recommendations supported.
- 779. Libya welcomed the engagement of Kiribati with international human rights mechanisms and its accession to international human rights treaties, despite the resource

constraints faced by Kiribati. Libya welcomed the enactment of the law aimed at combating trafficking and addressing its root causes.

- 780. The Marshall Islands recognized the ongoing challenges, most notably resource constraints, faced by Kiribati when it came to fulfilling its international obligations. It expressed the hope that the universal periodic review process would continue to enable Kiribati to share its unique challenges and to be provided with much-needed assistance and support to move forward. The Marshall Islands commended Kiribati for addressing human rights in its climate strategies and it encouraged the State to continue its international stewardship, including alongside other low-lying atoll States.
- 781. Nepal commended Kiribati for having taken the lead in developing a regional perspective and integrated approach to addressing climate change and disaster risk management for the Pacific islands region. It appreciated the policy initiatives implemented by Kiribati to ensure access to quality and inclusiveness in education, and to include gender mainstreaming in polices. It encouraged Kiribati to continue to place emphasis on addressing the structural barriers faced by women, children, and marginalized and vulnerable groups.
- 782. New Zealand strongly supported the ongoing commitment of the Government of Kiribati to progress the human rights of all persons of Kiribati, as demonstrated by the wide range of recommendations accepted during the universal periodic review process. It commended Kiribati for its progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, noting the focus on sustainably harnessing the State's fisheries resource in a way that reduced poverty and fostered inclusive development. It praised Kiribati for having formally expressed in the Kiribati 20-Year Vision a range of human rights issues that it was focusing on, including commitments to improve good governance and taking a regional leadership role against corruption. It welcomed the State's acceptance of a number of recommendations relating to improving sexual and reproductive health and rights programmes, which was a core part of protecting and empowering women and young people. It encouraged Kiribati to continue to focus on the important issue of reducing incidents of family and gender-based violence as part of its national planning. Moreover, it recognized the serious challenge that climate change was having on protecting human rights in Kiribati, as land and property were increasingly at risk of inundation and water security became more difficult to manage. In that regard, it commended Kiribati for its leadership on that important global issue and it committed to continuing to provide support consistent with the State's goals and aspirations.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

- 783. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Kiribati, six other stakeholders made statements.
- 784. The International Planned Parenthood Federation commended Kiribati for having supported the recommendations to: revise the family life education curriculum and integrate it into all school curricula; incorporate a comprehensive approach to sexual and reproductive health into the next national development plan (2021–2025), including family planning programmes that were accessible to all, and allocate sufficient resources in the annual budget to ensure effective delivery. It welcomed the State's commitment to implement national media campaigns in all schools to eliminate the gender stereotypes and negative social norms that were the root causes of gender-based discrimination and violence.
- 785. Franciscans International welcomed the commitment of Kiribati to address climate change by having supported relevant recommendations, especially its commitment to adopt an inclusive and participatory approach to the implementation of community-based climate adaptation initiatives. It took note of the Human Rights Committee's landmark decision of January 2020 regarding the case of Mr. Ioane Teitiota, which had considered the impacts of climate change on the right to life. It highlighted that international cooperation to address climate change crises was urgently needed to prevent the irreversible impact of climate change on human rights. It added that robust human rights-based and ambitious climate action was needed.
- 786. Edmund Rice International welcomed the fact that Kiribati had supported the recommendations relating to: the provision of clean drinking water and sanitation for all and adequate health services; the protection of the rights of the sectors of the population

vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, especially women and children; the empowerment of women; and the adoption of an inclusive and participatory approach to the implementation of community-based climate adaptation initiatives. It noted that the impacts of climate change could force many to move out of their homelands. It urged the Government to recognize the protection of culture as essential to human dignity and identity and to ensure that culture, land and places for future generations were safe. It further emphasized that the aspirations of the Kiribati 20-Year Vision deserved the support of the international community in terms of resources and development assistance.

787. The Center for Global Nonkilling welcomed the goodwill Kiribati showed towards the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. The ratification of those international treaties would be a fair opportunity to highlight the value of life and of the non-killing principle.

The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (by video message) appreciated the legislative efforts of Kiribati on issues such as climate change and disaster risk management and access to quality and inclusive education. While appreciating the role of the Kiribati National Human Rights Task Force in facilitating the country's engagement with United Nations human rights mechanisms, it called upon the Government to ensure the Task Force's independence and to build its capacity through technical assistance from regional and United Nations bodies. It praised the State's efforts to eliminate discriminatory societal stereotypes against women. It underlined, however, that Kiribati had noted the recommendation to broaden the constitutional definition of discrimination, which excluded sexual orientation or gender identity as prohibited grounds. It urged Kiribati to: intensify efforts to remove structural barriers to the right of women to transmit their nationality to their children and foreign spouses; ensure the equal rights of women to landownership, inheritance and the exercise of agency through access to sexual and reproductive services, including the decriminalization of abortion; take proactive measures to create community awareness about the remedies available to victims and survivors of domestic and gender-based violence; decriminalize consensual same-sex relations between adults; and amend the Penal Code to criminalize trafficking in persons in line with international standards.

789. United Nations Watch (by video message) noted that Kiribati lacked protective laws for the safety of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex persons, who were faced with the criminalization of consensual sexual activity between males that could result in up to 14 years of imprisonment. It further expressed concern about the State's growing relations with the Government of China, a Government denounced by special procedures of the Human Rights Council for systematic repression.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

790. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council thanked the delegation of Kiribati for the presentation, which had included concluding remarks, and stated that, based on the information provided, out of 129 recommendations received, 88 had enjoyed the support of Kiribati and 40 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.

Guinea-Bissau

- 791. The review of Guinea-Bissau was held on 24 January 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 Guinea-Bissau 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.6/35/GNB/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.6/35/GNB/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.6/35/GNB/3).
- 792. At its 34th meeting, on 5 October 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Guinea-Bissau (see sect. C below).
- 793. The outcome of the review of Guinea-Bissau comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/11), 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/44/11/Add.1).

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

- 794. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that Guinea-Bissau had informed the Human Rights Council that unfortunately it could not ensure the presence of a delegation at the present session of the Human Rights Council. However, aware of the importance of complying with the established calendar for the adoption of the outcome of the universal periodic review of Guinea-Bissau, it had sent a statement together with its position on the recommendations received, which had been shared with the Council. The Vice-President noted that, in accordance with relevant precedents, the presidency could read out statements of States that were not present at the adoption of the outcome, and proceeded to read the following statement sent on behalf of Guinea-Bissau.
- 795. Guinea-Bissau was a developing country that had always made efforts to honour its commitments to international forums, in particular the Human Rights Council.
- 796. The country had presented its national report on the status of human rights for the third cycle of the universal periodic review, during the thirty-fifth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, held in Geneva on 24 January 2020, in the first phase of its review under that mechanism of the Human Rights Council.
- 797. During the interactive dialogue, Guinea-Bissau had received 197 recommendations, to which it had provided its responses in the table contained in the addendum.
- 798. In March 2020, Guinea-Bissau, like other countries in the world, began to suffer from the first cases of COVID-19, which had worsened the situation of the already vulnerable health system and had also caused several insufficiencies in various sectors of the economic and social life of the country.
- 799. Nevertheless, to respond to the situation resulting from the pandemic, the Government of Guinea-Bissau had adopted an emergency plan and had made available to the government departments the following financial resources: CFAF 100 million for the social aid fund to support victims of natural disasters; CFAF 30 million for monthly medical acquisitions for hospital emergency services; and CFAF 60 million at the national level to feed patients.
- 800. In addition, regarding human rights, the country had made some progress concerning the justice sector, in particular through the implementation of the decree law on the creation of the office for the recovery of assets from crime and the administration of proceeds from criminal activities, the implementation of the decree on the registry of the judiciary and the prosecutor's office, and regulations on the financial management of the justice system.
- 801. Guinea-Bissau noted the following achievements in the education sector: the revision of the school curriculum regarding school years one to six, with the inclusion of courses on human rights, citizenship, equity, gender and environmental law; the approval of a contingency plan to educate the population to respond to COVID-19, especially in school environments; and the creation of a pilot observatory project on harmful practices and school dropouts.

- 802. Lastly, Guinea-Bissau stated that the electoral dispute arising from the previous presidential election, which had paralysed the country since January 2020, had just been resolved with the adoption of a Supreme Court decision in September 2020.
- 803. Guinea-Bissau indicated that the Government remained available to cooperate with the Human Rights Council, in particular with all of its special procedures, and for the implementation of the important recommendations received, which would require the contribution of all its partners, during and after the pandemic.

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

- 804. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Guinea-Bissau, 12 delegations made statements.
- 805. Burundi commended the progress achieved by Guinea-Bissau in the promotion and protection of human rights since the completion of the second cycle of the universal periodic review. It welcomed the measures taken to improve the living conditions of detainees in the country's prisons and the reform aimed at including human rights in school curricula. Burundi commended Guinea-Bissau for the many plans and strategies adopted to bring about improvements in education and health and for the action adopted to fight unemployment and drug trafficking. Burundi recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the outcome of the universal periodic review of Guinea-Bissau by consensus.
- 806. Cabo Verde recalled that it had expressed appreciation during the interactive dialogue held in January 2020 for the report presented by Guinea-Bissau, which had noted considerable progress made despite the institutional difficulties caused by successive political crises in the country. It appreciated the achievements highlighted in the national report, including the country's commitment to the peer review process and to various human rights conventions. Cabo Verde encouraged the authorities of Guinea-Bissau to redouble their efforts to guarantee compliance with all of the country's commitments under the international human rights instruments to which it was a party and to implement the main recommendations received during the present cycle of the universal periodic review.
- 807. China applauded the efforts made by Guinea-Bissau to promote social development and improve people's lives, promote the development of the education sector and of the health system, and to take measures to protect the rights of women and children. It thanked Guinea-Bissau for having accepted the recommendations it had made and it expressed the hope that the country would continue to: promote sustainable economic and social development and reduce poverty; increase investment in education and raise the enrolment rate of school-aged children; and develop health care and further protect the right to health of its people. China supported the adoption by the Human Rights Council of the report on Guinea-Bissau.
- 808. Cuba congratulated Guinea-Bissau on its commitment to the universal periodic review process and expressed appreciation for the country's acceptance of the recommendations it had made. Cuba expressed the hope that Guinea-Bissau would be able to effectively implement existing education programmes, policies and plans to reduce school dropout, ensure education coverage and achieve equality between girls and boys, particularly in rural areas. It urged the State to strengthen the national health policy with a view to expanding health coverage, infrastructure and human resources. Cuba wished Guinea-Bissau well in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.
- 809. Egypt praised Guinea-Bissau for having accepted many of the recommendations received during the review process, including those it had made. Egypt commended the efforts made by Guinea-Bissau to advance human rights in all fields, especially through the reform of the justice and security sectors and by combating impunity, promoting the rights to education and health for all without discrimination, as well as the efforts made to promote the rights of children and women and to empower women in the political and economic spheres. Egypt wished Guinea-Bissau every success in implementing the recommendations accepted and it recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the outcome of the review.

- 810. Ethiopia welcomed the acceptance by Guinea-Bissau of the recommendations it had made to further lessen the issue of school dropouts from the first year of basic education and to endure in its path of sustaining tailored assistance for the social inclusion of students with disabilities. Ethiopia expressed the belief that the universal periodic review should remain an opportunity for the exchange of best practices and a platform where only constructive exchanges should take place. Ethiopia supported the adoption of the outcome of Guinea-Bissau by the Human Rights Council by consensus.
- 811. Gabon stated that the efforts made by Guinea-Bissau to improve the judiciary and combat corruption were particularly laudable in the difficult political context. It encouraged action aimed at regulating revenues and the computerization of services and the judiciary. Gabon recognized the construction of courts, the provision of legal aid to vulnerable and economically deprived persons, and the measures aimed at prosecuting perpetrators of human rights violations and bringing them to justice. Gabon indicated that Guinea-Bissau had also made significant progress through action to improve birth registration rates and it encouraged the country to continue such measures. Gabon invited the Human Rights Council to adopt the report on Guinea-Bissau.
- 812. India noted the active participation during the review process, during which 75 delegations had taken the floor and made 197 recommendations. India commended Guinea-Bissau for having accepted 193 of the recommendations received and it expressed appreciation that the country had accepted all three recommendations it had made. It also appreciated the constructive engagement by the delegation of Guinea-Bissau during the review process, during which the State had highlighted both the initiatives that had been taken relating to the previous recommendations and the challenges faced to bring stability to the country. India indicated that developing infrastructure would be a significant step to improve basic services and it expressed particular appreciation for the measures taken to facilitate greater access to justice. India noted that other significant actions adopted included promoting education for children, improving access to safe drinking water and combating drug trafficking. India recommended the adoption of the report and it wished Guinea-Bissau success in implementing the recommendations accepted.
- 813. Malawi noted the commitment of the Government of Guinea-Bissau to improve human rights in the country despite the many challenges faced. It urged Guinea-Bissau to continue to seek technical support where necessary and to learn from likeminded States, and it pledged its support, in particular through the African Union framework. Malawi wished Guinea-Bissau success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.
- 814. Mali saluted the recent positive developments in Guinea-Bissau, which had contributed to the stabilization of the sociopolitical system. It expressed the hope that such developments would lead to more favourable conditions for the protection of civil and political rights and economic and social rights. Mali reiterated its appreciation for the initiatives adopted for the promotion and protection of the rights of disadvantaged groups, and highlighted the ratification in 2018 of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as well as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It stated that it would be desirable to expand such initiatives to other groups of persons whose situation deserved special attention as well and it indicated that the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance would greatly contribute to such a result. Mali wished Guinea-Bissau success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted and it invited the Human Rights Council to adopt the report of the Working Group.
- 815. Mauritania valued the important efforts made by Guinea-Bissau, despite the great challenges the State faced, in particular to reform the security sector and to combat corruption and impunity. Mauritania applauded the progress made in the education and health sectors. It congratulated Guinea-Bissau on having implemented the recommendation to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Mauritania recommended the adoption of the outcome of Guinea-Bissau by the Human Rights Council by consensus.

816. Morocco noted the efforts made by Guinea-Bissau in the area of migration and it welcomed the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Morocco supported the adoption of the report on Guinea-Bissau and it wished the country success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

- 817. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Guinea-Bissau, four other stakeholders made statements.
- 818. Plan International noted that Guinea-Bissau had ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990, thus having committed to guaranteeing respect for the rights of children in Guinea-Bissau. Substantial progress in the respect for human rights had been made in recent years, including with the strengthening of legislation to criminalize female genital mutilation and the creation of certain institutions that responded better than in the past to harmful practices affecting women and children. However, despite the progress made, gaps remained. The organization noted the results of a survey indicating that: as many as 44.9 per cent of women aged 15 to 49 years had suffered female genital mutilation; there were low birth registration rates of children under 5 years of age; and that the rate of child marriage of girls under 18 years of age was 37 per cent. In light of the above, it encouraged the creation of a synergy between the authorities at various levels of the administration and civil society actors for the effective implementation of laws and regulations prohibiting female genital mutilation through an awareness-raising campaign and the prosecution of the perpetrators of harmful practices. It also urged the authorities to take the legislative measures necessary to repeal all the exceptions still in place allowing marriage before 18 years of age.
- 819. The Elizka Relief Foundation (by video message) appreciated the cooperation of Guinea-Bissau with the universal periodic review mechanism. Nevertheless, it took note of reports of corruption and a lack of transparency in government agencies, and the involvement of officials in most branches and at all levels of the government in corruption, practiced in many cases with impunity, especially in the military administration. Regarding the rights of women, it was encouraged by the efforts made by the Government to criminalize female genital mutilation and it urged the country to make additional efforts to completely eliminate that practice. Lastly, it encouraged the adoption of laws to prevent sexual harassment and the development of initiatives to combat that problem, the enactment of laws to prevent child abuse and the adoption of measures to combat child labour.
- 820. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme noted that the chronic political instability experienced by Guinea-Bissau since the previous review cycle had not allowed the implementation of the recommendations of the universal periodic review. Nevertheless, it commended the adoption of the law on parity and the initiatives to combat corruption, drug trafficking and trafficking in persons, as well as the strategic plan "Terra Ranka" 2015–2025. It expressed concern about the persistence of female genital mutilation, domestic violence, the lack of hygiene and food, and the practice of torture in prisons. It invited Guinea-Bissau to redouble its efforts to combat illiteracy, poverty, child marriage, prison overcrowding and impunity. In conclusion, it called upon the international community to support Guinea-Bissau in its efforts to consolidate peace, democracy and sustainable development.
- 821. Africa culture internationale expressed concern about the human rights situation in Guinea-Bissau. It noted that, although the country had recently celebrated the anniversary of its independence, it continued to face many failings, in particular in the political sphere. The country should be congratulated for recent progress achieved, with the removal of troops from the Economic Community of West African States, which had been stationed since 2012, following the coup d'état that had taken place in April of that year. The organization praised Guinea-Bissau for the development of recent partnerships. Nevertheless, the elections were still subject to some degree of controversy, and there was still some concern with regard to the transparency of the process. A democratic State must ensure that elections were held in a transparent manner and were not subject to dispute. The organization encouraged Guinea-Bissau to continue to make progress at both the national and the international levels.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

- 822. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 197 recommendations received, 193 had enjoyed the support of Guinea-Bissau and four had been noted.
- 823. The Vice-President appreciated the efforts of Guinea-Bissau to present its position on the recommendations and it regretted that a delegation had been unable to attend the session.

Guyana

- 824. The review of Guyana was held on 29 January 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 Guyana 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.6/35/GUY/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.6/35/GUY/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.6/35/GUY/3).
- 825. At its 34th meeting, on 5 October 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Guyana (see sect. C below).
- 826. The outcome of the review of Guyana comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/44/16), 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/44/16/Add.1).

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

- 827. The delegation of Guyana appreciated the constructive engagement of all the delegations during the State's third universal periodic review and it was honoured to present the State's responses to the recommendations received. Guyana was firmly committed to the universal periodic review process, as it provided an opportunity for the country to evaluate progress, identify gaps, strengthen engagement with its citizens and civil society organizations, and make incremental progress in compliance with its treaty obligations.
- 828. The delegation highlighted that, after the elections in March 2020, there had been repeated and documented efforts by officials in the Guyana Elections Commission and members of the former Government to derail the will of the electorate and that, as a result, the new Government had only assumed office after five months, on 2 August 2020. During that time, 100 countries had supported the efforts of the Guyanese people to peacefully defend their right to choose their Government. Guyana wished to record its deepest appreciation for the Secretary-General of the United Nations and members of the United Nations family for their support.
- 829. On 11 March 2020, Guyana had recorded its first COVID-19 case and since then the pandemic had spread across the country. The delegation highlighted the admirable efforts of the people of Guyana to fight against the virus, such as through the sewing and distribution of 200,000 cloth masks by volunteers and the collection and distribution of thousands of food hampers to poor and vulnerable communities. Bringing the spread of COVID-19 under control by ensuring the availability of an adequate number of test kits and of pharmaceutical and medical supplies throughout the country was now the number one priority, and Guyana

wished to thank all States that had come forward to assist its people and the country's health system to fight the pandemic.

- 830. During his inaugural speech, on 8 August 2020, the President of Guyana, His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, had outlined a development pathway defined by inclusive governance, respect for human rights, better conditions of employment, social harmony and reduced inequality for all. He had reiterated those commitments in his address to the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly, on 23 September 2020, and committed his Government to greater political inclusion and to enacting institutional reforms to ensure that democracy, the rule of law and constitutional rights were respected.
- 831. The delegation reported that many of the initiatives announced by the President of Guyana were in the process of implementation and would address many of the recommendations made during the country's universal periodic review. It highlighted that the budgetary allocations for health, education, housing and water accounted for 33 per cent of the G\$ 329 billion budget and would bring Guyana more into line with the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, the State's emerging transformative development projects would put the country on a more secure path towards reaching the Goals over the coming years.
- 832. The delegation acknowledged that, between June 2015 and July 2020, there had been no land titling of Amerindian/indigenous lands, but it stressed that the new Government was committed to urgently addressing pending and new applications for communal land titles and had provided the necessary budgetary support. The delegation affirmed that improving the quality of life of indigenous peoples and reducing the existing disparities were priorities of the new Government, which had restored programmes such as the Hinterland Electrification Programme and the Hinterland Education Improvement Programme, and it was improving access to water, transportation, connectivity and the provision of information and communications technology facilities at the community level.
- 833. When presenting the addendum to the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Guyana, the delegation stated that Guyana had supported 140 of the 199 recommendations it had received and had noted the remaining 59.
- 834. The delegation reiterated the State's readiness to continue to respond to invitations of the special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council and to cooperate fully with them. However, it noted that a commitment for a standing invitation to all special procedures might not be within the capacity of the Government at that time, but that the issue would continue to be open for consideration. The newly created Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance had been tasked with establishing the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up on its human rights treaty obligations.
- 835. Guyana would also continue to consider the recommendations regarding the ratification of various protocols and conventions, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. Although Guyana was not a party to the American Convention on Human Rights, it remained committed to observing the principles of the Charter of the Organization of American States. Guyana also remained firmly committed to the pledges made during the global High-Level Segment on Statelessness, convened by UNHCR in October 2019, and would continue its efforts to end statelessness, guided by its Constitution, national laws and policies and in partnership with international organizations.
- 836. The five constitutional rights commissions (the Ethnic Relations Commission, the Rights of the Child Commission, the Women and Gender Equality Commission, the Indigenous Peoples' Commission and the Human Rights Commission) formed a critical component of the constitutional architecture for the protection of human rights. However, Guyana was of the view that those commissions still needed to be more active in implementing their constitutional mandates and protecting human rights. Guyana was unable at the time to establish a national institution fully compliant with the Paris Principles, but it was discussing with United Nations agencies possible collaboration and technical assistance for strengthening the existing commissions.

- 837. The delegation noted that, under the Guyana-Norway partnership, Guyana would receive up to US\$ 250 million, channelled through the Guyana REDD+ Investment Fund, for its forest climate services, and a significant portion of the funds had been earmarked for interventions focusing on improving the human rights of the indigenous population and mitigating climate change. Regrettably, during the previous five years, that opportunity had been squandered and a US\$ 80 million project on alternative renewable energy had been shelved. However, the new Government had reinstated the Low Carbon Development Strategy as its national development agenda, with a pro-poor/pro-growth approach aimed at reducing the impact of climate change and protecting the country's rainforest and ecosystems.
- 838. Lastly, the delegation reiterated the State's commitment to implement another round of constitutional reforms and strengthen human rights legislation. It would also undertake an electoral reform based on the experience of the general and regional elections in March 2020. Both reform processes would commence in 2021 and would be subject to broad-based nationwide consultations.

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

- 839. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Guyana, 12 delegations made statements.
- 840. Nepal appreciated the constructive engagement of Guyana with the universal periodic review and it commended the State for having accepted most of the recommendations received. It welcomed the Green State Development Strategy: Vision 2040 of Guyana, which was aligned with the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, while also reinforcing the protection of the environment and disaster prevention.
- 841. Pakistan thanked Guyana for its update on the recommendations accepted. It commended the country for having accepted the majority of the recommendations received during the session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in January 2020, including those made by Pakistan. It appreciated the firm commitment of Guyana to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples, women's empowerment and social cohesion, and it wished the State success in the implementation of the recommendations.
- 842. The Philippines (by video message) welcomed the delegation of Guyana and acknowledged the State's constructive approach to the universal periodic review. It thanked Guyana for having accepted all three recommendations made by the Philippines, in the areas of climate adaptation, combating trafficking in persons and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples. It recognized the efforts of Guyana to make sure that its measures on climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction paid attention to the needs of vulnerable groups and to ensure a gender-sensitive handling of cases of trafficking in persons. Lastly, the Philippines wished Guyana success in the implementation of all the recommendations accepted.
- 843. Vanuatu supported the positive steps taken by Guyana to strengthen its legislative framework to promote and protect human rights. It noted the acceptance by Guyana of a large number of recommendations, including those made by Vanuatu encouraging Guyana to: increase the human, technical and financial resources allocated to the National Domestic Violence Oversight Committee and the National Task Force for the Prevention of Sexual Violence; accelerate the delivery of quality health services, including to rural areas; and, lastly, intensify efforts to ensure that oil and petroleum production would not contribute to climate change and adversely affect biodiversity.
- 844. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the interaction of Guyana with the universal periodic review and the presentation of the progress made and the challenges encountered by the country. Guyana had informed the Human Rights Council about its efforts to reduce the levels of crime and violence, a priority in its strategic plans of 2013 and 2017, in particular by tackling the problems of drugs, domestic violence, juvenile delinquency and trafficking in persons. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela hoped that its four recommendations would be welcomed by Guyana, including its recommendation to urgently adopt a suicide prevention plan, and it wished the country progress in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

- 845. Afghanistan commended the delegation of Guyana for the updates provided and for its constructive engagement during the third universal periodic review. It welcomed the acceptance by Guyana of two of its recommendations, in particular on ensuring access to education for the children of migrant workers, regardless of the migratory status of their parents. Afghanistan considered that national human rights institutions played an important role in promoting and protecting human rights and strengthening public participation and the rule of law. It regretted that its recommendation to set up a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles had not enjoyed the support of Guyana and it hoped that it would be re-examined in the future.
- 846. The Bahamas congratulated Guyana on the efforts to promote and protect human rights, including by having supported 140 of the 199 recommendations received. It also congratulated Guyana on the declaration of the results of the State's general elections and it wished the country every success under its new Government. The Bahamas was pleased that Guyana had accepted three of its four recommendations, including those on continuing efforts to combat all forms of racial discrimination and strengthening efforts to address rates of maternal mortality. It encouraged Guyana to consider the recommendation to undertake initiatives to combat child marriage, including through increased public awareness. Lastly, the Bahamas encouraged Guyana to continue to strengthen its climate change strategies and it called upon the international community to support the country towards that end.
- 847. Botswana welcomed the acceptance by Guyana of many recommendations, including those made by Botswana, and it noted with appreciation the measures taken to ensure access to justice, including the functioning of legal aid clinics in four regions of the country. It called upon Guyana to continue to allocate resources for the establishment of such clinics in the remaining regions. Botswana commended Guyana for having undertaken a review of its national stigma and discrimination policy, directed at mainstreaming gender and eliminating all negative practices that impeded equality and equity. Lastly, it noted with satisfaction that Guyana was implementing various measures aimed at improving public health, including the national strategy on HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections, and it encouraged the State to continue with those important initiatives.
- 848. Brazil congratulated Guyana on the State's engagement during the third cycle of the universal periodic review and it reiterated its appreciation for the country's ratification of several international instruments relating to the protection of children. Brazil welcomed the de facto moratorium on the death penalty and it encouraged Guyana to continue to take steps to achieve its total abolition. It also highlighted the continued efforts of Guyana to provide access to health, combat the prevalence of HIV/AIDS, achieve universal birth registration, support migrant workers and assist displaced persons.
- 849. China welcomed the positive engagement of Guyana with the universal periodic review and it commended the State's active efforts to promote sustainable economic and social development, implement the housing plan, develop education and health, and protect the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups. It thanked Guyana for having accepted its recommendations and it hoped that the State would continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, enhance poverty reduction, further improve people's livelihoods, and better protect the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities.
- 850. Cuba acknowledged the commitment of Guyana to the universal periodic review and thanked the State for having accepted the recommendations made by Cuba concerning the implementation of the national strategic plan and the national survey on persons with disabilities, as well as the extension of the quality and coverage of education at all levels, in particular for disadvantaged sectors of the population. Cuba wished Guyana every success in the implementation of all the recommendations accepted.
- 851. Jamaica noted with appreciation the update provided by Guyana. It welcomed the continued and unequivocal commitment of the new Government of Guyana to uphold the State's human rights obligations and to strengthen the legal, institutional and policy frameworks at the national level to further advance the human rights of all citizens, including women and children. Jamaica congratulated Guyana on the acceptance of 140 of the 199

recommendations received and on the State's constructive engagement throughout the review. It conveyed its best wishes to Guyana as it progressed to the critical implementation phase.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

- 852. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Guyana, one other stakeholder made a statement.
- 853. The Center for Global Nonkilling, in a joint statement with Conscience and Peace Tax International (CPTI), welcomed the acceptance by Guyana of the recommendation made by Vanuatu on the links between oil exploitation, climate change and the right to life. It noted that the world was calling for limiting the use of fossil fuels, and it wondered where solidarity should come from to help a country that needed such income from oil exploitation in order to find an alternative solution. It commended the plans for constitutional reform and called upon Guyana to uphold the right to life and not include the death penalty in the new Constitution. It also recommended that Guyana ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, thereby showing its commitment to preserve life.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

- 854. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 199 recommendations received, 140 had enjoyed the support of Guyana and 59 had been noted.
- 855. In its concluding remarks, the delegation stated that Guyana had made significant efforts to meet most of the commitments it had made, despite the many challenges faced, including unpredictable weather patterns caused by climate change, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the imposition of a policy of "graduation", which would see the country losing access to concessionary financing. It reaffirmed the firm commitment of Guyana to the universal periodic review and it stressed that the State would continue to upgrade its legal architecture, strengthen its national institutions and implement policies that would provide a more secure future to its citizens.

B. General debate on agenda item 6

- 856. At the 27th meeting, on 30 September 2020, 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: Azerbaijan¹⁰ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Ecuador), Bahrain, Germany (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine), India, Kuwait¹⁰ (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Nepal (by video message), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: China, Cuba, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq;
- (c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNFPA;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, African Development Association, African Green Foundation International, African Heritage Foundation Nigeria, Alsalam Foundation, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Association Thendral, European Centre for Law and Justice, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, Jeunesse étudiante tamoule, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Tamil Uzhagam, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, Universal Rights Group, UPR Info.

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

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Guinea

857. At its 22nd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/102 on the outcome of the review of Guinea.

Lao People's Democratic Republic

858. At its 23rd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/103 on the outcome of the review of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Lesotho

859. At its 23rd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/104 on the outcome of the review of Lesotho.

Kenya

860. At its 23rd meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/105 on the outcome of the review of Kenya.

Armenia

861. At its 24th meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/106 on the outcome of the review of Armenia.

Sweden

862. At its 25th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/107 on the outcome of the review of Sweden.

Grenada

863. At its 25th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/108 on the outcome of the review of Grenada.

Turkey

864. At its 25th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/109 on the outcome of the review of Turkey.

Kiribati

865. At its 25th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/110 on the outcome of the review of Kiribati.

Guinea-Bissau

866. At its 34th meeting, on 5 October 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/111 on the outcome of the review of Guinea-Bissau.

Guyana

867. At its 34th meeting, on 5 October 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 45/112 on the outcome of the review of Guyana.

VII. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

General debate on agenda item 7

- 868. At the 27th meeting, on 30 September 2020, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine made statements as the States concerned.
- 869. At the same meeting, and at the 29th meeting, on 1 October 2020, 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: Azerbaijan¹⁰ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain, Bangladesh, Chile, Indonesia, Kuwait¹⁰ (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Qatar, Senegal, South Africa¹⁰ (on behalf of the Group of African States), Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia (by video message), Maldives, Morocco, Mozambique, Oman, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen;
- (c) Observer for a national human rights institution: Independent Commission for Human Rights (State of Palestine) (by video message);
- Observers for non-governmental organizations: Africa culture internationale, Al-Haq (also on behalf of Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Human Rights & Democratic Participation Center "SHAMS", International Service for Human Rights, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling), Al Mezan Center for Human Rights (also on behalf of Al-Haq), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, B'nai B'rith, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Al-Haq, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Conectas Direitos Humanos, International Service for Human Rights and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling), Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, Defence for Children International, European Union of Jewish Students, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, Ingénieurs du monde, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International-Lawyers.org, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iraqi Development Organization, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (also on behalf of Al-Haq, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling), Palestinian Return Centre, Partners for Transparency, Servas International, Union of Arab Jurists, United Nations Watch, World Jewish Congress.
- 870. At the 28th meeting, on 30 September 2020, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

VIII. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

A. Panel discussion

Annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective throughout the work of the Human Rights Council and that of its mechanisms

- 871. At its 24th meeting, on 28 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 6/30, the annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective throughout its work and that of its mechanisms, with a focus on the theme "Gender and diversity: strengthening the intersectional perspective in the work of the Human Rights Council".
- 872. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel discussion.
- 873. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, Felipe Gonzáles Morales (by video message); President of the National Birth Equity Collaborative, Joia Crear Perry (by video message); founding member and Director of Southall Black Sisters, Pragna Patel (by video message).
- 874. 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: Austria (also on behalf of Croatia and Slovenia), Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Chile (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay), Fiji (by video message), Finland¹⁰ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Germany, Luxembourg¹⁰ (also on behalf of Belgium and the Netherlands), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland¹⁰ (also on behalf Australia and Canada), Viet Nam¹⁰ (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations);
 - (b) Representative of an observer State: Haiti;
- (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: Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (by video message), Plan International (also on behalf of Defence for Children International and Terre des hommes fédération internationale), Rutgers (also on behalf of Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, Center for Reproductive Rights, German Foundation for World Population, Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries, International Service for Human Rights, OutRight Action International, Plan International, Stichting CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality, stichting dance4life and Swedish Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights) (by video message).
- 875. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Armenia, Burkina Faso, Nepal, Republic of Korea (also on behalf of Australia, Indonesia, Mexico and Turkey), Senegal, Spain;
 - (b) Representatives of observer States: Botswana, Greece, Maldives, Switzerland;
- (c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organization: UNFPA;

- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Institut international pour les droits et le développement.
- 876. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

B. General debate on agenda item 8

- 877. At its 29th meeting, on 1 October 2020, 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, Austria (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and Uruguay), Azerbaijan¹⁰ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain, Estonia¹⁰ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Germany (on behalf of the European Union), India, Indonesia, Kuwait¹⁰ (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Nepal, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Sudan, Sweden¹⁰ (also on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, China, Cuba, Georgia, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Myanmar, Russian Federation;
- (c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Development Programme;
- (d) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (by video message);
- Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development (also on behalf of Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Center for Reproductive Rights, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Centro de Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos, Conectas Direitos Humanos, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Planned Parenthood Federation, International Service for Human Rights, Plan International, Rutgers, Stichting CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality, Swedish Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom), African Green Foundation International, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Asociación HazteOir.org, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association Elmostakbell pour le développement, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (also on behalf of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development), Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, 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 and Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco), Conselho Indigenista Missionário, European Centre for Law and Justice, Federation for Women and Family Planning, France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Health and Environment Program, Ingénieurs du monde, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International

Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Muslim Women's Union, International Women's Health Coalition, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés, Prahar, Servas International, Sikh Human Rights Group, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, United Nations Watch, Villages unis, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

878. At the 29th meeting, on 1 October 2020, the representatives of India, Brazil and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

National human rights institutions

879. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Australia introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.20, sponsored by Australia and co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay. Subsequently, Algeria, the Bahamas, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, Czechia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Iraq, Lebanon, Maldives, Mali, Mongolia, Myanmar, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Somalia, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

880. At the same meeting, the representatives of Afghanistan and the Philippines made general comments on the draft resolution.

881. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/22).

IX. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

A. Interactive dialogue with a special procedure mandate holder

Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent

- 882. At the 28th meeting, on 30 September 2020, the Chair of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, Dominique Day, presented the reports of the Working Group (A/HRC/45/44 and Add.1–2) (by video message).
- 883. At the same meeting, the representatives of Ecuador and Peru made statements as the States concerned.
- 884. Also at the same meeting, the national human rights institution Office of the Ombudsman (Ecuador) made a statement (by video message).
- 885. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair of the Working Group questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Ecuador¹⁰ (also on behalf of Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay), India, Indonesia, Libya, Nepal, Senegal, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Canada, Chad, China, Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, South Africa;
- (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: Chinese Association for International Understanding (by video message), International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights (by video message), International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iraqi Development Organization, Justiça Global (by video message), Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Terra de Direitos (by video message).
- 886. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Working Group answered questions and made her concluding remarks.
- 887. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Brazil made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

B. General debate on agenda item 9

- 888. At the 29th meeting, on 1 October 2020, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, Refiloe Litjobo, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/29, the report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the preparations for the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, which had been discussed during the seventeenth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group, held from 16 to 20 December 2019 and on 16 January 2020 (A/HRC/45/48).
- 889. At the same meeting, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/1, an oral update on the preparation of her report on systemic racism, 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. The High Commissioner also presented, pursuant to Council resolution 43/1, an oral update on police brutality against Africans and people of African descent.

- 890. Also at the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, in her capacity as coordinator of the International Decade for People of African Descent, a midterm report on her activities in follow-up to the implementation of the programme of activities within the framework of the Decade (A/HRC/45/47).
- 891. At the 30th meeting, on 1 October 2020, 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, Azerbaijan¹⁰ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), China¹⁰ (also on behalf of Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Germany (on behalf of the European Union), India, Indonesia, Kuwait¹⁰ (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway¹⁰ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Qatar, Spain, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Botswana, Chad, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Georgia, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Maldives, Morocco, Myanmar, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, State of Palestine;
- (c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNFPA;
- Observers for non-governmental organizations: Africa culture internationale, African Green Foundation International, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights (also on behalf of Al-Haq, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling), American Civil Liberties Union (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, Equality Now, Human Rights Advocates, Human Rights Watch, International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities, International Harm Reduction Association, International-Lawyers.org, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights, LatinoJustice PRLDEF, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Lesbian and Gay Federation in Germany, Minority Rights Group, OutRight Action International, Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression, US Human Rights Network and Women's Health in Women's Hands), Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association Elmostakbell pour le développement, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, International Service for Human Rights and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling), Center for Justice and International Law, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Conselho Indigenista Missionário, European Union of Jewish Students, Global Action on Aging, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Career Support Association (also on behalf of Japan Society for History Textbook), International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International-Lawyers.org, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism,

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, Liberation, Minority Rights Group, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Servas International, Sikh Human Rights Group, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Synergie feminine pour la paix et le développement durable, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, Universal Rights Group, Villages unis, World Barua Organization, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

- 892. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Japan, Namibia, Pakistan, South Africa and Turkey made statements in exercise of the right of reply.
- 893. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Japan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

- 894. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.44, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Argentina, Cuba, Ecuador, Haiti and Turkey. Subsequently, Armenia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Panama, Sri Lanka and Vanuatu joined the sponsors.
- 895. At the same meeting, the representative of Burkina Faso orally revised the draft resolution.
- 896. 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. The Chief of Programme Support and Management Services of OHCHR made a statement on the budgetary implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.
- 897. At the same meeting, the representative of Australia made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised.
- 898. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 45/23).

Mandate of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent

- 899. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.47, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Canada, Cuba, Ecuador and Haiti. Subsequently, Chile, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Kuwait (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Panama, the Republic of Korea and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 900. At the same meeting, the representative of Burkina Faso orally revised the draft resolution.
- 901. 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.
- 902. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 45/24).

X. Technical assistance and capacity-building

A. Interactive dialogue on cooperation with and assistance to Ukraine in the field of human rights

- 903. At the 31st meeting, on 1 October 2020, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 41/25, an oral presentation on the situation of human rights in Ukraine.
- 904. At the same meeting, the representative of Ukraine made a statement as the State concerned.
- 905. 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: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia;
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Azerbaijan, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;
- (e) Observer for a national human rights institution: Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (by video message);
- (f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Human Rights House Foundation (by video message), International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Minority Rights Group (by video message), Public Organization "Public Advocacy" (by video message), United Nations Watch, World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations.
- 906. At the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.
- 907. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.
- 908. At the 35th meeting, on 5 October 2020, the representative of Ukraine made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

B. Enhanced interactive dialogue on technical assistance and capacitybuilding in the field of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

- 909. At the 32nd meeting, on 2 October 2020, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/34, a comprehensive report on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/HRC/45/49).
- 910. At the same meeting, the Chair of the team of international experts on the situation in Kasai, Bacre Waly Ndiaye, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 41/26, the final report of the team (A/HRC/45/50) (by video message).
- 911. Also at the same meeting, the following made statements: Minister for Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, André Lite Asebea; National Coordinator of Réseau pour la Réforme du Secteur de Securité et de Justice, Emmanuel Kabengele Kalonji (by video message).

- 912. During the ensuing enhanced interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the presenters questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Australia, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Japan, Mauritania, Netherlands, Senegal, Spain, Sweden¹⁰ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway), Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, Botswana, China, Egypt, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Mozambique, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Human Rights Commission (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (by video message);
- (e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers (also on behalf of Franciscans International and Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund), Ensemble contre la peine de mort, International-Lawyers.org (by video message), Lutheran World Federation, Next Century Foundation (by video message), Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, World Organization against Torture, World Vision International (by video message).
- 913. At the same meeting, the presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

C. Interactive dialogue with the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya

- 914. At the 34th meeting, on 5 October 2020, the Chair of the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya, Mohamed Auajjar, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/39, an oral update on the work and findings of the Independent Fact-Finding Mission to the Council.
- 915. At the same meeting, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya made a statement (by video message).
- 916. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the presenters questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Eritrea, Finland¹⁰ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Germany, Italy, Japan, Kuwait¹⁰ (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Mauritania, Netherlands, Qatar, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, Chad, China, Egypt, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Mali, Malta, Morocco, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (by video message);
- (c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF, UN-Women;
 - (d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Aman against Discrimination (by video message), Amnesty International, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International-Lawyers.org, Next Century Foundation, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

917. At the same meeting, the presenters and members of the fact-finding mission to Libya, Tracy Robinson and Chaloka Beyani (by video message), answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

D. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia

- 918. At the 31st meeting, on 1 October 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, Rhona Smith, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/37, her report (A/HRC/45/51) (by video message).
- 919. At the same meeting, the representative of Cambodia made a statement as the State concerned.
- 920. 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: Australia, Czechia, Denmark (also on behalf of Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), Japan, Philippines (by video message), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam¹⁰ (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus, Belgium, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, France, Ireland, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Myanmar (by video message), New Zealand, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19: International Centre against Censorship (by video message), Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (by video message), CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (by video message), Next Century Foundation (by video message), World Organization against Torture.
- 921. At the same meeting, the representative of Cambodia made concluding remarks.
- 922. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic

- 923. At the 32nd meeting, on 2 October 2020, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic, Yao Agbetse, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/36, his report (A/HRC/45/55) (by video message).
- 924. At the same meeting, the representative of the Central African Republic made a statement as the State concerned.
- 925. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Belgium¹⁰ (also on behalf of Luxembourg and the Netherlands), Eritrea, Libya, Mauritania, Senegal, Sudan, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Chad, China, Egypt, France, Gabon, Ireland, Morocco, Portugal, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:
- (c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF, UN-Women;

- (d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Christian Solidarity Worldwide (by video message), Health and Environment Program, Institute for NGO Research (by video message), International-Lawyers.org (by video message), International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Next Century Foundation (by video message), World Evangelical Alliance.
- 926. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan

- 927. At the 33rd meeting, on 2 October 2020, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, Aristide Nononsi, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/35, his report (A/HRC/45/53) (by video message).
- 928. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner and the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Ali Ibn Abi Talib Abdelrahman Mahmoud, made statements.
- 929. During the ensuing enhanced interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert and other presenters questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Eritrea, Germany, Iceland¹⁰ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden), Japan, Kuwait¹⁰ (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Libya, Mauritania, Netherlands, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Spain, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Belgium, Botswana, Chad, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Morocco, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen;
 - (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, British Humanist Association (by video message), Christian Solidarity Worldwide (by video message), East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Next Century Foundation (by video message), World Evangelical Alliance, World Organization against Torture.
- 930. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert and other presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia

- 931. At the 33rd meeting, on 2 October 2020, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, Isha Dyfan, presented, pursuant to Human Rights resolution 42/33, her report (A/HRC/45/52 and Corr.1) (by video message).
- 932. At the same meeting, the representative of Somalia made a statement as the State concerned.
- 933. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:
- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Eritrea, Italy, Libya, Mauritania, Netherlands, Qatar, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Sweden¹⁰ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, Botswana, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Ireland, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen;
- (c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;
 - (d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Elizka Relief Foundation, Ingénieurs du monde, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Federation of Journalists, Next Century Foundation (by video message), Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Reporters sans frontières international (by video message).
- 934. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

E. General debate on agenda item 10

- 935. At the 35th meeting, on 5 October 2020, the Director of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR presented the report of the Secretary-General on the role and achievements of OHCHR in assisting the Government and the people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights (A/HRC/45/56), the report of the High Commissioner on cooperation with Georgia (A/HRC/45/54) and the report of the High Commissioner on the implementation of technical assistance provided to the National Commission of Inquiry to investigate allegations of violations and abuses committed by all parties to the conflict in Yemen (A/HRC/45/57).
- 936. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cambodia, Georgia and Yemen made statements as the States concerned.
- 937. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 10, during which the following made statements:
- Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Azerbaijan¹⁰ (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Bahamas, Bahrain, Bahrain (also on behalf of China, Egypt, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the Philippines, the Sudan, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen), Brazil (on behalf of the Community of Portuguesespeaking Countries), Bulgaria, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Canada¹⁰ (on behalf of States members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie), Germany (also on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and Serbia), India, Indonesia, Kuwait¹⁰ (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Libya, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan (also on behalf of China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines (by video message), Poland, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland¹⁰ (also on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Canada, Cyprus, Dominica, Eswatini, Fiji, the Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu and Zambia) (by video message), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Morocco, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi

Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (by video message);

- (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: International Organization of la Francophonie (by video message);
- (d) Observers for national human rights institutions: Commission on Human Rights (Philippines) (by video message), Office of the Public Defender (Ombudsman) (Georgia);
- Observers for non-governmental organizations: African Green Foundation International, American Association of Jurists (also on behalf of Habitat International Coalition, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples and Right Livelihood Award Foundation). Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association of World Citizens, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Global Institute for Water Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Health and Environment Program, Human Rights House Foundation, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (also on behalf of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation), International Lesbian and Gay Association, Liberation, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Prahar, Servas International, Universal Rights Group, Villages unis, World Barua Organization, World Organization against Torture (also on behalf of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Franciscans International, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, International Drug Policy Consortium, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues and International Service for Human Rights).
- 938. At the same meeting, the representative of Georgia made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

F. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Technical assistance and capacity-building to further improve human rights in the Sudan

- 939. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.40 as orally revised, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Qatar, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 940. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of 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.
- 941. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.
- 942. 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.
- 943. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 45/25).

Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights

- 944. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of Bahrain introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.51, sponsored by Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen, and co-sponsored by Kuwait, Mauritania, Somalia, Tunisia and the State of Palestine. Subsequently, Algeria, Eritrea, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya and Oman joined the sponsors.
- 945. At the same meeting, the representative of Yemen made a statement as the State concerned.
- 946. 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 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.
- 947. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/26).

Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights

- 948. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2020, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of Somalia, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.52, sponsored by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Somalia, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Qatar, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, the Sudan, Turkey, Ukraine and Yemen. Subsequently, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Latvia, Malta, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.
- 949. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.
- 950. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Somalia made a statement as the State concerned.
- 951. 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 programme budget implications of the draft resolution.
- 952. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/27).

Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights

953. At the 38th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the representative of Thailand (also on behalf of Brazil, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Qatar, Singapore and Turkey) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.26, sponsored by Brazil, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand and Turkey, and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Fiji, Finland, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Somalia, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Viet Nam. Subsequently, Armenia, Australia, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nepal, North Macedonia, Pakistan,

Panama, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

- 954. 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.
- 955. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/32).

Technical cooperation and capacity-building for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines

- 956. At the 38th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the representatives of Iceland and the Philippines introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.38 as orally revised, sponsored by Iceland and the Philippines, and co-sponsored by Hungary, India, Nepal, Norway, Thailand and Turkey. Subsequently, Albania, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Montenegro, Myanmar, New Zealand, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Ukraine joined the sponsors.
- 957. At the same meeting, the representatives of Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Japan and Mexico made a general comment on the draft resolution as orally revised.
- 958. 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.
- 959. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 45/33).

Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

- 960. At the 39th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.53, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Turkey. Subsequently, Belgium, Costa Rica, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Switzerland joined the sponsors.
- 961. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cameroon and Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 962. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo made a statement as the State concerned.
- 963. 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.
- 964. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/34).

Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic

965. At the 39th meeting, on 7 October 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.54, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany,

Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

- 966. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cameroon and Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution.
- 967. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Central African Republic made a statement as the State concerned.
- 968. 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.
- 969. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 45/35).
- 970. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote and general comments on all the draft proposals adopted under agenda item 10.

Annex I

Attendance

Members

AfghanistanDemocratic Republic of the CongoNigeriaAngolaDenmarkPakistanArgentinaEritreaPeruArmeniaFijiPhilippinesAustraliaGermanyPoland

Austria India Republic of Korea

Bahamas Indonesia Oatar Bahrain Italy Senegal Slovakia Bangladesh Japan Brazil Libya Somalia Marshall Islands Bulgaria Spain Burkina Faso Sudan Mauritania Cameroon Mexico Togo Chile Namibia Ukraine Czechia Nepal Uruguay

Netherlands Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Albania Gabon Mozambique Algeria Georgia Myanmar Andorra Greece Nauru Azerbaijan Guatemala New Zealand Barbados Guinea Nicaragua Belarus Guyana Niger

Belgium Haiti North Macedonia

Bolivia (Plurinational Honduras Norway
State of) Hungary Oman
Bosnia and Herzegovina Iceland Panama
Botswana Iran (Islamic Republic of) Paraguay
Brunei Darussalam Iraq Portugal

Burundi Ireland Republic of Moldova

Cabo Verde Israel Romania

Cambodia Jamaica Russian Federation

Canada Jordan Rwanda Chad Kazakhstan Saudi Arabia China Kenya Sierra Leone Kuwait Colombia Singapore Comoros Slovenia Kyrgyzstan Lao People's Democratic Republic Costa Rica South Africa Côte d'Ivoire Latvia South Sudan Croatia Lebanon Sri Lanka Cuba Liechtenstein Sweden Cyprus Lithuania Switzerland

Democratic People's Luxembourg Syrian Arab Republic

Republic of Korea Madagascar Tajikistan Djibouti Malawi Thailand Ecuador Malaysia Timor-Leste Maldives Egypt Tunisia El Salvador Mali Turkey Estonia Malta Turkmenistan Ethiopia Mongolia Uganda

Finland Montenegro United Arab Emirates

France Morocco

United Kingdom of United Republic of Tanzania Viet Nam
Great Britain and Uzbekistan Yemen
Northern Ireland Vanuatu Zimbabwe

Non-Member States represented by observers

Holy See

State of Palestine

United Nations

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees United Nations Children's Fund United Nations Development Programme United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women United Nations Environment Programme United Nations Institute for Training and Research

United Nations Population Fund

Intergovernmental organizations

Cooperation Council for Arab States of the Gulf European Union International Development Law Organization International Organization of la Francophonie Organization of American States Organization of Islamic Cooperation

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

Commission on Human Rights
(Philippines)
Global Alliance of National Human Rights
Institutions
Independent Commission for Human
Rights (State of Palestine)
National Human Rights Commission (Nigeria)
Office of the Ombudsman (Ecuador)
Office of the Public Defender (Ombudsman) (Georgia)
Scottish Human Rights Commission
Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights
Rights (Greece)

Non-governmental organizations

African Green Foundation International

ABC Tamil Oli African Heritage Foundation Nigeria Action Canada for Population and African Regional Agricultural Credit Association Aid Organization Development Action internationale pour la paix et le Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work développement dans la région des Grands Al-Haq Alliance Defending Freedom Alliance globale contre les mutilations Action of Human Movement Action pour la protection des droits de génitales féminines l'homme en Mauritanie Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights Africa culture internationale Alsalam Foundation African Development Association Aman against Discrimination

American Association of Jurists

American Civil Liberties Union

Americans for Democracy and Human

Rights in Bahrain

Amnesty International

Anti-Slavery International

Arab NGO Network for Development

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

Association Africa 21

Association apprentissage sans frontières

Association culturelle des Tamouls en

Association d'entraide médicale Guinée

Association du développement communautaire en Mauritanie

Association Elmostakbell pour le

développement

Association for Defending Victims of

Terrorism

Association for the Prevention of Torture Association for the Protection of Women

and Children's Rights

Association Ma'onah for Human Rights

and Immigration

Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit

Association of World Citizens

Association PANAFRICA

Association pour le développement humain en Mauritanie

Association pour les victimes du monde

Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi

Association Thendral

Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII

Baha'i International Community

Baptist World Alliance

Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center

Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges

Beijing Zhicheng Migrant Workers' Legal Aid and Research Center

B'nai B'rith

British Humanist Association

Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies

Caritas Internationalis – International

Confederation of Catholic Charities

Center for Environmental and Management Studies

Center for Global Nonkilling

Center for International Environmental Law

Center for Justice and International Law

Center for Organisation Research and Education

Center for Reproductive Rights

Centre Europe-tiers monde

Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment

Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy

Child Rights Connect

China Family Planning Association

China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation

China NGO Network for International Exchanges

China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS)

Chinese Association for International Understanding

Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign

Countries

Christian Solidarity Worldwide

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation

Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos

Originarios Andinos "Capaj"

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

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)

Concile mondial de congrès diplomatiques des aumoniers pour la paix universelle des droits humains et juridiques Conectas Direitos Humanos

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd

Conscience and Peace Tax International (CPTI)

Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle (COJEP)

Conselho Indigenista Missionário

Conselho Federal da Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil

Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations

Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience

"Coup de pousse" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud

Defence for Children International

Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers

Earthjustice

East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project

Ecumenical Federation of Constantinopolitans

Edmund Rice International

Elizka Relief Foundation

Ensemble contre la peine de mort

Equality Now

European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme

European Union of Jewish Students

Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie

van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland

Federation for Women and Family Planning

FIAN International

Fondation d'Auteuil

Foundation for Gaia

France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand

Franciscans International

Freemuse: The World Forum on Music and Censorship

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

Genève pour les droits de l'homme:

formation internationale Global Action on Aging

Global Initiative for Economic, Social and

Cultural Rights

Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health

Global Welfare Association Globethics.net Foundation Grupo Intercultural Almaciga

Guinée humanitaire

Health and Environment Program

HelpAge International

Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights Humanist Institute for Cooperation with

Developing Countries

Human Rights Council of Australia, Inc.

Human Rights House Foundation

Human Rights Information and Training Center

Human Rights Watch Ingénieurs du monde Institute for NGO Research 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

International Association of Crafts and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises International Association of Democratic

Lawyers

International Association of Jewish

Lawyers and Jurists

International Association of Soldiers for

Peace

International Bar Association

International Buddhist Relief Organisation International Career Support Association International Catholic Child Bureau

International Catholic Migration

Commission

International Commission of Jurists

International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (Switzerland)

International Council Supporting Fair Trial

and Human Rights

International Educational Development

International Eurasia Press Fund

International Federation for Human Rights Leagues

International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities

International Federation of Action by Christians for the

Abolition of Torture (ACAT)

International Federation of Journalists
International Fellowship of Reconciliation

International Forum

International Humanist and Ethical Union

International Human Rights Association of American

Minorities

International-Lawyers.org

International Lesbian and Gay Association International Movement against All Forms of

Discrimination and Racism

International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus

International Muslim Women's Union

International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse International Organization for the Elimination of all

Forms of Racial Discrimination

International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education

International Pen

International Planned Parenthood Federation

International Service for Human Rights

International Volunteerism Organization for Women,

Education and Development

International Women's Health Coalition

International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations

Iraqi Development Organization Islamic Human Rights Commission

Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco

Iuventum

Jssor Youth Organization

Jubilee Campaign Justiça Global

Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture

La manif pour tous Law Council of Australia Lawyers for Lawyers

Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada

Le pont Liberation

Lucis Trust Association Lutheran World Federation

Ma'arij Foundation for Peace and Development

Maa for Peace, Development and Human Rights

Association

Make Mothers Matter Minority Rights Group

Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group

Mothers Legacy Project

Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples

Next Century Foundation

Noble Institution for Environmental Peace

Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés

Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence

Palestinian Center for Development and Media Freedoms "MADA"

Palestinian Centre for Human Rights

Palestinian Return Centre

Pan African Union for Science and

Technology

Partners for Transparency

Peace Brigades International Switzerland

Penal Reform International

Plan International

Prahar

Presse emblème campagne

Public Organization "Public Advocacy"

Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme

Reporters sans frontières international

Reprieve

Réseau international des droits humains

Réseau unité pour le développement de

Mauritanie

Right Livelihood Award Foundation

Rutgers

Save the Children International

Schweizerische Arbeitsgemeinschaft der

Jugendverbände Servas International Sikh Human Rights Group

Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos

Humanos

Society for Development and Community

Empowerment

Society for Threatened Peoples

Soka Gakkai International

Solidarité Suisse-Guinée

South Youth Organization

Sovereign Imperial and Royal House of

Ghassan

Stichting CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality

Stichting Ezidis

Swedish Association for Sexuality Education

Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable

Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression

Tamil Uzhagam

Terra de Direitos The Chittagong Hill Tracts Foundation

The Law Society Third World Network Union of Arab Jurists

Union of Northwest Human Rights Organisations

United Nations Association of China

United Nations Watch United Schools International

United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation

Universal Rights Group

UPR Info

Village Suisse ONG

Villages unis

Women's Human Rights International Association

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

World Barua Organization

World Environment and Resources Council

World Evangelical Alliance

World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations

World Jewish Congress World Muslim Congress

World Organization against Torture

World Vision International

Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights

Zéro pauvre Afrique

Annex II

Agenda

- Organizational and procedural matters.
 Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.
 Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.
 Human rights situations that require the Council's attention.
 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-fifth session

Documents issued in the general series

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/1	1	Agenda and annotations
A/HRC/45/1/Corr.1	1	Corrigendum
A/HRC/45/2	1	Report of the Human Rights Council on its forty-fifth session
A/HRC/45/3	3, 4, 7, 9, 10	Communications report of Special Procedures
A/HRC/45/4	2	Composition of the staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/5	2	Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/6	2	Situation of human rights in Yemen, including violations and abuses since September 2014: report of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen
A/HRC/45/7	3	Negative impact of unilateral coercive measures: priorities and road map: report of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights
A/HRC/45/8	3	Impact of the coronavirus disease pandemic on contemporary forms of slavery and slavery-like practices: report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences
A/HRC/45/8/Add.1	3	Visit to Togo
A/HRC/45/9	3	Impact of the use of private military and security services in immigration and border management on the protection of the rights of all migrants: report of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination
A/HRC/45/9/Add.1	3	Visit to Switzerland
A/HRC/45/10	3	Progressive realization of the human rights to water and sanitation: report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation
A/HRC/45/10/Add.1	3	Seguimiento a la visita oficial a México
A/HRC/45/10/Add.2	3	Follow-up report on the visit of the Special Rapporteur to India

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/10/Add.3	3	Follow-up report on the visit of the Special Rapporteur to Mongolia
A/HRC/45/11	3	Progress towards the realization of the human rights to water and sanitation (2010–2020): report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation
A/HRC/45/12	3	Duty to prevent exposure to the COVID-19 virus: report of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes
A/HRC/45/12/Add.1	3	Visit to Canada
A/HRC/45/12/Add.2	3	Visit to Brazil
A/HRC/45/12/Add.3	3	Visit to Canada: comments by the State
A/HRC/45/12/Add.4	3	Visit to Brazil: comments by the State
A/HRC/45/13	3	Enforced or involuntary disappearances: report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances
A/HRC/45/13/Add.1	3	Visit to Tajikistan
A/HRC/45/13/Add.2	3	Visit to Kyrgyzstan
A/HRC/45/13/Add.3	3	Report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances on standards and public policies for an effective investigation of enforced disappearances
A/HRC/45/13/Add.4	3	Follow-up to the recommendations made by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances in its report on its visit to Turkey from 14 to 18 March 2016 (A/HRC/33/51/Add.1): report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances
A/HRC/45/13/Add.5	3	Visit to Tajikistan: comments by the State
A/HRC/45/13/Add.6	3	Visit to Kyrgyzstan: comments by the State
A/HRC/45/13/Add.7	3	Follow-up to the recommendations made by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances in report on its visit to Turkey from 14 to 18 March 2016 (A/HRC/33/51/Add.1): comments of the Government of Turkey
A/HRC/45/14	3	Human rights of older persons: the data gap: report of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons
A/HRC/45/14/Add.1	3	Visit to China
A/HRC/45/14/Add.2	3	Visit to New Zealand
A/HRC/45/14/Add.3	3	Report of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons on her visit to China: comments by the State
A/HRC/45/15	3	Right to development: report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to development

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/15/Add.1	3	Visit to Switzerland
A/HRC/45/16	3	Arbitrary detention: report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
A/HRC/45/16/Add.1	3	Visit to Greece
A/HRC/45/16/Add.2	3	Visit to Qatar
A/HRC/45/16/Add.3	3	Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention on its visit to Qatar: comments by the State
A/HRC/45/17	3	Report of the Working Group on the Right to Development on its twenty-first session: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/45/18	3	Report of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to elaborate the content of an international regulatory framework, without prejudging the nature thereof, to protect human rights and ensure accountability for violations and abuses relating to the activities of private military and security companies on its second session: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/45/19	2, 3	Good practices and challenges to respecting, protecting and fulfilling all human rights in the elimination of preventable maternal mortality and morbidity: follow-up report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/20	2, 3	Question of the death penalty: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/45/21	2, 3	Right to development: report of the Secretary- General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/22	2, 3	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the rights of indigenous peoples
A/HRC/45/23	3	Study of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the contribution of the special procedures in assisting States and other stakeholders in the prevention of human rights violations and abuses: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/45/24	2, 3	Evaluation of the implementation of the third phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/25	2, 3	High-level panel discussion marking the twenty- fifth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/26	3	Effects of artificial intelligence, including profiling, automated decision-making and machine-learning technologies, on the enjoyment of the right to privacy: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/45/27	2, 3	Terrorism and human rights: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/28	3	The interplay between the economic policies and safeguards of international financial institutions and good governance at the local level: report of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order
A/HRC/45/29	3	Annual report of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development
A/HRC/45/30	2, 3	Human rights of migrants: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/45/31	4	Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
A/HRC/45/32	4	Report of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi
A/HRC/45/33	4	Report of the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
A/HRC/45/34	3	Rights of indigenous peoples: report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples
A/HRC/45/34/Add.1	3	Visit to the Congo
A/HRC/45/34/Add.2	3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples on her visit to the Congo: comments by the State
A/HRC/45/34/Add.3	3	Regional consultation on the rights of indigenous peoples in Asia: report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples
A/HRC/45/35	3, 5	Repatriation of ceremonial objects, human remains and intangible cultural heritage under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: report of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
A/HRC/45/36	2, 5	Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/45/37	5	Annual report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/45/38	3, 5	Right to land under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: a human rights focus: study of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
A/HRC/45/39	3, 5	Study on national policies and human rights: report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/40	3, 5	Importance of a legally binding instrument on the right to development: report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee
A/HRC/45/41	3, 5	Report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on the negative effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/45/42	2, 8	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/45/43	2, 8	Activities of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions in accrediting national institutions in compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles): report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/45/44	9	COVID-19, systemic racism and global protests: report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent
A/HRC/45/44/Add.1	9	Visit to Ecuador
A/HRC/45/44/Add.2	9	Visit to Peru
A/HRC/45/44/Add.3	9	Report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent on her visit to Peru: comments by the State
A/HRC/45/45	3	Memorialization processes in the context of serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law: the fifth pillar of transitional justice: report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence
A/HRC/45/45/Add.1	3	Visit to Sri Lanka
A/HRC/45/45/Add.2	3	Visit to El Salvador
A/HRC/45/45/Add.3	3	Visit to the Gambia
A/HRC/45/46	9	Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards on its eleventh session: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/45/47	2, 9	Activities in follow-up to the implementation of the programme of activities within the framework of the International Decade for People of African Descent: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/48	9	Preparations for marking the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action: report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/49	2, 10	Human rights situation and the activities of the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/50	10	Report of the team of international experts on the situation in Kasai
A/HRC/45/51	2, 10	Situation of human rights in Cambodia: report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia
A/HRC/45/51/Add.1	2, 10	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia: comments by the State
A/HRC/45/52	10	Situation of human rights in Somalia: report of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia
A/HRC/45/52/Corr.1	10	Corrigendum
A/HRC/45/53	10	Situation of human rights in the Sudan: report of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan
A/HRC/45/53/Add.1	10	Report of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan: comments by the State
A/HRC/45/54	2, 10	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on cooperation with Georgia
A/HRC/45/55	10	Human rights situation in the Central African Republic: report of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic
A/HRC/45/56	2, 10	Role and achievements of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/45/57	2, 10	Implementation of technical assistance provided to the National Commission of Inquiry to investigate allegations of violations and abuses committed by all parties to the conflict in Yemen: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/58	2, 3	Intersessional round table on the participation of indigenous peoples in meetings of the Human Rights Council on issues affecting them: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/45/59	1	Election of members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee: note by the Secretary- General
A/HRC/45/59/Add.1	1	Election of members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee: addendum

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/60	4	Report of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar
A/HRC/45/61	5	Annual report of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: note by the Secretariat

Documents issued in the conference room papers series

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/CRP.1	4	Conclusions détaillées de la Commission d'enquête sur le Burundi
A/HRC/45/CRP.3	4	"There is nothing left for us": starvation as a method of warfare in South Sudan: conference room paper of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan
A/HRC/45/CRP.4	4	Transitional justice and accountability: a roadmap for sustainable peace in South Sudan: conference room paper of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan
A/HRC/45/CRP.7	2	Situation of human rights in Yemen, including violations and abuses since September 2014: detailed findings of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen
A/HRC/45/CRP.8	10	Situation of human rights in Ukraine (16 February – 31 July 2020): Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/CRP.9	10	Human rights in the administration of justice in conflict-related criminal cases in Ukraine (April 2014–April 2020)
A/HRC/45/CRP.10	3	The human right to an effective remedy: the case of lead-contaminated housing in Kosovo: Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, Baskut Tuncak
A/HRC/45/CRP.11	4	Detailed findings of the independent international fact finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Documents issued in the limited series

Symbol	Agenda it	rem .
A/HRC/45/L.1	1	Situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath
A/HRC/45/L.2	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.3	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.4	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.5	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.6	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1

Documents issued in the limited series

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/L.7	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.8	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.9	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.10	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.11	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.12	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.13	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.14	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.15	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.16	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.17	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.18	1	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.1
A/HRC/45/L.19	3	Enforced or involuntary disappearances
A/HRC/45/L.20	8	National human rights institutions
A/HRC/45/L.21	3	Mandate of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order
A/HRC/45/L.22	3	Human rights and unilateral coercive measures
A/HRC/45/L.23	3	The right to development
A/HRC/45/L.24 and Rev.1	3	Promoting and protecting the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000)
A/HRC/45/L.25	2	Human rights situation in Yemen
A/HRC/45/L.26	10	Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights
A/HRC/45/L.27	3	Local government and human rights
A/HRC/45/L.28 and Rev.1	3	The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation
A/HRC/45/L.29	3	The role of good governance in the promotion and protection of human rights
A/HRC/45/L.30	1	Report of the Advisory Committee
A/HRC/45/L.31	3	Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence
A/HRC/45/L.32	5	The contribution of the Human Rights Council to the prevention of human rights violations
A/HRC/45/L.33	3	Terrorism and human rights
A/HRC/45/L.34	3	Human rights and indigenous peoples
A/HRC/45/L.35	3	Human rights and the regulation of civilian acquisition, possession and use of firearms

Documents issued in the limited series

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/L.36 and Rev.1	4	Situation of human rights in Burundi
A/HRC/45/L.37	3	Eliminating inequality within and among States for the realization of human rights
A/HRC/45/L.38	10	Technical cooperation and capacity-building for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines
A/HRC/45/L.39	3	Mandate of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to elaborate the content of an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies
A/HRC/45/L.40	10	Technical assistance and capacity-building to further improve human rights in the Sudan
A/HRC/45/L.41	3	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes
A/HRC/45/L.42 and Rev.1	3	The safety of journalists
A/HRC/45/L.43 and Rev.1	4	Situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
A/HRC/45/L.44	9	Commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action
A/HRC/45/L.45	4	Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic
A/HRC/45/L.46 and Rev.1	3	Promoting, protecting and fulfilling women's and girls' full enjoyment of human rights in humanitarian situations
A/HRC/45/L.47	9	Mandate of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent
A/HRC/45/L.48 and Rev.1	3	Rights of the child: realizing the rights of the child through a healthy environment
A/HRC/45/L.49	3	People-centred approaches in promoting and protecting human rights (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.50	1	Postponement of the implementation of certain activities mandated by the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/45/L.51	10	Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights
A/HRC/45/L.52	10	Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights
A/HRC/45/L.53	10	Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
A/HRC/45/L.54	10	Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic

Documents issued in the limited series

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/L.55 and Rev.1	2	Strengthening cooperation and technical assistance in the field of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
A/HRC/45/L.56	3	Elimination of discrimination against women and girls in sport (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.57	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.48/Rev.1
A/HRC/45/L.58	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.48/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.59	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.48/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.60	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.48/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.61	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.48/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.62	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.48/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.63	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.48/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.64	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.48/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.65	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.66	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.67	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.68	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.69	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.70	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.71	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.72	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.73	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.74	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.75	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)

Documents issued in the limited series

Symbol	Agenda iten	n
A/HRC/45/L.76	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.77	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.78	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)
A/HRC/45/L.79	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/45/L.46/Rev.1 (withdrawn)

Symbol	Agenda ite	m
A/HRC/45/G/1	10	Note verbale dated 15 July 2020 from the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/G/2	10	Note verbale dated 27 July 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Cambodia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/G/3	4	Note verbale dated 1 September 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/45/G/4	4	Note verbale dated 7 September 2020 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/45/G/5	4	Note verbale dated 7 September 2020 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/45/G/6	4	Note verbale dated 7 September 2020 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/45/G/7	4	Note verbale dated 7 September 2020 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/45/G/8	4	Note verbale dated 7 September 2020 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

Symbol	Agenda ite	m
A/HRC/45/G/9	4	Note verbale dated 1 September 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/45/G/10	4	Note verbale dated 3 September 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/45/G/11	4	Note verbale dated 27 September 2020 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/45/G/12	4	Note verbale dated 28 September 2020 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/45/G/13	4	Note verbale dated 1 October 2020 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/45/G/14	10	Note verbale dated 2 October 2020 from the Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/G/15	4	Note verbale dated 6 October 2020 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
A/HRC/45/G/16	2	Note verbale dated 6 October 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/G/17	2	Note verbale dated 7 October 2020 from the Permanent Missions of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and the Sudan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/G/18	4	Note verbale dated 14 October 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

Symbol	Agenda ite	m
A/HRC/45/G/19	4	Note verbale dated 14 October 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/45/G/20	4	Note verbale dated 14 October 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/45/G/21	4	Note verbale dated 14 October 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/45/G/22	4	Note verbale dated 14 October 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/45/G/23	4	Note verbale dated 14 October 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/45/G/24	4	Note verbale dated 14 October 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/45/G/25	9	Note verbale dated 15 October 2020 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

Documents issued in the national institutions series

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NI/1	2	Written submission by The Philippines: Commission on Human Rights
A/HRC/45/NI/2	3	Communication de la Commission Nationale des Droits de l'Homme du Togo
A/HRC/45/NI/3	3	Mexico: National Human Rights Commission
A/HRC/45/NI/4	3	Written submission by Scotland: Scottish Human Rights Commission
A/HRC/45/NI/5	3	Written submission by Greece: National Commission for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/NI/6	3	Mexico: National Human Rights Commission

Documents issued in the national institutions series

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NI/7	3	Guatemala: Office of the Human Rights Advocate
A/HRC/45/NI/8	7	Written submission by the State of Palestine: Independent Commission for Human Rights
A/HRC/45/NI/9	10	Written submission by Georgia: Public Defender's Office
A/HRC/45/NI/10	3	Written submission by The Philippines: Commission on Human Rights
A/HRC/45/NI/11	4	Written submission by the Human Rights Defender of Armenia
A/HRC/45/NI/12	4	Written submission by the Human Rights Defender of Armenia
A/HRC/45/NI/13	6	Written submission by the National Commission on Human Rights of Kenya

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/1	2, 3	Joint written statement submitted by International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, ODHIKAR – Coalition for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/2	8	Written statement submitted by Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/3	2, 3	Joint written statement submitted by Foundation of International Servant leadership Exchange Association, Amis des Etrangers au Togo (A.D.E.T.), Ashiana Collective Development Council, Association nationale des partenaires migrants, Chia-Funkuin Foundation, Conglomeration of Bengal's Hotel Owners, Forum méditerranéen pour la promotion des droits du citoyen, Human Rights Sanrakshan Sansthaa, Internationale Gemeinschaft für die Unterstützung von Kriegsopfern e.V., Murna Foundation, Organization for Research and Community Development, Pakistan Council for Social Welfare and Human Rights, Udyama, Voice of Animal Nepal, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/4	3	Written statement submitted by International Muslim Women's Union, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/5	3	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/6	4	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status

Symbol	Agenda ite	em .
A/HRC/45/NGO/7	2, 3	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/8	2	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/9	2, 10	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/10	2	Written statement submitted by Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/11	3	Written statement submitted by Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/12	10	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/13	3	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/14	2	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/15	2, 4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/16	2, 4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/17	2, 4	Written statement submitted by Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/18	2, 10	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/19	2, 4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/20	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/21	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

Symbol	Agenda item	
		et le développement, Association Nationale des Echanges Entre Jeunes, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Habitat International Coalition, International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Paz y Cooperación, 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/45/NGO/22	2, 4	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/23	2, 5	Written statement submitted by Indian Law Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/24	2, 5	Written statement submitted by Indian Law Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/25	2, 4	Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The / Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/26	2, 3	Written statement submitted by International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/27	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/28	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/29	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/30	2, 3	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/31	2, 4	Written statement submitted by International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/32	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/33	2, 3	Joint written statement submitted by African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies, Centre du Commerce International pour le Développement., Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/34	2, 5	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/35	2	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/36	2, 10	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/37	2, 3	Joint written statement* submitted by International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, American Association of Jurists, Edmund Rice International Limited, International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development - VIDES, InternationalLawyers.Org, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, Mouvement International d'Apostolate des Milieux Sociaux Independants, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/38	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Partners for Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/39	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Partners For Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/40	2	Joint written statement submitted by InternationalLawyers.Org, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/41	2, 3	Joint written statement submitted by International Federation of Business and Professional Women, Zonta International, non-governmental organizations in general consultative status, Graduate Women International (GWI), Canadian Federation of University Women, Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO), Latter-day Saint Charities, Women

Symbol	Agenda item	
		Graduates - USA, Inc., non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/42	2, 4	Written statement submitted by World Organisation Against Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/43	3	Written statement submitted by Planetary Association for Clean Energy, Inc., The, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/44	2, 6	Written statement submitted by Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/45	2, 3	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, nongovernmental organizations in general consultative status, Dominicans for Justice and Peace - Order of Preachers, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status, Soka Gakkai International, a nongovernmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/46	3	Written statement submitted by International- Lawyers.Org, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/47	2, 3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 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/45/NGO/48	2, 3	Written statement submitted by Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, a nongovernmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/49	2, 7	Written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/50	2, 9	Written statement submitted by Servas International, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/51	2, 4	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/52	2, 3	Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/53	2, 10	Written statement submitted by Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Symbol	Agenda iter	n
A/HRC/45/NGO/54	4	Written statement submitted by Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/55	2, 3	Exposición escrita presentada por Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/45/NGO/56	2, 3	Exposé écrit présenté par Association Internationale pour l'égalité des femmes, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/45/NGO/57	2, 3	Exposición escrita presentada por Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/45/NGO/58	3	Joint written statement submitted by Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Edmund Rice International Limited, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/59	3	Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/60	3	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/61	3	Written statement submitted by Soroptimist International, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/62	3, 10	Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/63	3	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/64	3	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/65	3	Written statement submitted by Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/66	3	Written statement submitted by Udisha, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/67	3	Written statement submitted by Chinese Association for International Understanding, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/68	3	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/69	3	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/70	3	Written statement submitted by International Human Rights Association of American Minorities (IHRAAM), a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/71	3	Written statement submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/72	3	Written statement submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/73	3	Written statement submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/74	3	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/75	3	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/76	3, 10	Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/77	3	Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/78	10	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/79	10	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/80	4	Written statement submitted by Human Rights League of the Horn of Africa, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/81	4	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/82	4	Written statement submitted by Public Organization "Public Advocacy", a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/83	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/84	10	Joint written statement submitted by African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies, Centre du Commerce International pour le Développement, Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/85	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/86	6, 9	Written statement submitted by Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, a non- governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/87	4	Written statement submitted by Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, a non- governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/88	10	Exposé écrit présenté par International Catholic Child Bureau, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/45/NGO/89	4, 6	Written statement submitted by Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, a non- governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/90	10	Written statement submitted by International Educational Development, Inc., a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/91	10	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/92	6	Written statement submitted by International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/93	4	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/94	4	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/95	10	Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/96	10	Written statement submitted by Liberal International, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/97	3	Joint written statement submitted by Action on Smoking and Health, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status, International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, a non-governmental organization on the roster

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/98	4	Joint written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, Alliance Defending Freedom, Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, The - (ERLC), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/99	3	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/100	3, 10	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/101	3	Written statement submitted by BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/102	3	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/103	3	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/104	3	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/105	9	Joint written statement submitted by American Civil Liberties Union, International Service for Human Rights, US Human Rights Network Inc., non- governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/106	4	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/107	3	Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/108	4	Written statement submitted by International Educational Development, Inc., a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/109	4, 6	Written statement submitted by International Educational Development, Inc., a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/110	3	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/111	4, 8	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/112	10	Written statement submitted by Public Organization "Public Advocacy", a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/113	9	Written statement submitted by African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/114	7	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/115	3	Written statement submitted by The Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/116	3	Written statement submitted by International Muslim Women's Union, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/117	5	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/118	5	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/119	5	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/120	9	Joint written statement submitted by Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS) Asociación Civil, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Habitat International Coalition, Human Rights & Democratic Participation Center "SHAMS", Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/121	5	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/122	4	Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The / Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/123	5	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/124	5	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/125	5	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/126	3	Written statement submitted by International Humanist and Ethical Union, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/127	6	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/128	4	Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The / Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/129	10	Written statement submitted by Public Organization "Public Advocacy", a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/130	3, 10	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/131	7	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/132	5, 6	Exposé écrit présenté par International Catholic Child Bureau, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/45/NGO/133	3, 6	Written statement submitted by Partners for Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/134	3, 6	Written statement submitted by Partners for Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/135	3	Joint written statement submitted by International-Lawyers.Org, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/136	9	Joint written statement submitted by International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 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/45/NGO/137	9	Written statement submitted by International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, a non- governmental organization in general consultative status

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/138	3	Written statement submitted by Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/139	3	Joint written statement submitted by Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty, a nongovernmental organization in general consultative status, Women's Human Rights International Association, Edmund Rice International Limited, France Libertes: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, nongovernmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/45/NGO/140	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/141	8	Exposición escrita presentada por Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/45/NGO/142	3	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/143	4	Written statement submitted by Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/144	3	Written statement submitted by Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/145	3	Written statement submitted by International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/146	4	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/147	4	Joint written statement submitted by Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, World Evangelical Alliance, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/148	4	Written statement submitted by France Libertes: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/149	3	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/150	3	Written statement submitted by Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/151	3	Written statement submitted by Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/152	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/45/NGO/153	3	Written statement submitted by Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/154	3	Written statement submitted by World Organisation Against Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/155	5	Exposición escrita presentada por Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/45/NGO/156	4	Written statement submitted by World Evangelical Alliance, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/157	3	Written statement submitted by Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/158	4	Written statement submitted by Reprieve, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/159	9	Written statement submitted by Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/160	4	Joint written statement submitted by Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, World Evangelical Alliance, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/161	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/45/NGO/162	9	Written statement submitted by International Muslim Women's Union, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/163	7	Exposición escrita presentada por Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/45/NGO/164	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/165	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/45/NGO/166	4	Written statement submitted by Women's Federation for World Peace International, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/167	3	Exposición escrita presentada por Fundación para la Democracia Internacional, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/45/NGO/168	3	Exposición escrita presentada por American Association of Jurists, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/45/NGO/169	9	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/170	3	Written statement submitted by Ecumenical Federation of Constantinopolitans, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/171	3	Written statement submitted by Ecumenical Federation of Constantinopolitans, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/172	3	Written statement submitted by International Women's Health Coalition, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/173	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/174	4	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/175	4	Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The / Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/176	4	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Symbol	Agenda item	
A/HRC/45/NGO/177	4	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/178	4	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/179	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/180	4	Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The / Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/181	4	Written statement submitted by Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme en Mauritanie, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/182	4	Written statement submitted by Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/183	4	Written statement submitted by Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/184	4	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/185	5	Written statement submitted by Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/186	4	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/187	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/188	4	Written statement submitted by International Muslim Women's Union, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/45/NGO/189	4	Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Annex IV

Human Rights Council Advisory Committee members elected by the Council at its forty-fifth session and date of expiry of their terms of membership

Member	Date of expiry of term of membership
Dheerujlall Baramlall Seetulsingh (Mauritius)	30 September 2023
Nadia Amal Bernoussi (Morocco)	30 September 2023
Buhm-Suk Baek (Republic of Korea)	30 September 2023
Ajai Malhotra (India)	30 September 2023
Elizabeth S. Salmón Gárate (Peru)	30 September 2023
Catherine Van de Heyning (Belgium)	30 September 2023
Patrycja Anna Sasnal (Poland)	30 September 2023

Annex V

Special procedure mandate holders appointed by the Human Rights Council at its forty-fifth session

Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

Pedro Arrojo Agudo (Spain)

Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

Gerard Quinn (Ireland)

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea

Mohamed Abdelsalam Babiker (Sudan)

Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

Miriam Estrada Castillo (Ecuador)

Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

Mumba Malila (Zambia)

Working Group on discrimination against women and girls

Dorothy Estrada-Tanck (Mexico)

Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Aua Baldé (Guinea-Bissau)

Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

Ravindran Daniel (India)