



# General Assembly

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**Human Rights Council**  
**Forty-eighth session**  
13 September–11 October 2021  
Agenda item 1  
**Organizational and procedural matters**

## **Report of the Human Rights Council on its forty-eighth session**

*Vice-President and Rapporteur:* Paul **Bekkers** (Netherlands)



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## Part One

### Resolutions, decisions and President's statement adopted by the Human Rights Council at its forty-eighth session

#### I. Resolutions

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
48/1	Situation of human rights in Afghanistan	7 October 2021
48/2	Equal participation in political and public affairs	7 October 2021
48/3	Human rights of older persons	7 October 2021
48/4	Right to privacy in the digital age	7 October 2021
48/5	The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination	7 October 2021
48/6	Child, early and forced marriage in times of crisis, including the COVID-19 pandemic	8 October 2021
48/7	Negative impact of the legacies of colonialism on the enjoyment of human rights	8 October 2021
48/8	Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order	8 October 2021
48/9	Question of the death penalty	8 October 2021
48/10	The right to development	8 October 2021
48/11	Human rights and indigenous peoples	8 October 2021
48/12	Human rights implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on young people	8 October 2021
48/13	The human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment	8 October 2021
48/14	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change	8 October 2021
48/15	Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic	8 October 2021
48/16	Situation of human rights in Burundi	8 October 2021
48/17	Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights	8 October 2021
48/18	From rhetoric to reality: a global call for concrete action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	11 October 2021
48/19	Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic	11 October 2021
48/20	Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	11 October 2021
48/21	Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights	11 October 2021
48/22	Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights	11 October 2021
48/23	Advisory services and technical assistance for Cambodia	11 October 2021
48/24	Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights	11 October 2021

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
48/25	Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Libya	11 October 2021

## II. Decisions

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
48/101	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Namibia	30 September 2021
48/102	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Niger	30 September 2021
48/103	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Mozambique	30 September 2021
48/104	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Estonia	30 September 2021
48/105	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Belgium	30 September 2021
48/106	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Paraguay	30 September 2021
48/107	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Denmark	1 October 2021
48/108	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Somalia	1 October 2021
48/109	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Palau	1 October 2021
48/110	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Solomon Islands	1 October 2021
48/111	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Seychelles	1 October 2021
48/112	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Latvia	1 October 2021
48/113	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Singapore	1 October 2021
48/114	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Sierra Leone	1 October 2021

## III. President's statement

<i>President's statement</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
48/1	Reports of the Advisory Committee	7 October 2021

## **Part Two**

### **Summary of proceedings**

#### **I. Organizational and procedural matters**

##### **A. Opening and duration of the session**

1. The Human Rights Council held its forty-eighth session at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 13 September to 11 October 2021. 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 on the forty-eighth session was held on 31 August 2021.
3. The forty-eighth session consisted of 45 meetings over 21 days (see paragraph 18 below).
4. At its 37th meeting, on 6 October 2021, the Human Rights Council observed a minute of silence in memory of the late and former Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, John Ruggie.
5. Due to the extraordinary modalities adopted for the forty-eighth session, in-person participation was limited (see sect. D below). The majority of participants made statements by video teleconference. Those delegations that made in-person statements or pre-recorded video statements are identified in the present report. All representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and national human rights institutions with A status made pre-recorded video statements.

##### **B. Attendance**

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

##### **C. Agenda and programme of work**

7. At its 1st meeting, on 13 September 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted the agenda and programme of work of the forty-eighth session.
8. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council decided to postpone the consideration and adoption of the outcome of the universal periodic review of Myanmar until the forty-ninth session of the Council.
9. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council decided, based on the Bureau's recommendation contained in the minutes of its meeting held on 6 September 2021, to hold the interactive dialogue on the report of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar, the interactive dialogue on the written update of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Myanmar and the interactive dialogue on the oral progress report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar at the forty-eighth session as scheduled, without the participation of the concerned country.
10. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), China and the Russian Federation made statements on the recommendation.

## **D. Organization of work**

11. At its 1st meeting, on 13 September 2021, the Human Rights Council decided to endorse the extraordinary modalities recommended by its Bureau as contained in the minutes of its meeting held on 6 September 2021, which were similar to those applied at the forty-seventh session of the Council in view of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the renovations taking place within the Palais des Nations pursuant to the Strategic Heritage Plan, which led to a limited number of meeting rooms being available throughout the duration of the forty-eighth session. The measures included enabling the delivery of statements by pre-recorded video messages, the virtual exercise of points of order and the right of reply, and the participation of special procedure mandate holders, members of investigative mechanisms and panellists through video messages and video conferencing.

12. At the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council outlined the standard procedure for voting as in previous Council sessions, as proposed by the Bureau, by following the same modalities as had been applied for the voting process during its forty-seventh regular session and its thirty-first special session, namely, allowing all 47 States members of the Council to designate two representatives to be present in Room XX during the voting process. Observer States introducing draft proposals and concerned countries would also be allowed to designate two representatives who would be present in Room XX at the time of action on relevant resolutions and whom would be requested to exit the room once action on such resolutions had been concluded. All other observers would be able to follow the meeting remotely. The usual voting system installed in Room XX would be used.

13. Also at the same meeting, the President referred to the online system for inscription on the lists of speakers for all interactive dialogues, general debates and panel discussions, which had opened on 7 September 2021. The President also referred to the modalities and schedule of the online inscription.

14. At the same meeting, the President noted that the deadline for the submission of draft proposals was 29 September 2021 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 of 24 hours.

15. Also at the same meeting, the President outlined the speaking time limits for interactive dialogues, which would be 1 minute and 30 seconds for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and other observers.

16. At the 3rd meeting, on 14 September 2021, the President outlined the speaking time limits for general debates, which would be 2 minutes and 30 seconds for States members of the Human Rights Council and 1 minute and 30 seconds for observer States and other observers.

17. At the 7th meeting, on 16 September 2021, the President outlined the speaking time limits for panel discussions, which would be 2 minutes for all participants.

## **E. Meetings and documentation**

18. The Human Rights Council held 45 fully serviced meetings during its forty-eighth session.<sup>1</sup>

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

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<sup>1</sup> The proceedings of the forty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council can be followed through the United Nations archived webcasts of the Council sessions at <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>.



## **F. Visits**

20. At the 1st meeting, on 13 September 2021, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, Heiko Maas, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council (in-person statement).

21. At the 7th meeting, on 16 September 2021, the Deputy Prime Minister of Eswatini, Themba Nhlanganiso Masuku, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council (in-person statement).

22. At the 14th meeting, on 21 September 2021, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Paraguay, Euclides Roberto Acevedo Candia, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council (in-person statement).

23. At the 15th meeting, on 22 September 2021, the Minister for Culture of Azerbaijan, Anar Karimov, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council (video statement).

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

24. At its 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the Human Rights Council elected, pursuant to Council resolution 5/1, four experts to the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee. The Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General ([A/HRC/48/84](#) and [A/HRC/48/84/Add.1](#)) containing the nominations 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**

25. At its 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the Human Rights Council appointed, pursuant to Council resolution 5/1, three special procedure mandate holders (see annex V).

## **I. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee**

26. At the 41st meeting, on 7 October 2021, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft President's statement [A/HRC/48/L.28](#).

27. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft President's statement (48/1).

## **J. Adoption of the report on the session**

28. At the 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the Vice-President and Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council made a statement on the draft report of the Council on its forty-eighth session.

29. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted ad referendum the draft report ([A/HRC/48/2](#)) and entrusted the Rapporteur with its finalization.

30. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Egypt<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Hungary (video statement), Iraq (video statement), Maldives (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Barbados, Haiti, Fiji, the Marshall Islands, Singapore and Vanuatu) (in-person statement), Mauritius, Norway (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Singapore (in-person statement), Sweden (video statement), Switzerland, Tunisia (video statement) and Vanuatu (video statement) made statements as observer States on the adopted resolutions.

31. At the same meeting, statements on the session were made by:

<sup>2</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bahamas (in-person statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States) (in-person statement), Egypt<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Libya (in-person statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Greece, United States of America (video statement);

(c) Observer for a non-governmental organization: International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association for Progressive Communications, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Child Rights Connect, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, International Bar Association and International Commission of Jurists).

32. 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

33. At the 1st meeting, on 13 September 2021, the High Commissioner made a statement providing an update on the activities of her Office.

34. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/2, her report on the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

35. Also at the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions S-31/1, 46/2 and 46/1, the oral updates on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, Nicaragua and Sri Lanka.

36. At the 3rd meeting, on 14 September 2021, the representatives of Afghanistan (in-person statement), Nicaragua, Sri Lanka and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (in-person statement) made statements as the States concerned.

37. At the 3rd and 4th meetings, on 14 September 2021, and 5th meeting, on 15 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on the oral updates by the High Commissioner, during which statements were made by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina (video statement), Armenia (video statement), Austria (video statement), Austria (also on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, France, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, Tunisia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (video statement), Azerbaijan<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Ecuador and Honduras), Bahrain (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso (video statement), Cameroon (also on behalf of the Group of African States), China (video statement), China (also on behalf of Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, the Congo, Cuba, Djibouti, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, the Gambia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, the United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine) (video statement), China (also on behalf of Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) (video statement), China (also on behalf of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) (video statement), Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czechia (video statement), Denmark (video statement), Ecuador<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America), Egypt<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, South Africa, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen), Eritrea, France, Gambia<sup>2</sup> (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, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Gabon, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Jordan, Kuwait, Liberia, Maldives, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Zambia) (video statement), Germany (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia (video statement), Italy, Italy (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America), Japan (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Mexico (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal (video statement), Slovenia<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Sudan, Timor-Leste<sup>2</sup> (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), Togo (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Canada, Germany, Malawi, Montenegro and North Macedonia) (video statement), Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Albania (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Australia (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Chad, Chile (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Costa Rica (video statement), Croatia (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), El Salvador (video statement), Estonia (video statement), Finland (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Greece (video statement), Hungary (video statement), Iceland (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Israel (video statement), Jordan (video statement), Kazakhstan (video statement), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liechtenstein (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives (video statement), Mali, Malta (video statement), Mauritius, Morocco (video statement), New Zealand (video statement), Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia (video statement), Norway (video statement), Panama (video statement), Portugal (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Republic of Moldova (video statement), Serbia (video statement), Singapore, Slovakia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), South Africa, South Sudan, Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Sweden (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia (video statement), Turkey, United Arab Emirates (video statement), United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America (video statement), Vanuatu (video statement), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe;

(c) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta (video statement);

(d) Observers for national human rights institutions: Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, Australian Human Rights Commission (on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions), National Human Rights Commission (India);

(e) 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), Amnesty International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Beijing Crafts Council, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on

behalf of International Service for Human Rights), Caritas Internationalis – International Confederation of Catholic Charities, Center for International Environmental Law (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Child Rights Connect, Earthjustice, FIAN International, Foundation for Gaia, Franciscans International, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Plan International, Inc., Save the Children International, Soka Gakkai International and Terre des hommes fédération internationale), Center for Justice and International Law, China NGO Network for International Exchanges, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la Charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples (CIRAC), Earthjustice (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Center for International Environmental Law, Foundation for Gaia, Franciscans International, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, Lucis Trust Association and Soka Gakkai International), East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme, FIAN International, Franciscans International, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Human Rights Watch, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, 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 (also on behalf of African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies and International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations), International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA) (also on behalf of Human Rights Watch), International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Service for Human Rights, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (also on behalf of African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies, International Association against Torture, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities, International-Lawyers.org and International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination), Iuventum, eV, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Partners for Transparency, Peace Brigades International Switzerland (also on behalf of Center for Justice and International Law, Centre pour les droits civils et politiques (Centre CCPR), International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Service for Human Rights, Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH) and World Organisation against Torture), Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH), Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Sikh Human Rights Group, Soka Gakkai International (also on behalf of ACT Alliance – Action by Churches Together, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers, Franciscans International and Lutheran World Federation), Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Next Century Foundation, United Nations Association of China, United Nations Watch, VIVAT International (also on behalf of Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers and Franciscans International), Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Evangelical Alliance, World Muslim Congress, World Organisation against Torture, World Peace Council, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

38. At the 5th meeting, on 15 September 2021, the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia (video statement), China, Colombia, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India (video statement), Iraq, Morocco (video statement), Pakistan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Turkmenistan, the United States of America (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

39. At the same meeting, the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Morocco and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the second right of reply.

## **B. Interactive dialogue on the report of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar**

40. At the 1st meeting, on 13 September 2021, 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 for Myanmar (A/HRC/48/18) (in-person statement).

41. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Head of the Independent Investigative Mechanism were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Finland<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, Indonesia, Malawi, Mauritania (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, International Bar Association (also on behalf of Lawyers for Lawyers), International Commission of Jurists.

42. At the same meeting, the Head of the Independent Investigative Mechanism answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

## **C. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Tigray region of Ethiopia**

43. At the 2nd meeting, on 13 September 2021, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 47/13, an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Tigray region of Ethiopia (in-person statement).

44. At the same meeting, statements were made by: Chief Commissioner of the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, Daniel Bekele (in-person statement); Vice-Chair of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Rémy Ngoy Lumbu (video statement); and Attorney General of Ethiopia, Gedion Timothewos Hessebon (in-person statement).

45. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the High Commissioner were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China (video statement), Cuba, Eritrea, Ethiopia<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Burundi, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, the Russian Federation, Somalia, South Sudan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), France, Germany (video statement), Italy, Netherlands (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan, Sweden<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway) (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco,

Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium (video statement), Greece (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), New Zealand (video statement), Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) (video statement);

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Center for Global Nonkilling, Centre for Human Rights, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Human Rights Watch, International Bar Association, Society for Threatened Peoples.

46. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner and presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

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

#### **D. Interactive dialogue on the report of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen**

48. At the 3rd meeting, on 14 September 2021, the Chair of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts, Kamel Jendoubi, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/15, a comprehensive written report ([A/HRC/48/20](#)) (in-person statement).

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

50. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Chair and the members of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bahrain (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) (video statement), Cameroon, China, Egypt<sup>2</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), France, Iceland<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Ireland<sup>2</sup> (also on behalf of Belgium, Canada, Luxembourg and the Netherlands) (video statement), Libya (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Pakistan, Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Jordan (video statement), Kuwait (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Tunisia (video statement), United Arab Emirates (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Bahá'í International Community, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of International

Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Save the Children International and Stichting Samenwerkingsverband IKV – Pax Christi), Defence for Children International (also on behalf of Save the Children International and Reprieve), Institut international pour les droits et le développement, Iraqi Development Organization, Kham Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Partners for Transparency, Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

51. At the same meeting the Chair and members, Ardi Imseis (in-person statement) and Melissa Parke, of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

## **E. Reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary-General**

52. At the 14th meeting, on 21 September 2021, the Director of the Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) introduced thematic reports of the High Commissioner, OHCHR and the Secretary-General under agenda items 2 and 3, followed by a general debate (see sect. III.E).

53. At the 32nd meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Director of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR presented the High Commissioner’s report under agenda items 2 and 7, followed by a general debate (see sect. VII.A).

54. At the 39th meeting, on 7 October 2021, the High Commissioner presented her own reports and those of OHCHR and the Secretary-General under agenda items 2 and 10, followed by a general debate (see sect. X.G).

## **F. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Situation of human rights in Afghanistan**

55. At the 41st meeting, on 7 October 2021, the representative of Slovenia, on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.24/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Slovenia, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Albania, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Iceland, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova and Switzerland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

56. At the same meeting, the representative of Slovenia orally revised the draft resolution.

57. Also at the same meeting, the representative of China introduced amendments [A/HRC/48/L.44](#), [A/HRC/48/L.45](#), [A/HRC/48/L.46](#), [A/HRC/48/L.47](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.48](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.24/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

58. Amendments [A/HRC/48/L.44](#), [A/HRC/48/L.45](#), [A/HRC/48/L.46](#), [A/HRC/48/L.47](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.48](#) were sponsored by China. Subsequently, Pakistan joined in sponsoring the amendments.

59. At the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that amendment [A/HRC/48/L.43](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.24/Rev.1](#), as orally revised, had been withdrawn by the sponsor.

60. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Austria made a statement on the proposed amendments to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.24/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

61. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a general comment on the draft resolution as orally revised, as well as on the proposed amendments.



62. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Afghanistan made a statement as the State concerned.

63. 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.

64. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.44](#).

65. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.44](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

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

66. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.44](#) by 21 votes to 6, with 18 abstentions.<sup>3</sup>

67. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.45](#).

68. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.45](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Indonesia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

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

69. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.45](#) by 23 votes to 6, with 16 abstentions.<sup>3</sup>

70. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.46](#).

<sup>3</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Cuba did not cast a vote.

71. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.46](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

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

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Togo, Uzbekistan

72. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.46](#) by 23 votes to 6, with 17 abstentions.<sup>4</sup>

73. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.47](#).

74. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.47](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

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

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Togo, Uzbekistan

75. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.47](#) by 23 votes to 6, with 17 abstentions.<sup>4</sup>

76. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.48](#).

77. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Council, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.48](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mexico,

<sup>4</sup> The delegation of Cuba did not cast a vote.

Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Sudan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Togo, Uzbekistan

78. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.48](#) by 23 votes to 5, with 17 abstentions.<sup>5</sup>

79. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, China, Namibia, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.24/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

80. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of China, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

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

*Against:*

China, Eritrea, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cuba, Gabon, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Nepal, Senegal, Somalia, Uzbekistan

81. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, by 28 votes to 5, with 14 abstentions (resolution 48/1).

82. After adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, Honduras, Israel and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

### **Situation of human rights in Yemen**

83. At the 41st meeting, on 7 October 2021, the representative of the Netherlands, also on behalf of Belgium, Canada, Ireland and Luxembourg, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.11](#), sponsored by Belgium, Canada, Ireland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, and co-sponsored by Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malta, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland. Thereafter, Albania, Denmark and Greece withdrew their sponsorship. Subsequently, Australia, Czechia, Estonia, Lithuania, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, New Zealand, Poland and the United States of America joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

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

85. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Yemen made a statement as the State concerned.

<sup>5</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Cuba did not cast a vote.

86. 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.

87. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bahrain, Brazil, China, Denmark, Japan, Mexico, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

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

*Against:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, Nepal

89. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council rejected the draft resolution by 21 votes to 18, with 7 abstentions.<sup>6</sup>

90. After rejection of the draft resolution, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Denmark joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

91. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Indonesia, the Netherlands (also on behalf of Belgium, Canada, Ireland and Luxembourg), the Republic of Korea and the Sudan made statements in explanation of vote after the vote and general comments in relation to all draft proposals adopted under agenda item 2.

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<sup>6</sup> The delegation of Ukraine did not cast a vote.

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

#### A. Panel discussions

##### **Biennial panel discussion on the issue of unilateral coercive measures and human rights**

92. At its 7th meeting, on 16 September 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 27/21, a biennial panel discussion on the issue of unilateral coercive measures and human rights on the theme “Unilateral coercive measures: the issue of jurisdiction and extraterritoriality challenges and its inadmissibility under international law”.

93. At the same meeting, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, Alena Douhan, made opening statements for the panel discussion.

94. Also at the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Professor of International Law at Ghent University, Tom Ruys (video statement); Associate Professor of International Law at Allameh Tabataba’i University and Secretary-General of the Iranian Association for United Nations Studies, Pouria Askari, (video statement); Ignacio Ellacuría, S.J. Chair in Social Ethics in the Philosophy Department and School of Law at Loyola University Chicago, Joy Gordon (video statement); Professor of Jurisprudence at Wuhan University School of Law, Zhang Wanhong (video statement).

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

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Honduras), China, Cuba (video statement), Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic;

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Center for China & Globalization, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, World Evangelical Alliance.

96. During the second speaking slot, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the panellists were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Indonesia (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Niger, South Africa, Zimbabwe;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Beijing Crafts Council, Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, Sikh Human Rights Group.

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

##### **Panel discussion on the rights of indigenous peoples**

98. At its 23rd meeting, on 28 September 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolutions 18/8, 39/13 and 42/19, a panel discussion on the rights of indigenous

<sup>7</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

peoples on the theme “The situation of human rights of indigenous peoples facing the COVID-19 pandemic, with a special focus on the right to participation”.

99. At the same meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel discussion.

100. Also at the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Megan Davis (video statement); Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, José Francisco Cali Tzay (in-person statement); Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Anne Nuorgam (video statement).

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

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Canada and New Zealand) (video statement), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil (video statement), Guatemala<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru), Senegal (video statement), Sweden<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway) (video statement), Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Ecuador, Spain (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Conselho Indigenista Missionário (also on behalf of Justiça Global), International Lesbian and Gay Association (also on behalf of Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights (RFSL), Karelian Republican Public Organization “Center for Support of Indigenous Peoples and Civic Diplomacy – Young Karelia (Molodaya Karelia)”.

102. During the second speaking slot, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the panellists were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China (video statement), Indonesia, Namibia (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: United States of America (video statement), Guatemala;

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Indian Law Resource Centre, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco (also on behalf of International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES), Sikh Human Rights Group.

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

#### **Panel discussion on deepening inequalities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic**

104. At its 24th meeting, on 28 September 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 45/14, a panel discussion on deepening inequalities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and their implications for the realization of human rights.

105. At the same meeting, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Nobel Laureate Economist from Columbia University, Joseph E. Stiglitz, made opening statements for the panel discussion.

106. Also at the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United Nations

Special Envoy for Global Education, Gordon Brown (video statement); Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, Tlaleng Mofokeng (in-person statement); Executive Director of the Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and former Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, Magdalena Sepúlveda (video statement). The foreign correspondent in Geneva for the Swedish newspaper *Svenska Dagbladet*, Gunilla von Hall, moderated the discussion.

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

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Honduras), Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China (also on behalf of Argentina, Burundi, Cambodia, the Comoros, the Congo, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Fiji, the Gambia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Ecuador<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), Egypt<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Finland<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of)<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Belarus, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe) (video statement), Mauritius<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Barbados, Cabo Verde, Cuba, Fiji, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, the Marshall Islands, Singapore and Vanuatu) (video statement);

(b) Representative of an observer State: Qatar (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Penal Reform International (also on behalf of International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA) and Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales).

108. During the second speaking slot, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the panellists questions were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Nepal (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Ghana (video statement), Iraq (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Montenegro (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), South Africa (video statement);

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Centre Europe-tiers monde, Terre des hommes fédération internationale (also on behalf of SOS Kinderdorf International), World Vision International.

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

### **High-level panel discussion on the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training**

110. At its 25th meeting, on 29 September 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 42/7, a high-level panel discussion on the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training: good practices, challenges and the way forward.

111. At the same meeting, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Assistant Director-General for Education at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (video statement) and the Envoy of the Secretary-General's on Youth, Jayathma Wickramanayake (video statement), made opening statements for the panel discussion.

112. Also at the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Minister for Education, Science and Sport of Slovenia, Simona Kustec (video statement); Commissioner of the Commission on Human Rights (Philippines), Gwendolyn Ll. Pimentel-Gana (video statement); Board Member of the Universidad Estatal a Distancia de Costa Rica, Vernor Muñoz Villalobos (video statement); Youth Activism Programme Manager at the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation, Irfaan Mangera (video statement).

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

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil (also on behalf of Costa Rica, Italy, Morocco, the Philippines, Senegal, Slovenia and Thailand) (video statement), Burkina Faso (also on behalf of the States members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie) (video statement), Costa Rica<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), Egypt<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Libya (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Senegal (video statement), Togo;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Niger;

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

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, World Jewish Congress.

114. During the second speaking slot, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the panellists were posed by:

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

(b) Representatives of observer States: Cambodia (video statement), Dominican Republic, Egypt (video statement), Iraq (video statement), Israel (video statement), Mauritius (video statement), Morocco, Saudi Arabia (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

(c) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Human Rights Commission (India);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International (also on behalf of Soka Gakkai International), Center for Global Nonkilling.

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



## B. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders

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

116. At the 5th meeting, on 15 September 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, Pedro Arrojo Agudo, presented his reports ([A/HRC/48/50](#) and [A/HRC/48/50/Add.1](#)) (in-person statement).

117. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 6th meeting, on the same day, statements were made and questions to the Special Rapporteur were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria (video statement), Burkina Faso (video statement), Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Ecuador, Fiji, Hungary and Jordan), Egypt<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), France, Gabon, Germany, India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (video statement), Malawi, Marshall Islands (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Mexico (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan, Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan, Togo (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Angola (video statement), Azerbaijan, Benin (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Costa Rica (video statement), Djibouti (video statement), Egypt (video statement), El Salvador (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Haiti, Hungary (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Israel (video statement), Kenya, Lesotho (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives (video statement), Mali, Morocco (video statement), Panama (video statement), Peru (video statement), Portugal (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), South Africa (video statement), Spain (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, Tunisia (video statement), United Republic of Tanzania (video statement), Vanuatu (video statement), Viet Nam (video statement), Holy See (video statement), State of Palestine;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (video statement), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (video statement);

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

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

(f) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Human Rights Commission (India);

(g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, Edmund Rice International, Franciscans International, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Make Mothers Matter, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Promotion du développement économique et social, Sikh Human Rights Group, Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights (RFSL) (also on behalf of International Lesbian and Gay Association).

118. At the 6th meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

119. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Japan and Ukraine made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

120. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, China and Japan made statements in exercise of the second right of reply.

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

121. At the 6th meeting, on 15 September 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, Alena Douhan, presented her report ([A/HRC/48/59](#), [A/HRC/48/59/Corr.1](#), [A/HRC/48/59/Add.1](#) and [A/HRC/48/59/2](#)).

122. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, and at the 8th meeting, on 16 September 2021, statements were made and questions to the Special Rapporteur were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Bahrain, China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Fiji (video statement), Indonesia (video statement), Libya (video statement), Malawi, Namibia (video statement), Pakistan, Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of China, Cuba and the Russian Federation), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Belarus (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Saudi Arabia, South Africa (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates (video statement), Zimbabwe, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Human Rights Committee (Qatar);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, China NGO Network for International Exchanges, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Partners for Transparency, United Nations Watch, World Peace Council.

123. At the 8th meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

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

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

125. At the 8th meeting, on 16 September 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, Fabián Salvioli, presented his reports ([A/HRC/48/60](#), [A/HRC/48/60/Add.1](#), [A/HRC/48/60/Add.2](#), [A/HRC/48/60/Add.3](#), [A/HRC/48/60/Add.4](#), [A/HRC/48/60/Add.5](#) and [A/HRC/48/60/Add.6](#)) (in-person statement).

126. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Special Rapporteur were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina (also on behalf of Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru) (video statement), Armenia (video statement), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Estonia<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (video statement), Luxembourg<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of the European Union, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Mali, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan,

Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay) (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Switzerland<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Maldives, Morocco, Peru and Uruguay), Togo (video statement), Ukraine, Uruguay (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Belgium (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Chad, Chile (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Croatia (video statement), Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), Gambia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives (video statement), Mali, Paraguay, Peru, South Sudan, Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Tunisia, Uganda, United States of America (video statement);

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

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights (also on behalf of Centre pour les droits civils et politiques (Centre CCPR)), Amnesty International, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance (FIND), Federation for Women and Family Planning, Fundación Abba Colombia, International Commission of Jurists (also on behalf of World Organisation against Torture), International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (also on behalf of Amnesty International), Peace Brigades International Switzerland.

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

128. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Japan, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Tunisia made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

129. At the same meeting, the representatives of Japan and the Republic of Korea made statements in exercise of the second right of reply.

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

130. At the 9th meeting, on 17 September 2020, the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, Tomoya Obokata, presented his reports (A/HRC/48/52) (in-person statement).

131. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Special Rapporteur were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil, China (video statement), China (also on behalf of Burundi, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) (video statement), Cuba (video statement), France, Indonesia (video statement), Japan, Libya (video statement), Malawi, Mauritania (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan, Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Australia (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Israel (video statement), Lebanon, Liechtenstein (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Mali, Panama (video statement), South Africa, Thailand, United States of America (video statement);

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

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

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

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Anti-Slavery International, Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, International-Lawyers.org, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

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

133. At the 10th meeting, on the same day, the representative of China made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

### **Special Rapporteur on the right to development**

134. At the 10th meeting, on 17 September 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the right to development, Saad Alfaragi, presented his report ([A/HRC/48/56](#)) (in-person statement).

135. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 11th meeting, on 20 September 2021, statements were made and questions to the Special Rapporteur were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Bahamas (also on behalf of Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago) (video statement), Bahrain (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) (video statement), Bangladesh, Burkina Faso (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China (video statement), Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba (video statement), Egypt<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (video statement), Malawi, Marshall Islands (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan, Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Togo (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Angola (video statement), Azerbaijan, Chad, Ecuador, Egypt, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia (video statement), Maldives, Morocco (video statement), Oman (video statement), Panama (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Uganda, Viet Nam (video statement);

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union (video statement), South Centre;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of American Association of Jurists, Foundation for Gaia, International-Lawyers.org, 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 (VIDES), International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, New Humanity and World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), Centre Europe-tiers monde, Chinese Association for International Understanding, Chunhui Children's Foundation, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, National Association of Vocational Education of China, Sikh Human Rights Group, Society for Threatened Peoples.

136. At the 10th and 11th meetings, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

### **Working Group on Arbitrary Detention**

137. At the 11th meeting, on 20 September 2021, the Chair of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, [Elina Steinerte](#), presented the report of the Working Group ([A/HRC/48/55](#)) (in-person statement).

138. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Chair of the Working Group were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), France, India (video statement), Indonesia, Latvia<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Mauritania (in-person statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan, Philippines, Poland (video statement), Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Australia (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Cambodia, Chad, Egypt (video statement), Ethiopia (in-person statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Nigeria, Tunisia (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Yemen (video statement), State of Palestine;

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

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

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Human Rights Commission (India);

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-Haq (also on behalf of Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH) and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling), American Association of Jurists, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Il Cenacolo, International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT), International Service for Human Rights, Law Council of Australia (also on behalf of International Bar Association), Right Livelihood Award Foundation (also on behalf of International Service for Human Rights), Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights (RFSL).

139. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Working Group answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

140. At the 12th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Azerbaijan, Belarus, China and Israel made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

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

141. At the 11th meeting, on 20 September 2021, the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, Claudia Mahler, presented her report ([A/HRC/48/53](#)) (in-person statement).

142. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 12th meeting, on the same day, statements were made and questions to the Independent Expert were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina (also on behalf of Austria, Brazil, El Salvador, Malta, Montenegro, Namibia, Portugal, Singapore, Slovenia, Tunisia and Uruguay) (video statement), Armenia (video statement),

Austria (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Bulgaria (video statement), China (video statement), Cuba, Egypt<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Gabon, Germany (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Italy, Malawi, Marshall Islands (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan, Poland (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan (video statement), Togo (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola (video statement), Azerbaijan, Benin (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Djibouti (video statement), Egypt (video statement), El Salvador, Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Israel (video statement), Kenya, Lesotho (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives, Malta (video statement), Montenegro (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Panama (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia (video statement), Uganda, United Arab Emirates (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Viet Nam (video statement);

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

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

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

(f) Observers for national human rights institutions: Commission on Human Rights (Philippines), National Human Rights Commission (India);

(g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Centre for Human Rights, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (also on behalf of International Longevity Center Global Alliance and Make Mothers Matter), Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, Liberation, Penal Reform International (also on behalf of Association for the Prevention of Torture), Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights (RFSL).

143. At the 12th meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

144. At the same meeting, the representative of Armenia made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

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

145. At the 12th meeting, on 20 September 2021, the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, Livingstone Sewanyana, presented his report ([A/HRC/48/58](#)) (in-person statement).

146. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 13th meeting, on 21 September 2021, statements were made and questions to the Independent Expert were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China (video statement), China (also on behalf of Burundi, the Central African Republic, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mauritius, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe) (video statement), Cuba, Egypt<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Indonesia, Malawi, Namibia (video

statement), Pakistan, Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Chad, Egypt (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Kenya, Malaysia (video statement), Maldives, South Africa, Sri Lanka (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia (video statement), Uganda;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, China Foundation for Human Rights Development, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Global Appreciation and Skills Training Network, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Humanist and Ethical Union (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project and International Service for Human Rights), Iuventum, eV, Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative, Sikh Human Rights Group.

147. At the 13th meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

### **Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances**

148. At the 13th meeting, on 21 September 2021, the Vice-Chair of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, Henrikas Mickevicius, presented the reports of the Working Group (A/HRC/48/57 and A/HRC/48/57/Add.1) (in-person statement).

149. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Vice-Chair of the Working Group were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina (also on behalf of Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement), Armenia, Burkina Faso (video statement), China, Cuba (video statement), Egypt<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), France, Indonesia, Japan (video statement), Libya (video statement), Lithuania<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Mauritania (in-person statement), Namibia (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan, Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Albania (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Croatia (video statement), Cyprus (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (video statement), Ethiopia, Gambia (video statement), Greece (in-person statement), Iraq (video statement), Kenya, Lesotho (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Peru (in-person statement), Portugal (video statement), Serbia (video statement), Tunisia (video statement), Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Yemen (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian Legal Resource Centre, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance (FIND) (also on behalf of Franciscans International and Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund), Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Il Cenacolo, Ingénieurs du monde (also on behalf of United Nations Watch), Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression, Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development.

150. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chair of the Working Group answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

151. At the 14th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Algeria, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Turkey 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**

152. At the 13th meeting, on 21 September 2021, 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, Jelena Aparac, presented the report of the Working Group ([A/HRC/48/51](#)) (in-person statement).

153. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 14th meeting, on the same day, statements were made and questions to the Chair of the Working Group were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Cameroon (also on behalf of the Group of African States), China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Libya (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan, Russian Federation (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Greece (in-person statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Panama (video statement), South Africa;

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Center for Organisation Research and Education, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), Escuela del Estudio de la Intuición Enseñanza de Valores, Il Cenacolo, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Partners for Transparency.

154. At the 14th meeting, the Chair of the Working Group answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

155. At the same meeting, the representative of Armenia made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

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

156. At the 14th meeting, on 21 September 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, Marcos Orellana, presented his report ([A/HRC/48/61](#)) (in-person statement).

157. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Special Rapporteur were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Cameroon (also on behalf of the Group of African States), China (video statement), Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, France, Indonesia, Marshall Islands (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Uruguay (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Chile (video statement), Costa Rica (video statement), Djibouti (video statement), Ecuador, Georgia (video statement), Kenya, Malaysia (video statement), Mali, Mauritius (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Panama (video statement), South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania (video statement), Vanuatu (video statement);

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



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

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: Scottish Human Rights Commission (video statement);

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Center for Global Nonkilling, Center for International Environmental Law, China NGO Network for International Exchanges, Earthjustice, Edmund Rice International (also on behalf of PRATYEEK), FIAN International, Franciscans International, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, Iuventum, eV.

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

159. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Azerbaijan, China and Japan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

### **Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples**

160. At the 24th meeting, on 28 September 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, José Francisco Calí Tzay, presented his report ([A/HRC/48/54](#)) (in-person statement).

161. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 25th meeting, on 29 September 2021, statements were made and questions to the Special Rapporteur were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Brazil (video statement), Cameroon, China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Indonesia, Marshall Islands (video statement), Mexico (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Chile, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay and Peru) (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation (video statement), Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Canada (video statement), Chad, Guatemala, Malaysia (video statement), Panama (video statement), Paraguay, Peru (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Holy See (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaïdjanais-Iran – "ARC", Center for Justice and International Law, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Conectas Direitos Humanos, Conselho Indigenista Missionário (also on behalf of Conselho Federal da Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil and Justiça Global), Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland, Franciscans International, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education, Minority Rights Group, Right Livelihood Award Foundation.

162. At the 25th meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

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

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

164. At the 8th meeting, on 16 September 2021, the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, Klentiana Mahmutaj, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/23, the reports of the Expert Mechanism (A/HRC/48/62 and A/HRC/48/63) (in-person statement).

165. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 9th meeting, on 17 September 2021, statements were made and questions to the Chair and members of the Expert Mechanism were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China (video statement), China (also on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Fiji, the Gambia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Cuba (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Malawi, Mauritania (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola (video statement), Azerbaijan, Cambodia (video statement), Djibouti (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia (video statement), Nigeria, South Africa (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Suriname (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia (video statement), United Republic of Tanzania (video statement), State of Palestine;

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

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

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: National Human Rights Commission (India);

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of American Association of Jurists, Foundation for Gaia, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES), International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, New Humanity and World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, Centre du commerce international pour le développement, China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture, Disability Association of Tavana, Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative, Sikh Human Rights Group, YouChange China Social Entrepreneur Foundation.

166. At the 9th meeting, the Chair of the Expert Mechanism answered questions and made her concluding remarks (in-person statement).

**D. Interactive dialogue on the analytical report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the current state of play of the mainstreaming of the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations in the work of the Human Rights Council**

167. At the 9th meeting, on 17 September 2021, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/28, her report on the current state of play of the mainstreaming of the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations in the work of the Council (A/HRC/48/32) (in-person statement).

168. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 10th meeting, on the same day, statements were made and questions to the High Commissioner were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina (also on behalf of Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement), Armenia (video statement), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Egypt<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), France, Indonesia, Italy, Libya (video statement), Malawi, Namibia (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Pakistan, Philippines (video statement), Poland (video statement), Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (in-person statement), Albania (video statement), Angola (video statement), Australia (video statement), Azerbaijan, Botswana (video statement), Chile (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Croatia (video statement), Cyprus (video statement), Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Greece (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Israel (video statement), Kazakhstan (video statement), Kenya, Mali (video statement), Malta (video statement), Montenegro (video statement), Morocco (video statement), New Zealand (video statement), Niger, Panama (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Slovenia (video statement), Spain (in-person statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand (video statement), Tunisia (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Viet Nam (video statement), Yemen (video statement), State of Palestine;

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

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

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

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Center for Organisation Research and Education, Center for Reproductive Rights, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Lutheran World Federation, Plan International, Inc., Prahara, Save the Children International (also on behalf of Defence for Children International, Plan International, Inc. and World Vision International), Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

169. At the 10th meeting, the High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

170. At the same meeting, the representatives of Japan and the Republic of Korea made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

171. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Japan made a statement in exercise of the second right of reply.

## E. General debate on agenda item 3

172. At the 14th meeting, on 21 September 2021, the President of the Economic and Social Council, Collen Vixen Kelapile, briefed the Human Rights Council on the discussions of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, pursuant to Council resolution 37/25.

173. At the same meeting, the Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR, provided, pursuant to Council resolution 46/14, an oral update on the human rights implications of the lack of affordable, timely, equitable and universal access and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines and the deepening inequalities among States, and presented the consolidated report of the Secretary-General (A/HRC/48/29), the reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/HRC/48/25, A/HRC/48/30, A/HRC/48/31, A/HRC/48/40 and A/HRC/48/42) and the reports of OHCHR (A/HRC/48/21, A/HRC/48/22 and A/HRC/48/39) under agenda items 2 and 3 (in-person statement).

174. Also at the same meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development, Zamir Akram, presented to the Human Rights Council the report of the Working Group on its twenty-first session held from 17 to 21 May 2021 (A/HRC/48/64) (video statement).

175. 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, Mxolisi Sizo Nkosi, presented to the Human Rights Council the report of the intergovernmental working group on its second session held from 26 to 29 April 2021 (A/HRC/48/65).

176. At the 15th and 16th meetings, on 22 September 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on thematic reports under agenda item 3, during which statements were made by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina (also on behalf of Armenia, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay) (video statement), Armenia (video statement), Azerbaijan<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Honduras), Bahrain (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, Fiji, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, Uruguay and Uzbekistan) (video statement), China (video statement), China (also on behalf of Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Burundi, the Comoros, the Congo, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, the Gambia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mauritius, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and the State of Palestine) (video statement), China (also on behalf of Burundi, the Comoros, the Congo, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Gambia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Ecuador<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), France, Germany (video statement), India (also on behalf of Bangladesh, Belarus, Cuba, the Democratic

People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe) (video statement), Indonesia, Luxembourg<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Azerbaijan, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Portugal, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Uruguay) (video statement), Mauritania, Namibia (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Norway<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Qatar<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States, Azerbaijan and Turkey) (video statement), Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Slovenia<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Uruguay (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico and Panama) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Algeria, Belarus (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Comoros (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Finland (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Lebanon, Malaysia (video statement), Mauritius, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia (video statement), Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sweden (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Timor-Leste, Tunisia (video statement), United Republic of Tanzania (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross (also on behalf of Switzerland);

(f) Observers for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (France);

(g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alliance Creative Community Project, Alsalam Foundation, American Association of Jurists, Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain, Inc., Asian Legal Resource Centre, Association internationale pour l'égalité des femmes, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of American Association of Jurists, Foundation for Gaia, International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, International-Lawyers.org, 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 (VIDES), International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, New Humanity and World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), Beijing Changier Education Foundation, Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center, Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges (also on behalf of China NGO Network for International Exchanges), Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Al-Haq and Human Rights Watch), Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre Europe-tiers monde, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture, China Family Planning Association, Chinese Association for International Understanding (also on behalf of China NGO Network for International Exchanges), Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (also on behalf of Associazione

Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Edmund Rice International, Genève pour les droits de l'homme: formation internationale, International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES) and VIVAT International), Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle (COJEP), Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, Disability Association of Tavana, Edmund Rice International, Elizka Relief Foundation, Ensemble contre la peine de mort, European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad, Global Appreciation and Skills Training Network, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Health and Environment Program, Il Cenacolo, Ingénieurs du monde (also on behalf of United Nations Watch), Institut international pour les droits et le développement, Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG), International Action for Peace & Sustainable Development, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Career Support Association, International Commission of Jurists, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT), International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iraqi Development Organization, Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, Jeunesse étudiante tamoule, Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (also on behalf of International Bar Association and Lawyers for Lawyers), Liberation, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Make Mothers Matter, Meezaan Center for Human Rights, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples (also on behalf of American Association of Jurists, Habitat International Coalition, International Association of Democratic Lawyers and Right Livelihood Award Foundation), National Association of Vocational Education of China, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Partners for Transparency, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Prahar, PRATYEEK (also on behalf of Edmund Rice International), Promotion du développement économique et social, Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative, Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Sikh Human Rights Group, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Soka Gakkai International (also on behalf of Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Foundation for Gaia, Globethics.net Foundation, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES), Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and New Humanity), South Youth Organization, Stichting Global Human Rights Defence, Next Century Foundation, Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development, Tumuku Development and Cultural Union (TACUDU), Villages unis/United Villages, VIVAT International (also on behalf of Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd), Women's Human Rights International Association, World Barua Organization, World Evangelical Alliance, World Muslim Congress, YouChange China Social Entrepreneur Foundation.

177. At the 16th meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, China and Cuba made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

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

## **F. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Equal participation in political and public affairs**

179. At the 41st meeting, on 7 October 2021, the representative of Czechia, also on behalf of Botswana, Indonesia, the Netherlands and Peru, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.4/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Botswana, Czechia, Indonesia, the Netherlands and Peru,

and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Armenia, the Bahamas, Canada, Colombia, Japan, Mongolia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Somalia, Switzerland, Tunisia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

180. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Armenia, Austria and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made general comments on the draft resolution.

181. 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.

182. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 48/2).

183. After adoption of the draft resolution, Andorra, Azerbaijan, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, South Africa, Timor-Leste and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

#### **Human rights of older persons**

184. At the 41st meeting, on 7 October 2021, the representative of Argentina, also on behalf of Brazil and Slovenia, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.5/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Argentina, Brazil and Slovenia, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Georgia, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Montenegro, Namibia, Nepal, North Macedonia, Peru, Portugal, Serbia, Somalia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Angola, the Bahamas, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, Libya, Malawi, Mongolia, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Uganda, Uzbekistan and the State of Palestine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

185. At the same meeting, the representatives of Mexico and Uruguay made general comments on the draft resolution.

186. 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.

187. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 48/3).

188. After adoption of the draft resolution, Andorra, Armenia, Botswana, Cameroon, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Maldives, Mali, South Africa and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

#### **Right to privacy in the digital age**

189. At the 41st meeting, on 7 October 2021, the representative of Germany, also on behalf of Austria, Brazil, Liechtenstein and Mexico, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.9/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Austria, Brazil, Germany, Liechtenstein and Mexico, and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, France, Mongolia,

Norway, Panama, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea and the State of Palestine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

190. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina and India made general comments on the draft resolution.

191. 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.

192. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 48/4).

193. After adoption of the draft resolution, Armenia, Botswana, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Georgia, Honduras, Indonesia, Lebanon, Mali, the Republic of Moldova, South Africa and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

### **The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination**

194. At the 41st meeting, on 7 October 2021, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.12](#), sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Belarus, Chile, Egypt, Namibia, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eswatini, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Pakistan, Panama, Tajikistan, Yemen and the State of Palestine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

195. At the same meeting, the representative of Armenia made a general comment on the draft resolution.

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

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

#### *In favour:*

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

#### *Against:*

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

#### *Abstaining:*

Brazil, Mexico, Somalia, Togo

198. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 29 votes to 14, with 4 abstentions (resolution 48/5).

199. After adoption of the draft resolution, Botswana, Honduras and South Africa joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

### **Child, early and forced marriage in times of crisis, including the COVID-19 pandemic**

200. At the 42nd meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representative of the Netherlands, also on behalf of Argentina, Canada, Honduras, Italy, Montenegro, Poland, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.7/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Argentina, Canada,



Honduras, Italy, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Namibia, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United States of America and the State of Palestine. Thereafter, France withdrew its sponsorship. Subsequently, Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chad, Israel, Japan, the Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Panama, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova and Uganda joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

201. At the same meeting, the representative of the Netherlands orally revised the draft resolution.

202. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Egypt introduced amendment [A/HRC/48/L.31](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.7/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

203. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendments [A/HRC/48/L.61](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.62](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.7/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

204. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation orally revised amendment [A/HRC/48/L.61](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.7/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

205. Amendment [A/HRC/48/L.31](#) was sponsored by Egypt and co-sponsored by Bahrain, Eswatini, Iraq, Mauritania, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. Subsequently, Algeria, Bangladesh, Libya, Nigeria and the Russian Federation joined in sponsoring the amendment. Amendment [A/HRC/48/L.61](#) was sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Egypt and Eswatini joined in sponsoring the amendment. Amendment [A/HRC/48/L.62](#) was sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Egypt, Eswatini and Nigeria joined in sponsoring the amendment.

206. At the same meeting, the representative of the Netherlands made a statement on the proposed amendments to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.7/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

207. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Fiji, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Poland, the Republic of Korea and the Sudan made general comments on the draft resolution, as well as on the proposed amendments. In the statement, the representative of Libya disassociated the member State from the consensus on the seventeenth and nineteenth preambular paragraphs and on paragraphs 1, 3 (c) and (d) and 6 of the draft resolution as orally revised.

208. 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.

209. At the same meeting, the representatives of Denmark, Italy and Mexico made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.31](#).

210. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Netherlands, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.31](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Philippines

211. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.31](#) by 23 votes to 15, with 6 abstentions.<sup>8</sup>

212. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria, Germany, Poland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.61](#) as orally revised.

213. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Netherlands, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.61](#) as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bangladesh, China, Eritrea, India, Libya, Mauritania, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Bahamas, Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Indonesia, Togo

214. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.61](#) as orally revised by 23 votes to 12, with 9 abstentions.<sup>8</sup>

215. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina and Czechia made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.62](#).

216. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Netherlands, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.62](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Nepal, Togo

217. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.62](#) by 21 votes to 14, with 9 abstentions.<sup>8</sup>

218. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bahrain, Bangladesh, Eritrea, France, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Senegal and the Sudan made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.7/Rev.1](#) as orally revised. In the statement, the representatives of Bangladesh and Pakistan disassociated the respective member States from the consensus on the seventeenth and nineteenth preambular paragraphs and on paragraphs 1, 3 (c) and (d) and 6 of the draft resolution as orally revised. In the statement, the representative of Senegal disassociated the member State

<sup>8</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) did not cast a vote.

from the consensus on the third, fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth preambular paragraphs and on paragraphs 1, 3 (c) and (d), 6 and 7 of the draft resolution as orally revised.

219. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised, without a vote (resolution 48/6).

220. After adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, Andorra, Armenia, Botswana, El Salvador, France, Malawi, Mongolia, Morocco, Palau, Serbia, South Africa and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

### **Negative impact of the legacies of colonialism on the enjoyment of human rights**

221. At the 42nd meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representative of China, also on behalf of Sri Lanka and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.8](#), sponsored by China, Sri Lanka and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and co-sponsored by Belarus, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Eswatini, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and the Syrian Arab Republic. Subsequently, Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mauritius, Somalia and Tajikistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

222. At the same meeting, the representative of China orally revised the draft resolution.

223. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland introduced amendments [A/HRC/48/L.59](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.60](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.8](#) as orally revised.

224. Amendments [A/HRC/48/L.59](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.60](#) were sponsored by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

225. At the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that amendment [A/HRC/48/L.58](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.8](#), as orally revised, had been withdrawn by the sponsor.

226. Also at the same meeting, the representative of China made a statement on the proposed amendments to the draft resolution as orally revised.

227. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Eritrea, India, Pakistan, the Philippines and the Russian Federation made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised, as well as on the proposed amendments.

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 as orally revised.

229. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cuba, the Marshall Islands, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.59](#).

230. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.59](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

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

*Against:*

Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Somalia, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Senegal, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

231. The Human Rights Council adopted amendment [A/HRC/48/L.59](#) by 16 votes to 13, with 16 abstentions.<sup>9</sup>

232. 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 amendment [A/HRC/48/L.60](#).

233. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.60](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

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

*Against:*

Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Somalia, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Senegal, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

234. The Human Rights Council adopted amendment [A/HRC/48/L.60](#) by 15 votes to 13, with 17 abstentions.<sup>9</sup>

235. At the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised and amended.

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

*In favour:*

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

*Abstaining:*

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

237. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised and amended, by 27 votes to none, with 20 abstentions (resolution 48/7).

238. After adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised and amended, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

### **Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order**

239. At the 42nd meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.13](#), sponsored by Cuba, and co-sponsored by Belarus, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Namibia, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Eswatini, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's

<sup>9</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Ukraine did not cast a vote.

Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Uganda, Yemen and the State of Palestine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

240. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and Ukraine made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

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

*In favour:*

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

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Brazil, Mexico

242. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 30 votes to 14, with 3 abstentions (resolution 48/8).

243. After adoption of the draft resolution, Botswana, Honduras, Indonesia, Maldives, South Africa and Sri Lanka joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

#### **Question of the death penalty**

244. At the 42nd meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representatives of Benin and Mongolia, also on behalf of Belgium, Costa Rica, France, Mexico, the Republic of Moldova and Switzerland, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.17/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Belgium, Benin, Costa Rica, France, Mexico, Mongolia, the Republic of Moldova and Switzerland, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay. Thereafter, Germany withdrew its sponsorship. Subsequently, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, El Salvador, Hungary, Madagascar, the Marshall Islands, Panama, Paraguay and Uzbekistan and joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

245. At the same meeting, the representative of Singapore introduced amendments [A/HRC/48/L.63](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.64](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.17/Rev.1](#).

246. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Egypt introduced amendment [A/HRC/48/L.65](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.17/Rev.1](#).

247. At the same meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia introduced amendment [A/HRC/48/L.66](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.17/Rev.1](#).

248. Amendment [A/HRC/48/L.63](#) was sponsored by Singapore. Subsequently, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia joined in sponsoring the amendment. Amendment [A/HRC/48/L.64](#) was sponsored by Singapore. Subsequently, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Tajikistan joined in sponsoring the amendment. Amendment [A/HRC/48/L.65](#) was sponsored by Egypt and co-sponsored by Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Botswana, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mauritania, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the Sudan. Subsequently, Eswatini, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia and the United Arab Emirates joined in sponsoring the amendment. Amendment

[A/HRC/48/L.66](#) was sponsored by Saudi Arabia and co-sponsored by Egypt, Iraq, Qatar, Singapore and the Sudan. Subsequently, Bahrain, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, Tajikistan and the United Arab Emirates joined in sponsoring the amendment.

249. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement on the proposed amendments to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.17/Rev.1](#).

250. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Eritrea, Fiji and Libya made general comments on the draft resolution, as well as on the proposed amendments. In the statement, the representative of Libya disassociated the member State from the consensus on the draft resolution.

251. 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.

252. At the same meeting, the representatives of Germany and Mexico made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.63](#).

253. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Mexico, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.63](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Somalia, Sudan

*Against:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Poland, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Uzbekistan

254. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.63](#) by 22 votes to 17, with 6 abstentions.<sup>10</sup>

255. At the same meeting, the representatives of France, the Netherlands and Uruguay made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.64](#).

256. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of France and Mexico, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.64](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Somalia, Sudan

*Against:*

Armenia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Poland, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Argentina, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Japan, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Uzbekistan

<sup>10</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) did not cast a vote.

257. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.64](#) by 20 votes to 16, with 8 abstentions.<sup>11</sup>

258. At the same meeting, the representatives of Fiji and France made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.65](#).

259. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Mexico, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.65](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Togo

260. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.65](#) by 20 votes to 18, with 7 abstentions.<sup>12</sup>

261. At the same meeting, the representatives of Mexico and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.66](#).

262. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Mexico, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.66](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Japan, Namibia, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Togo

263. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.66](#) by 19 votes to 18, with 8 abstentions.<sup>12</sup>

264. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bahrain, also on behalf of Bangladesh, Botswana, China, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mauritania, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and the Sudan, China, India, Japan, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

265. 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:*

<sup>11</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) did not cast a vote.

<sup>12</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) did not cast a vote.

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Italy, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, India, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan

*Abstaining:*

Eritrea, Indonesia, Malawi, Philippines, Senegal

266. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 29 votes to 12, with 5 abstentions (resolution 48/9).<sup>13</sup>

267. After adoption of the draft resolution, Andorra, Armenia, Germany, Honduras, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Timor-Leste, Togo and the State of Palestine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

### **The right to development**

268. At the 43rd meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representative of Azerbaijan, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.18](#), sponsored by Azerbaijan, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, and co-sponsored by Afghanistan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Mongolia and the State of Palestine. Thereafter, Honduras withdrew its sponsorship. Subsequently, Tajikistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

269. At the same meeting, the representatives of India, the Marshall Islands and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made general comments on the draft resolution.

270. 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.

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

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

*In favour:*

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

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Brazil, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Uruguay

<sup>13</sup> The delegation of Cuba did not cast a vote.



273. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 29 votes to 13, with 5 abstentions (resolution 48/10).

274. After adoption of the draft resolution, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Kazakhstan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

#### **Human rights and indigenous peoples**

275. At the 43rd meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representatives of Guatemala and Mexico introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.22](#), sponsored by Guatemala and Mexico, and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and the United States of America. Subsequently, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Italy, Lithuania, the Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Panama, Paraguay, Slovenia and Togo joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

276. At the same meeting, the representatives of Indonesia, the Philippines and Ukraine made general comments on the draft resolution.

277. 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.

278. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

279. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 48/11).

280. After adoption of the draft resolution, Honduras, Hungary and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

#### **Human rights implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on young people**

281. At the 43rd meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representatives of El Salvador and Uzbekistan, also on behalf of Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Morocco, the Philippines, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova and Tunisia, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.26/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, El Salvador, Greece, Italy, Morocco, the Philippines, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Tunisia and Uzbekistan, and co-sponsored by Albania, Cyprus, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Monaco, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Yemen. Subsequently, Algeria, the Bahamas, China, Costa Rica, France, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Libya, Malaysia, the Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the State of Palestine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

282. 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.

283. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote. In the statement, the representative of the Russian Federation disassociated the member State from the consensus on paragraph 4 of the draft resolution.

284. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 48/12).

285. After adoption of the draft resolution, Czechia, Ecuador, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Mali, Mauritius, Peru, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

### The human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment

286. At the 43rd meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representative of Costa Rica, also on behalf of Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia and Switzerland, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.23/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Costa Rica, Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia and Switzerland, and co-sponsored by Albania, Armenia, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cabo Verde, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, North Macedonia, Panama, Portugal, San Marino, Slovakia, Spain, Tunisia, Uruguay and Vanuatu. Thereafter, the Marshall Islands and Mexico withdrew their sponsorship. Subsequently, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Kenya, Latvia, Libya, Lithuania, Malta, Paraguay, Peru, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, Uganda and the State of Palestine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

287. At the same meeting, the representative of Costa Rica orally revised the draft resolution.

288. Also at the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that amendments [A/HRC/48/L.29](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.30](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.23/Rev.1](#), as orally revised, had been withdrawn by the sponsor.

289. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendments [A/HRC/48/L.33](#), [A/HRC/48/L.34](#), [A/HRC/48/L.35](#), [A/HRC/48/L.36](#), [A/HRC/48/L.37](#), [A/HRC/48/L.38](#), [A/HRC/48/L.39](#), [A/HRC/48/L.40](#), [A/HRC/48/L.41](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.42](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.23/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

290. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of the Russian Federation orally revised amendments [A/HRC/48/L.33](#), [A/HRC/48/L.36](#), [A/HRC/48/L.37](#), [A/HRC/48/L.38](#), [A/HRC/48/L.39](#), [A/HRC/48/L.40](#), [A/HRC/48/L.41](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.42](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.23/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

291. Amendments [A/HRC/48/L.33](#), [A/HRC/48/L.34](#), [A/HRC/48/L.35](#), [A/HRC/48/L.36](#), [A/HRC/48/L.37](#), [A/HRC/48/L.38](#), [A/HRC/48/L.39](#), [A/HRC/48/L.40](#), [A/HRC/48/L.41](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.42](#) were sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Uganda joined in sponsoring the amendments.

292. At the same meeting, the representative of Uruguay made a statement on the proposed amendments to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.23/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

293. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Fiji, Germany, Italy, Namibia, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised, as well as on the proposed amendments.

294. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.33](#) as orally revised.

295. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.33](#) as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, Senegal, Togo

296. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.33](#), as orally revised, by 27 votes to 3, with 13 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

297. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.34](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Brazil, China, Eritrea, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Senegal

298. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.34](#) by 30 votes to 4, with 9 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

299. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.35](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Senegal

300. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.35](#) by 30 votes to 3, with 10 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

301. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.36](#) as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Brazil, China, Eritrea, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, Senegal

302. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.36](#), as orally revised, by 27 votes to 4, with 12 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>14</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) did not cast a vote.

303. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.37](#) as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, Senegal, Togo

304. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.37](#), as orally revised, by 26 votes to 3, with 14 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

305. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.38](#) as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Senegal

306. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.38](#), as orally revised, by 30 votes to 3, with 10 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

307. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.39](#) as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Senegal

308. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.39](#), as orally revised, by 30 votes to 3, with 10 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

309. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.40](#) as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Indonesia, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Japan, Mauritania, Pakistan, Senegal, Togo

310. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.40](#), as orally revised, by 26 votes to 4, with 13 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

311. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.41](#) as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, Senegal, Togo

312. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.41](#), as orally revised, by 27 votes to 3, with 13 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

313. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.42](#) as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Russian Federation

*Against:*

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Senegal, Togo

314. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.42](#), as orally revised, by 28 votes to 3, with 12 abstentions.<sup>14</sup>

315. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil, China, Indonesia, Japan, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Pakistan, Poland, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised.

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

*In favour:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czechia, Denmark, Eritrea, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great

Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

China, India, Japan, Russian Federation

317. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised, by 43 votes to none, with 4 abstentions (resolution 48/13).

318. After adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, Andorra, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, France, Georgia, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Malaysia, Mali, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Togo and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

**Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change**

319. At the 44th meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representative of the Marshall Islands, also on behalf of the Bahamas, the European Union, Fiji, Panama, Paraguay and the Sudan, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.27](#), sponsored by the Bahamas, the European Union, Fiji, the Marshall Islands, Panama, Paraguay and the Sudan, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Ecuador, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Namibia, North Macedonia, Qatar and Uruguay. Subsequently, Bahrain, Barbados, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Iceland, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, the Niger, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Senegal, Somalia, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen and the State of Palestine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

320. At the same meeting, the representative of the Marshall Islands orally revised the draft resolution.

321. Also at the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that amendment A/HRC/48/L.32 to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.27](#), as orally revised, had been withdrawn by the sponsor.

322. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), the Bahamas, India, Namibia, the Philippines (also on behalf of Bangladesh and Viet Nam), the Sudan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Uzbekistan made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

323. 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.

324. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, Japan, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

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

*In favour:*

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Russian Federation

*Abstaining:*

China, Eritrea, India, Japan

326. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, by 42 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions (resolution 48/14).

327. After adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, Georgia, Honduras, Mali, Mauritius, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

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328. At the 43rd meeting, on 8 October 2021, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that the draft resolution A/HRC/48/L.14 had been withdrawn by the sponsors.

## **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**

329. At the 16th meeting, on 22 September 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Thomas Andrews, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 46/21, an oral progress report.

330. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Special Rapporteur were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh (video statement), Bulgaria (video statement), Czechia (video statement), France, India (video statement), Indonesia, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines (video statement), Republic of Korea (video statement), Sweden<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway) (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Brunei Darussalam (video statement), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Thailand (video statement), Timor-Leste, Turkey, United States of America (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Human Rights Now, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Legal Action Worldwide.

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

### **B. Interactive dialogue on the written update of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar**

332. At the 17th meeting, on 23 September 2021, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 46/21, a written update on the situation of human rights in Myanmar ([A/HRC/48/67](#)) (in-person statement).

333. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the High Commissioner were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Indonesia, Japan (video statement), Libya (video statement), Lithuania<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Philippines (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement);

<sup>15</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.



(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Australia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), New Zealand (video statement), Romania (video statement), Viet Nam (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Centre pour les droits civils et politiques (Centre CCPR), Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Edmund Rice International (also on behalf of Baptist World Alliance), International Bar Association (also on behalf of Law Council of Australia, Lawyers for Lawyers and Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada), International Commission of Jurists, Next Century Foundation.

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

### **C. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update by the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan**

335. At the 17th meeting, on 23 September 2021, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 46/23, an enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update by the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan.

336. At the same meeting, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement for the enhanced interactive dialogue.

337. Also at the same meeting, the Chair of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, Yasmin Sooka, and a member of the Commission, Andrew Clapham, presented an oral update.

338. At the same meeting, the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs of South Sudan, Ruden Madol Arok Kachuol, made a statement for the enhanced interactive dialogue (in-person statement).

339. During the ensuing enhanced interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China (video statement), Eritrea, France, Germany (video statement), Netherlands (also on behalf of Belgium and Luxembourg) (video statement), Norway<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Norway and the United States of America) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Australia (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Human Rights Watch, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Meezaan Center for Human Rights, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

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

## **D. Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic**

341. At the 18th meeting, on 23 September 2021, a member of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, Karen Koning AbuZayd, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 46/22, the report of the Commission of Inquiry ([A/HRC/48/70](#)).

342. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned (in-person statement).

343. During the interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the members of the Commission of Inquiry were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Bahrain (video statement), Brazil (video statement), China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Finland<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Italy, Japan (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Australia (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Chile (video statement), Cyprus (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Greece (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Israel (video statement), Jordan (video statement), Kuwait (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Malta (video statement), Nicaragua, Qatar (video statement), Romania (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Turkey, United Arab Emirates (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, International Commission of Jurists, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Palestinian Return Centre, Ltd., World Council of Arameans (Syriacs), World Jewish Congress.

344. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Commission of Inquiry, Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, and two of its members, Hanny Megally and Karen Koning AbuZayd, answered questions and made their concluding remarks (in-person statements).

345. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Greece and Turkey made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

## **E. Interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi**

346. At the 18th meeting, on 23 September 2021, the Chair of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, Doudou Diène, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/19, the final report of the Commission of Inquiry ([A/HRC/48/68](#)).

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

348. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 19th meeting, on 24 September 2021, statements were made and questions to the Chair and the members of the Commission of Inquiry were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China (video statement), Czechia (video statement), France, Netherlands (video statement), Norway<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

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

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Human Rights Watch, International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT) (also on behalf of Centre pour les droits civils et politiques (Centre CCPR) and World Organisation against Torture), International Service for Human Rights, Meezaan Center for Human Rights, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

349. At the 19th meeting, the Chair and the member of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, Françoise Hampson, answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

## **F. Interactive dialogue on the interim oral update of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Belarus**

350. At the 19th meeting, on 24 September 2021, the High Commissioner provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 46/20, an interim oral update on the situation of human rights in Belarus (in-person statement).

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

352. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the High Commissioner were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria (video statement), Bulgaria (in-person statement), China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Czechia (video statement), Eritrea, France, Germany (video statement), Lithuania<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Poland (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Australia (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belgium (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Croatia (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (video statement), Estonia (video statement), Finland (video statement), Greece (video statement), Iceland (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland (video statement), Kazakhstan (video statement), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia (video statement), Lebanon, Liechtenstein (video statement), Lithuania (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Nicaragua (video statement), Romania (video statement), Slovakia (in-person statement), Slovenia (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Human Rights House Foundation, Ingénieurs du monde (also on behalf of United Nations Watch), International Bar Association (also on behalf of Lawyers for Lawyers and Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada), International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, World Organisation against Torture.

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

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

354. At the 19th meeting, on 24 September 2021, the Chair of the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Marta Valiñas, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/20, the report on the findings of the independent international fact-finding mission (A/HRC/48/69) (in-person statement).

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

356. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 20th meeting, on the same day, statements were made and questions to the Chair and the members of the independent international fact-finding mission were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil (video statement), China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Czechia (video statement), Eritrea, France, Germany (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Uruguay (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Canada, Chile (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Nicaragua (video statement), Paraguay (in-person statement), Portugal (video statement), South Sudan, Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Sweden (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America (video statement), Yemen (video statement), Zimbabwe;

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Amnesty International (also on behalf of Human Rights Watch), Asociación HazteOír.org, Freedom House, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, International Commission of Jurists (also on behalf of International Bar Association), International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, United Nations Watch, World Organisation against Torture.

357. At the 20th meeting, the Chair and the member of the independent international fact-finding mission, Francisco Cox Vial, answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

## H. General debate on agenda item 4

358. At the 20th meeting, on 24 September 2021, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 46/22, an oral update on the extent of civilian casualties in the Syrian Arab Republic (video statement).

359. At the same meeting and at the 21st and 22nd meetings, on 27 September 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 4, during which statements were made by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Austria (video statement), Azerbaijan<sup>15</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Ecuador and Honduras), Azerbaijan<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Albania, Bahrain, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Ecuador, Fiji, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Pakistan, Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen and the State of Palestine), China (video statement), China (also on behalf of Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe) (video statement), China (also on behalf of Belarus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, the Russian Federation, South Sudan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) (video statement), Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czechia (video statement), Denmark (video statement), Egypt<sup>15</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), France, France (also on behalf Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden), Germany (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Japan (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Pakistan (also on behalf of Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, China, the Comoros, the Congo, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Niger, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tonga, the United Arab Emirates, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine), Philippines, Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Ukraine (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Uruguay (video statement), Uzbekistan (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic and Zimbabwe) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (in-person statement), Australia (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Cabo Verde (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Chad, Cyprus (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (video statement), Estonia (video statement), Finland (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Ghana (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Israel (video statement), Jordan (video statement), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein (also on behalf of Costa Rica and Croatia) (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Madagascar (video statement), Mali, Malta (video statement), Norway (video statement), Rwanda, South Africa (video statement), South Sudan, Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Sweden (video

statement), Switzerland (video statement), the Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, United States of America (video statement), Vanuatu (video statement), Viet Nam;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Africa culture internationale, African Green Foundation International, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Alliance Creative Community Project, Alliance Defending Freedom, Alsalam Foundation, American Association of Jurists (also on behalf of 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, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship (also on behalf of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation), Asian Legal Resource Centre, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Association PANAFRICA, Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaïdjanais-Iran – "ARC", Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Bahá'í International Community, British Humanist Association, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Center for International Environmental Law (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Earthjustice, Foundation for Gaia, Franciscans International, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues and Soka Gakkai International), Centre du commerce international pour le développement, Centre Europe-tiers monde, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Centre pour les droits civils et politiques (Centre CCPR) (also on behalf of Franciscans International and Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH)), China Foundation for Human Rights Development, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la Charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples (CIRAC), Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle (COJEP), Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, "Coup de pouce" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Edmund Rice International, Elizka Relief Foundation, European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Genève pour les droits de l'homme: formation internationale and VIVAT International), Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad, Global Appreciation and Skills Training Network, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Human Rights House Foundation (also on behalf of Amnesty International and International Federation for Human Rights Leagues), Human Rights Now, Human Rights Watch, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Institut international de l'écologie industrielle et de l'économie verte, Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG), International Action for Peace & Sustainable Development, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Commission of Jurists, International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities (also on behalf of International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations), International Humanist and Ethical Union, International-Lawyers.org, International Lesbian and Gay Association (also on behalf of Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, International Commission of Jurists and International Service for Human Rights), International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights, Iraqi Development Organization, Japan Society for History Textbook, Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Liberation, L'Observatoire mauritanien des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Minority Rights Group, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Partners for Transparency, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Prahar,

PRATYEK, Promotion du développement économique et social, Reprieve, Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Sikh Human Rights Group, Society for Threatened Peoples, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, South Youth Organization, Stichting Global Human Rights Defence, Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund (also on behalf of CIDSE, Franciscans International, Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH) and World Organisation against Torture), Next Century Foundation, Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Tumuku Development and Cultural Union (TACUDU), United Nations Association of China, United Nations Watch, Villages unis/United Villages, VIVAT International, Women's Human Rights International Association, World Barua Organization, World Evangelical Alliance (also on behalf of Baptist World Alliance), World Muslim Congress, World Vision International (also on behalf of Save the Children International), Zéro pauvre Afrique.

360. At the 22nd meeting and at the 23rd meeting, on 28 September 2021, the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Bahrain, Belarus (video statement), China (video statement), Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania (video statement), Mauritania, Pakistan, Poland, the Russian Federation (in-person statement), Saudi Arabia, Turkmenistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

361. At the 23rd meeting, the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan made statements in exercise of the second right of reply.

## I. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

### Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

362. At the 44th meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Qatar, Turkey and the United States of America, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.10](#), sponsored by France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Qatar, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, Georgia, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. Subsequently, Estonia, Greece, Japan, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

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

364. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

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

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

#### *In favour:*

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

#### *Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uzbekistan

367. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 23 votes to 7, with 17 abstentions (resolution 48/15).

368. After adoption of the draft resolution, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Costa Rica, Honduras and Portugal joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

**Situation of human rights in Burundi**

369. At the 44th meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representative of Slovenia, on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.19/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Slovenia, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Ukraine and the United States of America. Subsequently, Canada, Iceland, the Marshall Islands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

370. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, and Somalia made general comments on the draft resolution.

371. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Burundi made a statement as the State concerned.

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.

373. At the same meeting, the representatives of China and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

374. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of Somalia and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

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

*Against:*

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Gabon, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Somalia, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, India, Indonesia, Namibia, Nepal, Senegal, Sudan, Uzbekistan

375. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 21 votes to 15, with 11 abstentions (resolution 48/16).

376. After adoption of the draft resolution, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Costa Rica joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.



## V. Human rights bodies and mechanisms

### A. Panel discussion

#### **Panel discussion on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests**

377. At the 26th meeting, on 29 September 2020, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 44/20, a panel discussion on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests, with a particular focus on achievements and contemporary challenges.

378. At the same meeting, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel discussion.

379. Also at the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, Clément Nyaletsossi Voule (in-person statement); Hersch Lauterpacht Chair in Public International Law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and former Chair of the Human Rights Committee, Yuval Shany (video statement); Secretary-General of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizenship Participation, Lysa John (video statement); United Nations Police Adviser (video statement).

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

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Lithuania<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Malawi, Poland (video statement), Switzerland<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain) (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Colombia (video statement), Costa Rica, United States of America (video statement);

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

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

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

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (also on behalf of American Civil Liberties Union and Terra de Direitos).

381. During the second speaking slot, statements were made and questions to the panellists were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cuba, India (video statement), Indonesia, Mauritania (video statement), Togo;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Iraq (video statement), Israel (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Montenegro (video statement), South Africa (video statement), Vanuatu;

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Service for Human Rights, Jubilee Campaign and World Organisation against Torture), Child Rights Connect (also on behalf of Save the Children International), Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health.

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

## **B. Interactive dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

383. At the 23rd meeting, on 28 September 2021, the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Megan Davis, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 32/25, the reports of the Expert Mechanism ([A/HRC/48/73](#), [A/HRC/48/74](#) and [A/HRC/48/75](#)) (video statement).

384. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 25th meeting, on 29 September 2021, statements were made and questions to the Chair of the Expert Mechanism were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil (video statement), China, Cuba (video statement), Indonesia, Mexico (also on behalf of Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay and Peru) (video statement), Norway<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Philippines, Russian Federation (video statement), Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Australia (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Guatemala, Iran (Islamic Republic of), New Zealand (video statement), Panama (video statement), Peru (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaïdjanais-Iran – "ARC", Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, China Foundation for Human Rights Development, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Conselho Indigenista Missionário (also on behalf of Justiça Global), International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Lutheran World Federation.

385. At the 25th meeting, the Chair of the Expert Mechanism answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

## **C. Interactive dialogue with the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights**

386. At the 26th meeting, on 29 September 2021, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and Head of OHCHR in New York presented the report of the Secretary-General on alleged reprisals against those who seek to cooperate or have cooperated with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms ([A/HRC/48/28](#)).

387. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 27th meeting, on 30 September 2021, statements were made and questions to the Assistant Secretary-General were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Austria (also on behalf of Croatia and Slovenia) (video statement), Belgium<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Luxembourg and the Netherlands) (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Cuba (video statement), Egypt<sup>15</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Ireland<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Fiji, Ghana, Hungary and Uruguay) (video statement), Latvia<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Pakistan, Philippines, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (in-person statement), Andorra (video statement), Australia (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Cambodia (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Ethiopia (in-person statement), Georgia (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Viet Nam (video statement), Yemen (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observers for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, National Human Rights Commission (India);

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Human Rights House Foundation, Institute for NGO Research, International Service for Human Rights, Right Livelihood Award Foundation.

388. At the 27th meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

389. At the 28th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the representatives of Cuba, Indonesia and Turkmenistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

#### **D. Interactive dialogue with the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee**

390. At the 27th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Chair of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, Ajai Malhotra, presented the reports of the Committee ([A/HRC/48/66](#), [A/HRC/48/71](#) and [A/HRC/48/72](#)) (in-person statement).

391. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Chair were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Brazil (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay) (video statement), China, Cuba, India (video statement), Libya (video statement), Mexico (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Republic of Korea (also on behalf of Austria, Brazil, Denmark, Morocco and Singapore) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Egypt (video statement), Israel, Morocco, Panama (video statement), South Africa, Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic;

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaïdjanais-Iran – “ARC”, China Foundation for Human Rights Development, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Institute for NGO Research, Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG), International Commission of Jurists (also on behalf of Article 19: International Centre against Censorship), International Council of Russian Compatriots (ICRC), International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, Iuventum, eV, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association.

392. At the same meeting, the Chair answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

## **E. Complaint procedure**

393. At its 20th meeting, on 24 September 2021, the Human Rights Council held a closed meeting on the complaint procedure.

394. At the same meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Situations, María Alejandra Costa Prieto, presented the report of the Working Group on its twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh sessions, held in closed meetings from 19 to 22 October 2020 and from 12 to 15 April 2021, respectively.

395. At the 21st meeting, on 27 September 2021, the 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-sixth and twenty-seventh sessions under the complaint procedure established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1. The President added that no case had been referred by the Working Group to the Council for action at the forty-eighth session.

## **F. General debate on agenda item 5**

396. At its 27th and 28th meetings, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 5, during which statements were made by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Azerbaijan<sup>15</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Ecuador and Honduras), Brunei Darussalam<sup>15</sup> (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) (video statement), China, China (also on behalf of Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Cuba (also on behalf of China, India, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen) (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Latvia<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Cyprus, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Luxembourg<sup>15</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guatemala, Ireland, Japan, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Mali, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Sudan, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay) (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Portugal<sup>15</sup> (also on behalf of Angola, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Colombia,

Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Georgia, Haiti, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, Seychelles, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia and Uruguay) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Slovenia<sup>15</sup> (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Uruguay (also on behalf of Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Chile, Costa Rica, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Ireland, Latvia, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Peru, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Iraq (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia (video statement);

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Action of Human Movement, African Development Association, African Green Foundation International, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Amnesty International, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaïdjanais-Iran – "ARC", Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association Thendral, Center for Africa Development and Progress, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), Environment Conservation Organization – Foundation for Afforestation, Wild Animals and Nature, Global Appreciation and Skills Training Network, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG), International Action for Peace & Sustainable Development, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Commission of Jurists, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Iuventum, eV, Jeunesse étudiante tamoule, Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Le pont, Liberation, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Maloca Internationale, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development, Prahar, Reprieve, Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie, Sikh Human Rights Group, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Tamil Uzhagam, Villages unis/United Villages, World Barua Organization, World Muslim Congress.

397. At the 27th meeting, the Vice-President and Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council made a statement to the Council (in-person statement).

398. At the 28th meeting, the representatives of China and Iran (Islamic Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

## **G. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights**

399. At the 44th meeting, on 8 October 2021, the representatives of Ghana and Hungary introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.21/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Fiji, Ghana, Hungary, Ireland and Uruguay, and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Vanuatu. Thereafter, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland withdrew its sponsorship. Subsequently, Armenia, Canada, the Dominican Republic, Iceland, the Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, the Republic of Korea, the United States of America and the State of Palestine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

400. At the same meeting, the representatives of Ghana and Hungary orally revised the draft resolution.

401. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendments [A/HRC/48/L.50](#), [A/HRC/48/L.52](#), [A/HRC/48/L.53](#), [A/HRC/48/L.54](#), [A/HRC/48/L.55](#), [A/HRC/48/L.56](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.57](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.21/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

402. Amendments [A/HRC/48/L.50](#), [A/HRC/48/L.52](#), [A/HRC/48/L.53](#), [A/HRC/48/L.54](#), [A/HRC/48/L.56](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.57](#) were sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Belarus joined in sponsoring the amendments. Amendment [A/HRC/48/L.55](#) was sponsored by the Russian Federation.

403. At the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that amendments [A/HRC/48/L.49](#) and [A/HRC/48/L.51](#) to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.21/Rev.1](#), as orally revised, had been withdrawn by the sponsor.

404. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Uruguay made a statement on the proposed amendments to draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.21/Rev.1](#) as orally revised.

405. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Eritrea, Mexico, the Philippines and Togo made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised, as well as on the proposed amendments.

406. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina and Fiji made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.50](#).

407. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.50](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Brazil, China, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Mauritania, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

408. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.50](#) by 22 votes to 9, with 14 abstentions.<sup>16</sup>

409. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria and Fiji made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.52](#).

410. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.52](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

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

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

<sup>16</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Cuba did not cast a vote.

Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Mauritania, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan

411. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.52](#) by 24 votes to 9, with 14 abstentions.

412. At the same meeting, the representatives of Ukraine and Uruguay made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.53](#).

413. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.53](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Mauritania, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

414. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.53](#) by 25 votes to 7, with 13 abstentions.<sup>16</sup>

415. At the same meeting, the representatives of Fiji and France made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.54](#).

416. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.54](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Philippines, Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Nepal, Pakistan, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan

417. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.54](#) by 24 votes to 11, with 11 abstentions.<sup>17</sup>

418. At the same meeting, the representative of Uruguay made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.55](#).

419. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.55](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Namibia,

<sup>17</sup> The delegation of the Plurinational State of Bolivia did not cast a vote.

Nepal, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Mauritania, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

420. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.55](#) by 23 votes to 10, with 12 abstentions.<sup>18</sup>

421. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.56](#).

422. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.56](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

China, Eritrea, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Nepal, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan

423. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.56](#) by 23 votes to 6, with 16 abstentions.<sup>18</sup>

424. At the same meeting, the representative of the Marshall Islands made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment [A/HRC/48/L.57](#).

425. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Uruguay, a recorded vote was taken on amendment [A/HRC/48/L.57](#). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

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

*Abstaining:*

Armenia, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Indonesia, Mauritania, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo

426. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment [A/HRC/48/L.57](#) by 24 votes to 8, with 14 abstentions.<sup>19</sup>

427. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised.

428. In the statement, the representatives of China and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) disassociated the respective member States from the consensus on the draft resolution as orally revised. In the statement, the representative of the Russian Federation disassociated

<sup>18</sup> The delegations of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Cuba did not cast a vote.

<sup>19</sup> The delegation of the Plurinational State of Bolivia did not cast a vote.



the member State from the consensus on the seventh, eleventh, thirteenth and fifteenth preambular paragraphs and on paragraphs 1 and 12 of the draft resolution as orally revised.

429. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, without a vote (resolution 48/17).

430. After adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, the Bahamas, Botswana, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Maldives, South Africa and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

431. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil and Cameroon made statements in explanation of vote after the vote and general comments in relation to the resolution adopted under agenda item 5.

## VI. Universal periodic review

432. 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-eighth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, held from 3 to 14 May 2021.

433. In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the President stated that all 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 recommendations by indicating that it either "supported" or "noted" them.

### A. Consideration of universal periodic review outcomes

434. In accordance with paragraph 14 of President's statement 8/1, the following 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.<sup>20</sup>

#### Namibia

435. The review of Namibia was held on 3 May 2021 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 Namibia 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;<sup>21</sup>

(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;<sup>22</sup>

(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.<sup>23</sup>

436. At its 28th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Namibia (see sect. C below).

437. The outcome of the review of Namibia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>24</sup> 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.<sup>25</sup>

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

438. The delegation (video statement) stated that as strong proponents of the universal periodic review mechanism, Namibia valued the broad participation of fellow States and

<sup>20</sup> <https://hrcmeetings.ohchr.org/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/48session/Pages/default.aspx>.

<sup>21</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/NAM/1](#).

<sup>22</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/NAM/2](#).

<sup>23</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/NAM/3](#).

<sup>24</sup> [A/HRC/48/4](#).

<sup>25</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/4/Add.1](#).

stakeholders during the review. The review presented an opportunity for Namibia to carry out self-reflection and introspection.

439. Namibia had received 283 recommendations and, after careful consideration, had supported 229 of them. The remaining 54 recommendations had been noted because they required extensive consultation to effect constitutional, policy or legislative reforms. True to the nature of constitutional democracy, constitutional amendments required robust widespread public consultations, including consultations with all political parties, the realization of which would require a substantial amount of time.

440. Namibia firmly believed that all human rights mattered because they were indivisible, interdependent and interrelated. The Constitution of Namibia was anchored in the rights to life, human dignity, liberty, justice and the pursuit of happiness.

441. Namibia had noted the recommendations to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. The Labour Act of 2007 applied to all persons employed in the country and the legislative framework around the protection of employees did not exclude migrant workers. In an effort to improve the management of labour migration flows, the Government had operationalized a five-year National Labour Migration Policy and its associated implementation plan. Consequently, migrant workers were not neglected or abused within the domestic set up.

442. Namibia had noted the recommendations to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, as time was required to carry out the necessary consultations on the possible ratification of the Convention. However, Namibia would continue to cooperate and engage with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances.

443. The principle of equality and non-discrimination were important objectives of constitutional democracy in Namibia and the Government was committed to promoting and protecting the right to non-discrimination. Therefore, homosexuality was not illegal nor did the Government sanction or condone the persecution of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning community. Earlier that year, the Minister of Justice had received a report from the Law Reform and Development Commission on the abolishment of the common law offences of sodomy and unnatural sexual offences, with an accompanying draft bill repealing legislative and common law provisions related to such offences. That report would be presented to Parliament for discussion and consideration. That was an important step for Namibia, which demonstrated the Government's commitment to exploring effective mechanisms in clarifying its position on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning persons, despite existing normative and religious barriers. In the meantime, the Government continued to promote and protect the general right to non-discrimination for all persons.

444. Recommendations to legalize abortion had been noted. Parliament was considering the issue of abortion, the outcome of which would advance dialogue in the country and inform the action to be taken by the Government. The Abortion and Sterilization Act of 1975 provided for circumstances under which women and girls could access safe and legal abortion. Medical assistance and treatment were provided indiscriminately in cases in which patients presented with complications as a result of illegal and unsafe abortions.

445. Namibia continued to be heavily burdened by escalating cases of violence against women and children, including domestic violence, gender-based and sexual violence. The Government was implementing the prioritized National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023, accompanied by its robust monitoring and evaluation framework, which ensured that the services received by survivors were empathetic and responsive. The Combating of Domestic Violence Act of 2003 and the Combating of Rape Act of 2000 had been revised to enhance the protection of victims of domestic and sexual violence.

446. As a semi-arid country, Namibia bore the brunt of the harsh impacts of climate change. Vulnerable persons, including older persons in rural areas and those in marginalized communities were most affected by the effects of climate change.

447. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises on the global economy was painfully felt by Namibia and its people as the country battled to protect public health and

preserve livelihoods. Adapting implementation plans to ensure that the laws, policies, treaty obligations and recommendations were effectively implemented in times of crisis remained a challenge to all States, but more so for developing countries such as Namibia. However, the Government would continue to place human rights at the centre of all its actions and demonstrate resilience against such challenges.

448. Namibia would continue to do its best to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights for all persons and the Government was fully aware of the work that was needed to be done in that regard. The Government would continue to hold open and constructive discussions with the Namibian people and all relevant stakeholders acting in good faith for the betterment of the well-being of the people, in an effort to ensure that no one was left behind or excluded from prosperity.

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

449. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Namibia, 13 delegations made statements.

450. The Philippines (video statement) thanked Namibia for having supported three recommendations made by the Philippines during the review and respected the position taken by Namibia in relation to the fourth recommendation, which related to the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It noted the legislative initiatives that were being introduced to strengthen migration management capacity. It also noted that Namibia had supported the majority of the recommendations received and welcomed its robust efforts to further strengthen measures to advance the promotion and protection of human rights.

451. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted, with satisfaction, that Namibia had supported the majority of the recommendations received, including the three recommendations it had made, which pertained, inter alia, to justice system reforms, juvenile detention and the rights of detainees. The Russian Federation also noted the effective measures taken by the Government to build a democratic law-based State and appreciated that, in a relatively short period of time since gaining independence, Namibia had established civil society institutions and specialized agencies to monitor the protection of human rights and the rule of law.

452. Senegal (video statement) noted with satisfaction the progress made by Namibia to promote and protect human rights by strengthening its national mechanisms. Senegal also noted other initiatives, including the adoption of the law on the care and protection of children, the facilitation of access to legal aid for indigent persons and the programmes to combat socioeconomic inequalities. It encouraged Namibia to continue its efforts to improve the living conditions of the population.

453. Sierra Leone (in-person statement) expressed its deep appreciation for the steps taken by Namibia to promote and protect women's rights, which included the adoption of the National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023. It commended Namibia for having supported many of the recommendations received during the review, including the recommendation made by Sierra Leone on reviewing laws to ensure their harmonization with international human rights standards.

454. South Africa (video statement) expressed its appreciation to Namibia for having supported all its recommendations. Those recommendations related, inter alia, to increasing access to health care for women and girls in rural communities, fast-tracking the implementation of its National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence 2019–2023 and tackling stigmatization and discrimination of persons infected with HIV/AIDS, especially women and girls.

455. Sri Lanka (video statement) noted the constructive engagement of Namibia in the universal periodic review process. It commended Namibia for having promulgated the Basic Education Act with a view to enhancing access to inclusive education and welcomed the efforts made by Namibia to eliminate trafficking in persons, including the adoption of the Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act. Sri Lanka noted the new national gender policy to

ensure action on the integration and mainstreaming of gender in the broader development framework and the efforts to realize equitable access to safe drinking water.

456. The Sudan (video statement) thanked Namibia for its positive and continuous engagement with the Human Rights Council and, in particular, the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. It appreciated the efforts made by Namibia to protect human rights, especially the strengthening of the institutional and legislative framework. The Sudan commended Namibia for its continuous efforts to guarantee the right to free and compulsory education for all children. It thanked Namibia for having supported the recommendations made by the Sudan and wished Namibia success in implementing all the recommendations supported.

457. Togo (video statement) thanked Namibia for having provided additional information and welcomed the improved normative framework for combating trafficking in persons, and violence and harassment in the workplace. It noted, with satisfaction, the ongoing legislative process aimed at providing Namibia with a more dynamic framework for protecting indigenous peoples and combating domestic violence and rape, among others. Togo encouraged Namibia to continue to build on that momentum to further promote and protect human rights.

458. Tunisia (video statement) thanked Namibia for having supported most of the recommendations received, including the recommendations made by Tunisia. It reiterated its appreciation to Namibia for the steps taken to implement the recommendations from the previous review and the progress made in fulfilling its human rights obligations, among others. Tunisia commended Namibia for the progress made in strengthening democracy and the rule of law, advancing gender equality, development and social inclusion, empowering women and combating poverty.

459. UNICEF (video statement) congratulated Namibia for the progress made in the realization of child rights. It acknowledged the significant commitments made by Namibia in progressive laws and policies. Those policies translated into major improvements in development outcomes for children, women and families. It commended Namibia for, inter alia, the well-developed and entirely publicly funded social protection system and noted that the country was on track to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV. It noted that, as an upper middle-income country, the economic growth of Namibia, had neither benefited all nor reduced the levels of poverty. It also noted that the COVID-19 pandemic had compounded existing challenges, inter alia, the high number of teenage pregnancies and increased cases of domestic violence. UNICEF stood ready, together with its sister agencies under the United Nations Partnership Framework, to continue to work with Namibia in implementing the recommendations.

460. UNFPA (video statement) commended Namibia for its report, which demonstrated the Government's commitment to ensuring the full enjoyment of fundamental human rights and freedoms. Its implementation of the supported recommendations was critical for the improvement of the human rights situation in the country. UNFPA expressed gratitude to Namibia for its commitment at the 25-year review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (the Nairobi Summit) to increase and expedite access to sexual and reproductive health services and stated that the implementation of the outcomes of the universal periodic review would accelerate the implementation of those commitments. UNFPA expressed its commitment to supporting Namibia, inter alia, in aligning those commitments with the implementation and follow-up of recommendations from the universal periodic review.

461. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) noted that Namibia had openly cooperated with the universal periodic review mechanism and expressed its appreciation for the country's implementation of the recommendations supported during the previous review. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela commended Namibia for its achievements in the field of education and the efforts to eradicate poverty through the expansion of social welfare and protection programmes. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted, with appreciation, the priority given to combat sexual and gender-based violence and to ensure gender equality and the empowerment of women. It encouraged

Namibia to continue to consolidate its successful social policies, particularly with regard to the vulnerable sections of its population.

462. Viet Nam (video statement) stated that the high acceptance rate of recommendations highlighted the commitment of Namibia to the universal periodic review process. It noted, with appreciation, the efforts made by Namibia to eradicate poverty, to ensure the right to education during the COVID-19 pandemic and to ensure the protection and promotion of the rights of women, older persons and children. Viet Nam looked forward to deepening cooperation with Namibia on those matters and wished Namibia success in implementing the recommendations supported.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

463. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Namibia, five other stakeholders made statements.

464. The International Lesbian and Gay Association (video statement) expressed regret that of the 24 recommendations related to the rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community, 18 had been noted by Namibia. The recommendations noted concerned, inter alia, the repeal of provisions criminalizing consensual same-sex conduct between adults. It welcomed the fact that six recommendations related to combating discrimination and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and ensuring their right to health, especially that of transgender persons, enjoyed the support of Namibia. It urged Namibia to make all efforts to implement those recommendations.

465. International Service for Human Rights (video statement) welcomed the recommendations made to Namibia, inter alia, to decriminalize same-sex relations between consenting adults and revise discriminatory laws. It urged Namibia to support those recommendations and to take the necessary action to protect the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. It called upon Namibia to amend the definition of a domestic relationship as contained in the Combating of Domestic Violence Act of 2003 to include lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender couples; decriminalize sodomy; include in the Criminal Procedure Act of 1977, hatred and prejudice as aggravating factors to be considered when courts were passing sentences; and enact legislation prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity.

466. United Nations Watch (video statement) stated that historic, economic and educational disadvantages had limited the participation of the San, Himba and other ethnic groups in politics. The Herero and Nama remained marginalized and often lived in remote, unproductive areas on reservations. Without access to equal education, minority groups such as the San and Himba would become more socially and economically vulnerable.

467. The Lutheran World Federation (video statement) urged Namibia to work with all national and local stakeholders to implement the recommendations supported, prioritizing those pertaining to the domestication of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; improvements in social protection; access to adequate housing; land reforms; the rights of indigenous persons; and the eradication of inequality, poverty, unemployment, and sexual and gender-based violence. It called upon the international community to provide the necessary technical and material support to Namibia.

468. The Centre du commerce international pour le développement (video statement) noted, with satisfaction, the establishment of the specialized institutions responsible for monitoring the application of human rights and the rule of law. It also noted that the adoption of the Fifth National Development Plan and the National Gender Policy and Vision 2030. It welcomed the progress made in providing access to justice and education to children from marginalized communities and in combating sexual and gender-based violence. Noting the establishment of mechanisms to promote the rights and well-being of ethnic minorities, the existence of discrimination remained a major concern. It invited Namibia to combat rape, domestic violence and discrimination against sexual minorities, and to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

#### 4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

469. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 283 recommendations received, 229 had enjoyed the support of Namibia and 54 had been noted.

470. The delegation (video statement) thanked all the delegations that had made statements during the review and current session. The recommendations made were valuable and would enrich the Government's efforts to promote and protect the human rights of all persons in Namibia. The various issues raised through the recommendations would continue to receive due consideration through the necessary policy, legal and institutional reforms with a clear and robust implementation plan as enunciated in the Harambee Prosperity Plans and the National Development Plans.

471. The delegation expressed its appreciation to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Fiji and the Sudan for their work as members of the troika and to the secretariat for its guidance and support.

472. The delegation reaffirmed the strong support of Namibia for the universal periodic review mechanism, which was designed to prompt, support and expand the promotion, fulfilment and protection of human rights on the ground. As a country and as a Government, Namibia was painfully aware of the need to avoid human rights violations at all costs as such violations had the potential to cause future conflicts.

#### Niger

473. The review of the Niger was held on 3 May 2021 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 Niger 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;<sup>26</sup>

(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;<sup>27</sup>

(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.<sup>28</sup>

474. At its 28th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Niger (see sect. C below).

475. The outcome of the review of the Niger comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>29</sup> 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.<sup>30</sup>

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

476. The delegation (in-person statement) recalled that, during its review, the Niger had received 254 recommendations formulated by 95 States and underlined that all those recommendations had been carefully studied in concert with all national stakeholders. At the end of the reflection, 248 recommendations had been accepted and 6 had been noted. The 248 recommendations accepted addressed a range of themes, including (a) strengthening the

<sup>26</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/NER/1](#).

<sup>27</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/NER/2](#).

<sup>28</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/NER/3](#).

<sup>29</sup> [A/HRC/48/5](#).

<sup>30</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/5/Add.1](#).

normative and institutional framework for human rights; (b) cooperation with human rights mechanisms; (c) the promotion of civil and political rights; (d) the fight against torture, trafficking in persons and discrimination; (e) protection of the rights of special groups; and (f) the realization of economic, social and cultural rights.

477. Those issues were perfectly in line with the concerns of the Government and with the objectives of the Niger Renaissance Programme Act 3. An action plan 2022–2026 for the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations would be prepared by the interministerial committee in charge of monitoring the implementation of the recommendations, in accordance with a participatory and inclusive process. That plan would be submitted to the Government for adoption and would be subject to a midterm assessment.

478. However, the eagerness and the desire of the Government to respect its commitments depended greatly on a range of factors, including trends in the security situation of the country and the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic.

479. With regard to the security situation in particular, terrorist groups and other armed gangs continued to be a source of major concern, leaving a trail of dead behind them, refugees and internally displaced persons, thus rendering the humanitarian situation more alarming and the pursuit of development more difficult.

480. However, the Niger and the other countries of the subregion, through the Multinational Joint Task Force, the G5 Sahel Joint Force and other allied forces, continued to mobilize to deal with it. A strong appeal was made by the delegation to the international community for increased support to the countries affected by the war and to the population in distress.

481. Regarding the six recommendations noted, the delegation underlined the fact that they ran counter to the cultural values and fundamental practices currently in force in the society which, by their nature, could be changed overnight and therefore could not be repealed in an authoritative manner. The ultimate goal of any successful social reform was one that enjoyed general assent, had the support of the greatest number of persons and created harmony between the peoples, reducing the high risks of conflict with the Government. What was important was to have a guarantee of lasting peace in the country.

482. The Government of the Niger still remembered the serious religious unrest that had caused so much suffering throughout the country. That was why the Government had to be extremely cautious about any initiative that might lead the country into chaos or violence in an already critical security context. In addition, the Niger attached the greatest importance to the universal periodic review process and respect for its international commitments and would not accede to any recommendation that could not be implemented in the short or medium term.

483. The delegation reaffirmed the solemn commitment of the Government of the Niger to take all the necessary measures to implement the recommendations accepted before the next review scheduled for 2026.

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

484. The National Human Rights Commission (Niger) (video statement) appreciated the progress made by the Government to incorporate certain conventions into domestic legislation, such as the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa. It encouraged the Niger to step up efforts to implement the recommendations pertaining to the adoption of the law on the protection of human rights defenders; the eradication of slavery practices; the speeding-up of judicial procedures; the improvement of school enrolment among girls; and the allocation of adequate resources to the National Human Rights Commission. It further encouraged the Niger to pursue with resolve its efforts to combat corruption and impunity and to withdraw the reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.



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

485. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Niger, 13 delegations made statements.

486. Mauritania (video statement) welcomed the measures taken by the Government of the Niger to strengthen its legislation and improve basic social services, particularly the rights to education, health and an adequate standard of living, as well as its efforts to promote and protect human rights.

487. Morocco welcomed the efforts made by the Niger to ratify numerous conventions on promoting and protecting human rights. It noted with appreciation the acceptance by the Niger of two of its recommendations and welcomed the country's decision to submit a midterm report on the progress made.

488. Namibia (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by the Niger of all recommendations, including those made by Namibia, to accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. Namibia noted that the move would officially confirm the status of the Niger as a de facto abolitionist State.

489. Nepal (video statement) appreciated the acceptance by the Niger of most of the recommendations received, including two recommendations made by Nepal. Nepal commended the Niger for the measures taken to protect human rights, such as the accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Nepal noted that those efforts reflected the commitment of Niger to promote and protect human rights.

490. Nigeria welcomed the efforts made by the Niger to strengthen the country's legal and institutional frameworks to promote and protect human rights. It commended the actions taken by the Government of the Niger to combat terrorism, trafficking in persons and other transnational organized crimes, as well as measures adopted to enhance the socioeconomic well-being of the country's population.

491. Oman (video statement) welcomed the constructive approach taken by the Niger during the universal periodic review cycle and recommended the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Niger.

492. Pakistan (video statement) thanked the Niger for its acceptance of the majority of the recommendations, including those made by Pakistan. It noted efforts made to strengthen the National Human Rights Commission (Niger) and to align national laws with the international human rights obligations of the Niger. It commended the resolve and resilience of the people of the Niger, especially in dealing with socioeconomic challenges in addition to those implied by the COVID-19 pandemic, and encouraged the country to continue its efforts aimed at implementing an economic and social development plan.

493. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted that the Niger had accepted the vast majority of the recommendations received during the third cycle of the universal periodic review, including three made by the Russian Federation. It hailed the consistent efforts of the Niger to strengthen national capacities in the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as its readiness to cooperate with international monitoring mechanisms. The Russian Federation also noted that problems remain unresolved in the field of human rights and urged the Niger to consolidate its efforts in that area.

494. Senegal (video statement) welcomed the progress made by the Government of the Niger to improve the human rights situation by strengthening its legal, institutional and normative framework in a range of areas. It welcomed the ratification of a large number of international legal instruments to protect and promote human rights, adoption of policies, programmes and strategies intended to improve the living conditions of the population, as well as the cooperation with treaty bodies.

495. Sierra Leone (in-person statement) welcomed the measures taken by the Government of the Niger to strengthen its legal, institutional, and normative framework for the protection and promotion of human rights. It commended the Niger for having accepted most of the

recommendations made during the third cycle review, including the two recommendations made by Sierra Leone.

496. Sri Lanka (video statement) commended the Niger on its adoption of the Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth Strategy, the national action plan to combat child labour, as well as the establishment of normative and institutional frameworks for their implementation. It noted that the Niger had accepted 248 of the 254 recommendations received, including all 3 recommendations made by Sri Lanka.

497. The Sudan (video statement) commended the efforts by the Niger to promote and protect human rights, especially to combat poverty and to guarantee access to drinking water and health-care services. It also commended efforts to guarantee integration of persons with disabilities and to ensure their access to basic services, including health care and education.

498. Togo (video statement) welcomed the strong commitment of the authorities of the Niger to do more to protect and promote human rights, in order to ensure the well-being, peace, security and development of its population. It encouraged the Niger to continue its efforts to further promote and protect human rights in the country, including with a view to meaningful progress in terms of gender equality.

#### **4. General comments made by other stakeholders**

499. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Niger, nine other stakeholders made statements.

500. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (video statement) welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations aimed at lifting certain reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, bolstering girls' education, prohibiting child marriage by law and raising the age of marriage to 18. It also noted with appreciation the acceptance by Niger of the recommendations related to the strengthening of women's participation in the peace process and conflict prevention. It also encouraged the Government to adopt a law on gender parity in political and public life. It further appreciated the adoption of measures to combat sexual and gender-based violence, while urging the Government to bring to justice those responsible, including security forces, and to provide protection and redress for victims.

501. International Service for Human Rights (video statement) appreciated the political will of the Government to ensure a safe and enabling civic space; to adopt a bill on the protection of human rights defenders; and to improve school enrolment among girls as a means to tackle early marriage. It expressed concern about the partial implementation of recommendations pertaining to civic space, the ongoing persecution of human rights defenders and the restrictive nature of the law to fight cybercrime. It urged the Government to expeditiously enact a bill on the protection of human rights defenders; to put an end to their harassment; and to unconditionally release all detained human rights defenders, activists and journalists.

502. Advocates for Human Rights (video statement) commended the Niger for having supported 33 recommendations related to the abolition of the death penalty, human rights defenders and the improvement of detention conditions. However, it noted with concern that the death penalty had not been repealed in the Criminal Code, thus resulting in a persistent judicial practice of sentencing persons to death. It also expressed concern about the high number of arbitrary arrests and police violence perpetrated against journalists, activists and civil society; the repression and criminalization of demonstrations; and overcrowding and the lack of health care and food in detention facilities. It also urged the Niger to carry out thorough and impartial investigations into allegations of excessive use of force and human rights violations by law enforcement officers; and to provide human rights defenders with adequate protection.

503. The Center for Global Nonkilling (video statement) noted with appreciation the decision by the Government to ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. It called upon the Niger to swiftly ratify that Convention, by stressing that the prevention of genocide would also contribute to the achievement of target 16.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

504. The Meezaan Center for Human Rights (video statement) congratulated the Niger on the establishment of the National Observatory for Gender Promotion and the National Gender Policy. However, it regretted that the Niger had not repealed its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, while stressing the benefits of involving women as equal stakeholders in the economy and the negative impact of customary inheritance law on women's and girls' wealth and autonomy. It further encouraged the Government to remove all discriminatory and infrastructural barriers to education, thereby emphasizing the positive contribution that school enrolment could bring to the fight against child marriage and child labour.

505. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by the Niger of all recommendations related to civic space, while expressing concern about restrictions on such space and the non-implementation of the majority of the recommendations that it had received during previous cycles. It also noted with concern the targeting of human rights defenders, journalists and bloggers for covering protests, for raising their voice against corruption or for criticizing government actions. The Niger was urged to use the democratic transition as an opportunity to consolidate its democracy, to lift restrictions on civic space and to implement all universal periodic review recommendations supported by the Government.

506. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme (video statement) expressed its appreciation for the ratification of several international conventions, the adoption of a judicial reform aimed at improving judicial coverage throughout the country, as well as efforts made in the fields of health care and poverty reduction. However, it noted with concern the high rate of early marriages; sexual and domestic violence; and discrimination against women concerning inheritance laws. It called upon the Government to reinforce its cooperation with United Nations special procedures and human rights treaty bodies. It also encouraged the Niger to improve detention conditions and to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

507. SOS Kinderdorf International (video statement) noted with appreciation the acceptance of the recommendations related to birth registration of children at risk of statelessness. In that respect, it encouraged the Government to take concrete measures to ensure the effective registration of all births, as well as to facilitate the naturalization of unaccompanied children and of those born to unknown parents. It further welcomed the Government's commitment to improving the socioeconomic well-being of the population and to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. It encouraged the Government to bolster its support for the most vulnerable families; to establish care options tailored to the needs of each child; and to establish a fund for non-governmental organizations supporting vulnerable families and children without parental care.

508. The Centre du commerce international pour le développement (video statement) commended the Niger for the advances achieved since its second universal periodic review, its contribution to the African free trade zone and its constant support for the G5 Sahel Joint Force. However, it expressed concern about insecurity in the country, in particular in the south-east where terrorist groups carried out attacks on villages, extortion, intimidation and forced recruitment of children, among others. It called upon the Niger to streamline human rights in its national policies, to take concrete steps to fight against impunity and to abolish the death penalty.

## **5. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

509. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 254 recommendations received, 248 had enjoyed the support of the Niger and 6 had been noted.

510. The delegation (in-person statement) reaffirmed the country's commitment to promoting and protecting human rights as a whole. In that regard, the Government, Parliament, the National Human Rights Commission (Niger), civil society organizations and technical and financial partners would combine efforts and maintain a permanent dialogue for the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

511. The activities selected in the context of the follow-up to the recommendations and voluntary commitments would focus, among other things, on the following aspects and would be executed according to the following schedule: (a) a communication in the Council of Ministers by the head of the delegation upon his return; (b) a debriefing of all stakeholders about the progress of the review and of the recommendations received; (c) a parliamentary day dedicated to the universal periodic review; (d) dissemination of the recommendations received; (e) consultations with stakeholders for the development of a plan to implement the recommendations; (f) adoption by the Government of such a plan; (g) strengthening of the structure responsible for monitoring the implementation of recommendations; (h) dissemination of the plan; (i) preparation of a midterm report; and (j) preparation of the national report for the fourth cycle review.

512. The implementation of that timetable would require the contribution and collaboration of all actors, including the United Nations system, in particular through OHCHR, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women.

513. The Niger is also ready to cooperate fully with all human rights mechanisms, including treaty bodies and special procedures. The Niger would continue to diligently examine and to authorize any request to visit the country by special procedure mandate holders or treaty bodies.

### **Mozambique**

514. The review of Mozambique was held on 4 May 2021 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 Mozambique 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;<sup>31</sup>

(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;<sup>32</sup>

(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.<sup>33</sup>

515. At its 29th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Mozambique (see sect. C below).

516. The outcome of the review of Mozambique comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>34</sup> 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.<sup>35</sup>

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

517. The delegation (in-person statement) introduced the position of Mozambique on the recommendations received during its third universal periodic review.

518. The recommendations had been the object of a broad and in-depth consultation process involving all relevant actors. Of the 266 recommendations received, Mozambique had accepted 236 and noted 30, which constituted a three per cent increase in the acceptance rate compared with the universal periodic review of 2016, demonstrating the Government's

<sup>31</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/MOZ/1](#).

<sup>32</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/MOZ/2](#).

<sup>33</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/MOZ/3](#).

<sup>34</sup> [A/HRC/48/6](#).

<sup>35</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/6/Add.1](#).

commitment to the exercise. The few recommendations that had been noted either did not reflect the reality on the ground or were based on erroneous information.

519. Mozambique had ratified seven of the nine core human rights treaties of the United Nations human rights system. Nonetheless, Mozambique considered that additional efforts from the Government were required for the full realization of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. Accordingly, priority actions included making binding the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol thereto; and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

520. Regarding the role of national human rights institutions, namely the National Human Rights Commission and the Ombudsman, Mozambique recognized their important role and the Government would continue to make efforts to ensure that they were strengthened, enabling them to effectively carry out their mandates.

521. The Government and various civil society organizations had dedicated special attention to the area of women's rights, through training for different relevant actors, the provision of legal assistance and advocacy to promote and defend women's rights. Awareness-raising actions had been carried out in schools and communities against sexual harassment and the abuse of students, to ensure that schools were healthy and safe places, free from violence. Additionally, the delegation noted the enactment of Law No. 19/2019 on Preventing and Combating Premature Unions and the revocation of Decree No. 39/2003, which had prohibited pregnant students from attending daytime classes.

522. Concerning recommendations on the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, the Government was preparing to receive special procedure mandate holders who had requested to visit the country, noting in particular the upcoming visit of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, on a date to be agreed upon.

523. Mozambique was committed to speeding up the finalization of the draft law on the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, thus ensuring compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other international and regional legal instruments on that issue.

524. Mozambique would continue efforts to eradicate political-military tensions in the central region of the country, through the acceleration of the process of demobilization, disarmament and reintegration of former Mozambique National Resistance guerrillas, and to address violent extremism in the northern part of the country and provide assistance to displaced persons. The fight against violent extremism was a global phenomenon and required joint efforts by the relevant actors.

525. Mozambique expressed its thanks for the solidarity it had received in response to the crisis in the Cabo Delgado Province, which had arisen as a result of terrorist acts. With the support of international partners, joint actions had been developed aimed at restoring peace and security in that region. The joint operations had allowed the retaking of occupied areas.

526. Concerning recommendations that were not supported, Mozambique had noted recommendations that the State considered it was not in a position to implement, either due to their incompatibility with the domestic legal system or conflict with the country's cultural, traditional and religious values, or other circumstances.

527. Regarding the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the delegation recalled that, despite being a signatory since the year 2000, Mozambique was not yet a State party. Mozambique considered that it was still pertinent to clarify the contents of the Rome Statute, in particular the legal definitions of crimes and their respective criminal frameworks, as well as the modalities of surrender and extradition, which were incompatible with the domestic legal system. Law No. 24/2019 on Penal Code Revision incorporated some precepts of the Rome Statute, including by providing for, among others, the crimes of genocide, ethnic or religious discrimination, war crimes against civilians and torture and other cruel, degrading or inhuman treatment.

528. Concerning the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, Mozambique had been a signatory since December 2008 and

recognized that that instrument strengthened the human rights legal framework. However, Mozambique considered it relevant to conduct an in-depth examination of the applicability of the Convention in the domestic legal order.

529. With regard to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, after analysing that instrument, it had been concluded that the withdrawal of the reservations made by Mozambique would be incompatible with the norms of its domestic law. This, however, had not prevented the State from guaranteeing the enjoyment of the rights provided for in the articles concerned by the reservation to refugees and asylum seekers. Mozambique had ratified several instruments related to the status of refugees and, within the framework of sharing international responsibility, it had welcomed refugees from various countries.

530. There was no discrimination regarding the recognition of civil society organizations in the country. In the case of the recognition of the Mozambican Association for the Defence of Sexual Minorities and other similar associations, the position of Mozambique was that non-registration did not imply a discriminatory practice and that there were sociological factors that necessitated a more thoughtful analysis regarding recognition. At the same time, citizens who identified themselves with that social group suffered no impediment, in practice, in exercising their rights and enjoying them fully.

531. The Government and its partners had identified new areas of common interest, namely: the necessity of formally establishing the interministerial commission for human rights and international humanitarian law, through the formalization of the existing interministerial group; the Government's commitment to adhering to the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights and to establish partnerships for the development of the national action plan on business and human rights; efforts to mitigate the effects of the global health crisis caused by COVID-19, through awareness-raising, preventive measures and the development of mass vaccination campaigns; and efforts to return internally displaced persons to their areas of origin and provide them with essential services.

532. Additionally, the phenomenon of terrorism posed a challenge to the common courts and other sectors of the justice system, and the country had requested international support for the training of judicial magistrates and the Public Prosecutor's Office and other professionals of the justice system in that regard.

533. Another challenge would be the approval of a national human rights policy and its implementation strategy; the delegation wished to take the present opportunity to establish a basis for cooperation to achieve that goal.

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

534. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Mozambique, 13 delegations made statements.

535. Mauritania (video statement) congratulated Mozambique on the progress made since its last universal periodic review in improving the living conditions of its people, namely in the areas of education, health and justice sector reform. Mauritania encouraged Mozambique to continue its efforts aimed at the protection and promotion of human rights. Mauritania asked the Human Rights Council to adopt the outcome of the review of Mozambique and wished the country every success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

536. Morocco welcomed the continued involvement of Mozambique in the universal periodic review process and the efforts made to promote and protect human rights. It commended the acceptance of the recommendation made by Morocco, namely pursuing efforts to promote the rule of law and good governance in cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms. Morocco supported the adoption of the outcome of the review of Mozambique and wished it every success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

537. Namibia (video statement) commended Mozambique for having accepted 236 out of the 266 recommendations that it had received during the third cycle of the universal periodic review. Namibia expressed satisfaction that Mozambique had accepted the recommendation of Namibia to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

demonstrating the country's commitment to the progressive realization of economic, social and cultural rights for all persons in its territory. Namibia wished Mozambique success in implementing the recommendations accepted and urged the Council to adopt the outcome of the review by consensus.

538. Nepal (video statement) commended Mozambique for having accepted most of the recommendations that it had received during the third cycle of the universal periodic review, including both recommendations made by Nepal. While appreciating the increase in the representation of women in political life, Nepal encouraged Mozambique to continue its efforts to achieve gender parity. Finally, Nepal wished Mozambique every success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

539. Nigeria noted positively the progress achieved by Mozambique in the field of human rights and the improvement of the socioeconomic well-being of its people. In particular, Nigeria commended the determination of Mozambique to combat trafficking in persons and corruption, as well as to ensure the protection of the rights of vulnerable people, including persons with albinism. Nigeria recommended the adoption of the outcome of the review of Mozambique by consensus and wished the Government success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

540. Portugal (video statement) congratulated Mozambique for having accepted 236 of the 266 recommendations that it had received. Portugal noted with satisfaction the commitment of Mozambique to take urgent action to protect conflict-affected populations in the northern and central regions, including internally displaced persons. Portugal commended Mozambique for having agreed to facilitate humanitarian assistance, monitor human rights in Cabo Delgado and ensure that perpetrators of human rights violations were identified and brought to justice. Portugal also noted with satisfaction the commitment of Mozambique to protect civic space and freedom of expression and the press.

541. The Russian Federation (video statement) commended Mozambique for having accepted most of the recommendations received, including the ones that it had made. While noting the efforts of the Government to build national capacity in the field of human rights protection, the Russian Federation noted with concern the steady increase in the number of internally displaced persons in Cabo Delgado in light of regular terrorist attacks by militant groups affiliated with Da'esh. It expressed the hope that the recommendations accepted by Mozambique during the universal periodic review would be duly implemented in order to overcome existing problems in the field of human rights.

542. Senegal (video statement) warmly welcomed the significant progress made by the Government in improving the human rights situation, which had led to the strengthening of the relevant legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks. Senegal also welcomed the adoption of laws, programmes and policies to guarantee the protection of the rights of children with a view to improving their well-being and facilitating access to basic social services for persons with disabilities. While calling for the adoption of the outcome of the review of Mozambique, Senegal encouraged the country to continue to improve the living conditions of vulnerable populations.

543. Sierra Leone noted with satisfaction the measures taken by Mozambique to improve the legislative and institutional frameworks and to combat gender inequalities, particularly the political participation of women, and encouraged Mozambique to increase its efforts in that regard. Finally, Sierra Leone encouraged Mozambique to continue to work towards implementing the recommendations accepted.

544. South Africa (video statement) expressed its appreciation to Mozambique for having accepted the recommendations that it had made on: improving access to quality primary health care, including sexual reproductive health services, to women, children and rural communities; continuing to strengthen measures to combat violence against women and girls and to implement fully the national plan to prevent and combat gender-based violence; and intensifying measures to tackle discrimination and stigma against persons with disabilities and those with albinism.

545. Sri Lanka (video statement) applauded the reforms aimed at improving the prison sector, children's right to education and increasing women's representation in politics. Sri

Lanka noted with appreciation the legislative and policy measures adopted by Mozambique to protect the rights of older persons, including the national policy for older persons and the basic social security programme. Sri Lanka also welcomed the national action plan to combat the worst forms of child labour and ratification of instruments of the International Labour Organization to protect the rights of children.

546. Togo noted with satisfaction the strong commitment and political will of Mozambique to protect and promote human rights in the country, which had led to the constant improvement of its institutional and legislative framework and various actions in favour of vulnerable persons. Togo expressed its belief that Mozambique would make greater efforts to give effect to the recommendations in order to guarantee the effective enjoyment of human rights to its populations and to consolidate the rule of law.

547. Tunisia (video statement) commended Mozambique for the steps taken to implement the recommendations of the previous cycle and the progress made in upgrading the legal framework for human rights, strengthening the role of the National Human Rights Commission, cooperating with the relevant international treaty mechanisms and issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures. Tunisia commended Mozambique for its progress in tackling gender inequality, promoting women's rights, and reforming the judiciary and the legal system through training programs.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

548. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Mozambique, nine other stakeholders made statements.

549. Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality (video statement) welcomed the inclusion of youth in the third cycle review through the national consultation with adolescents and youth. It encouraged Mozambique to: strengthen efforts to improve access to health care for all, including access to free and quality sexual and reproductive health services, especially for women and girls; adopt a comprehensive approach to combating discriminatory gender stereotypes, including harmful practices such as female genital mutilation and child marriages; and allocate the necessary human resources and provide evaluation mechanisms for the implementation of the second national plan to combat violence against women.

550. The International Lesbian and Gay Association (video statement) regretted that, as in previous cycles of the universal periodic review, Mozambique had noted recommendations related to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. It stated that such an approach indicated that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens were still not considered full citizens and that several human rights were denied to that community, such as the right to freedom of association, noting that, since 2017, the Mozambican Association for the Defence of Sexual Minorities had been waiting for a response from the Government on its registration request. It urged Mozambique to reconsider its position on the recommendations concerning lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons made in the third cycle review.

551. International Service for Human Rights (video statement) noted with satisfaction the acceptance by Mozambique of recommendations aimed at protecting freedom of expression and peaceful demonstrations. It called upon the Government to develop specific laws and policies to recognize and protect the work of human rights defenders and combat impunity, by ensuring a thorough and impartial investigation of all violations against defenders, the prosecution of perpetrators and access to effective remedies for victims. It also urged the adoption and implementation of the changes to the Law of Association of 1991 suggested since 2008 by the United Nations Development Programme.

552. Action Canada for Population and Development (video statement) noted that patriarchy was pervasive in Mozambican society and that women faced discrimination and restrictions throughout their lives in all areas. It expressed concern that Mozambique had noted a recommendation that would increase access to abortion for rural women. It called upon Mozambique to: ensure all sexual and reproductive health services were available, accessible and quality compliant in every province across the country; include comprehensive sexuality education as a stand-alone subject in the school curriculum; and eliminate discrimination in the registration of non-governmental organizations.



553. World Vision International (video statement) welcomed the support of Mozambique for the majority of the recommendations that it had received, including recommendations on child marriage. It also welcomed the Government's commitment to providing resources to respond to the impacts of climate change and to ensure that women and children in conflict zones were protected from violations of their rights, including killings, sexual abuse and the recruitment and use of children in armed forces. It also expressed concern about the non-acceptance of recommendations to conduct immediate and impartial investigations into allegations of arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, torture and excessive use of force by security services.

554. The Lutheran World Federation (video statement) urged Mozambique to continue to work closely with national and local stakeholders in the implementation of the recommendations accepted, prioritizing those related to: the humanitarian situation in Cabo Delgado Province; civil and political rights, including ensuring inclusive political participation and protecting civic space and freedom of expression, assembly and association; the rights of persons with Albinism, women and children; business and human rights; and a rights-based approach to addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. It also urged the international community to provide the necessary technical and material support to Mozambique to realize those rights.

555. The International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES) and Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco (video statement), in a joint statement, welcomed efforts to improve the education system and the acceptance of recommendations concerning the registration of children at birth. Nevertheless, they noted that legislation regarding registration was not effective, as it did not reach all sections of the population, especially in rural areas. They recommended: taking effective measures to reduce the school dropout rate; continuing efforts to provide adequate training for education professionals; ensuring that all children were registered at birth; and implementing the existing regulatory framework on underage marriages more promptly.

556. Human Rights Watch (video statement) welcomed the outcome of the universal periodic review of Mozambique, which contained important recommendations to address impunity for human rights abuses committed by both government forces and the armed group known as Al-Shabaab, in the northern Cabo Delgado Province. It encouraged Mozambique to ensure that investigations of human rights violations were conducted thoroughly and impartially, and that those responsible for the crimes were appropriately prosecuted. It also urged the authorities to ensure that humanitarian aid reached all affected communities. Finally, it reiterated its concern about persons with psychosocial disabilities being arbitrarily detained and treated without their consent in government psychiatric hospitals.

557. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (video statement) expressed concern at the unwarranted restrictions on freedom of expression and the deteriorating environment in which journalists and civil society activists operated and noted that physical attacks, intimidation and harassment were becoming increasingly common. It regretted that Mozambique had not accepted recommendations related to access to conflict zones by civil society and the media and the registration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer associations. It urged the Government to engage constructively with the universal periodic review process by implementing the recommendations that it had accepted and called upon member States to hold Mozambique accountable for upholding its commitments.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

558. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 266 recommendations received, 236 had enjoyed the support of Mozambique and 30 had been noted.

559. The delegation (in-person statement) expressed its gratitude to all those who had intervened during the session for their valuable contributions. The delegation assured the Human Rights Council that all accepted and noted recommendations would be considered at the appropriate time by the various State institutions and that Mozambique would provide updates regarding the status of their implementation using different means of monitoring and

evaluation, including the presentation of a midterm report to the Council. In that regard, the delegation requested the support and cooperation of the Council, OHCHR and the international community at large.

### **Estonia**

560. The review of Estonia was held on 4 May 2021 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 Estonia 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;<sup>36</sup>

(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;<sup>37</sup>

(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.<sup>38</sup>

561. At its 29th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Estonia (see sect. C below).

562. The outcome of the review of Estonia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>39</sup> 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.<sup>40</sup>

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

563. The delegation (in-person statement) recalled that the universal periodic review process was a cycle. It would therefore initiate the implementation of the recommendations and start preparations for submitting a midterm report and a fourth cycle report. Estonia was glad that the universal periodic review process continued to work efficiently during the COVID-19 pandemic by using the potential and benefits of new technologies. Hybrid meetings allowed for the participation of a high-level delegation with a broad range of experts. Estonia highly valued the role of all stakeholders.

564. The delegation recalled the commitment of Estonia to the principles of a rules-based international order and respect for and promotion of international law, including human rights law and international humanitarian law; and democracy, the rule of law and the fight against impunity. Estonian human rights policy was focused on three core areas. First, the protection of the rights of groups in the most vulnerable situations; second, the protection and advancement of freedom of speech and expression; and, third, advancing democracy, supporting civil society and combating impunity.

565. The delegation underlined the country's efforts to promote new technologies in all aspects of life and recalled the advantages that a digital society and e-Government could bring.

566. The delegation described some of the activities that Estonia had taken as a member of the Security Council with regard to the dire situation of children in armed conflict.

567. The delegation described the national process to review and formulate a position on the universal periodic review recommendations. In addition to the efforts and concrete plans

<sup>36</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/EST/1](#).

<sup>37</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/EST/2](#).

<sup>38</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/EST/3](#).

<sup>39</sup> [A/HRC/48/7](#).

<sup>40</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/7/Add.1](#).

to implement the recommendations accepted, the delegation highlighted that the recommendations noted had not been disregarded completely. It was reviewing some of the recommendations noted and was willing to initiate proceedings for their implementation, although no timetable had been set yet. In addition, the delegation shared information on human rights-related events taking place at the national level.

568. With regard to integration, horizontal integration policies were a State priority with the goal of an integrated and socially cohesive society in which people of different linguistic and cultural backgrounds actively participated as full members of society. The delegation recalled the three integration development plans developed in coordination with representatives of national minorities that had been implemented since 2000. It also highlighted the legal and policy measures taken by Estonia to promote the acquisition of Estonian citizenship and to lower the number of persons with undetermined citizenship. It was preparing the fourth consecutive Cohesive Estonia Development Plan, which was for the period 2021–2030.

569. With regard to reducing the gender pay gap, the delegation recalled that it was a priority for the Government. As contained in the action plan for 2021–2023, the Minister for Social Protection was tasked to present amendments to the Gender Equality Act by February 2022 with a particular focus on pay transparency. The delegation also described other implemented measures aimed at decreasing gender segregation in education and the labour market and those regarding unequal sharing of the care burden among women and men. Despite efforts to increase the salaries of basic school and upper-secondary schoolteachers, the actual salaries of both primary and secondary schoolteachers needed to increase to reach the average among the member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The delegation described the efforts of Estonia to increase women's participation in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, including in information and communications technology, both in education and the labour market, and in leadership positions.

570. With regard to equal treatment, Estonia acknowledged the need to amend the Equal Treatment Act to widen the scope of its application to discrimination on the grounds of religion and other beliefs, age, disability and sexual orientation, as well as to cover access to the services of social welfare, social security and health care. Such a move was a priority in the Government's action plan for 2021–2023.

571. With regard to violence, the delegation stressed the commitment of Estonia to combat all forms of violence and the Government's focus on reducing domestic and gender-based violence. It described the tools available – even during the COVID-19 pandemic – for victims, in particular women.

572. Estonia was committed to starting the process of ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 2023.

573. With regard to child protection and criminal justice, the delegation indicated that reducing violence against children and helping child victims of abuse was a priority for Estonia and described the tools available for victims. In addition, the child welfare system would be reformed in the coming years to provide faster, more effective and cross-cutting support for children and families in need or at risk, as well as to support the professionals working with children. Other advances had been made in child-friendly criminal proceedings and the protection of minors. Prosecutors had more legal bases to terminate criminal proceedings in cases in which a minor had committed an unlawful act and to issue a caution or impose community service or participation in a social programme instead. Furthermore, criminal procedure allowed the questioning of a minor to be recorded to avoid unnecessary repeated questioning.

574. The delegation recalled the continued commitment of Estonia to combat trafficking in persons at national and international levels. Estonia engaged actively in the networks of the European Commission, the Council of Europe, the Council of the Baltic Sea States, as well as those of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations. In addition, the Victim Support Act provided support services for victims, without distinction among different target groups. Estonia was in the process of drafting a new act addressing issues affecting victims of trafficking. Estonia intended to have a special workplan

for anti-trafficking activities in relation to the national priorities of reducing and preventing trafficking.

575. Estonia considered the universal periodic review process a success for the Human Rights Council.

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

576. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Estonia, 12 delegations made statements.

577. Libya (video statement) welcomed the active participation of Estonia in the universal periodic review and commended its efforts made to fulfil its commitment to human rights principles, promoting respect for the rule of law and combating impunity.

578. Morocco appreciated the consultations held in Estonia before the drafting of its national report and commended the efforts made to align policies with international norms. Morocco was pleased by the measures taken to ensure freedom of action for the Advisory Committee on Human Rights in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and by the readiness of the State under review to consistently align with international conventions and their optional protocols.

579. Nepal (video statement) appreciated the continued engagement of Estonia with the human rights protection mechanisms. Nepal commended Estonia for having accepted most of the recommendations received during the third cycle, appreciated the establishment of a national human rights institution and remained hopeful for its effective functioning.

580. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted that Estonia had accepted recommendations regarding equal access to education and career opportunities for children studying in Russian-language schools and the need to adopt effective measures to prevent and investigate cases of trafficking in persons. It regretted that the recommendation on the acute issues of national minorities had been rejected by Estonia. It regretted the non-acceptance of the recommendations to simplify the process of naturalization of “non-citizens” that would uphold the full range of human rights, such as electoral rights, the use of native languages by minorities and employment rights, ending the practice of punitive language inspections targeting mainly Russian teachers in Russian schools and kindergartens; and to ensure the equal representation of titular and non-titular communities in local self-government bodies. The recommendation to end the participation of Estonian military personnel in the annual commemorative events celebrating Nazi accomplices was also not accepted without explanation. It called upon Estonia not to close its eyes and not to indulge in such manifestations of neo-Nazism, which contradicted its obligations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

581. Tunisia (video statement) welcomed the progress made in supporting national integration plans and in addressing the issue of persons of undetermined nationality, as well as in protecting women’s rights and gender equality, integrating national and ethnic minorities and strengthening social cohesion. Tunisia renewed its appreciation for Estonia having further upgraded its legislative and institutional framework for the protection and promotion of human rights, particularly through the establishment of a national human rights institution, the development of many action plans and sectoral legislation, the strengthening of cooperation with human rights mechanisms and the ratification of important European and international instruments. Tunisia commended the progress made by Estonia in promoting gender equality, combating sexual exploitation, trafficking in persons, discrimination and hate speech, as well as advancing inclusion programmes and reducing social inequality and poverty. It also welcomed the results achieved in support of freedom of expression online and offline.

582. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) welcomed the establishment of a national human rights institution for the promotion and protection of human rights. It expressed appreciation for the acceptance of the recommendations addressing the need to take measures against abuses in detention centres and mental health institutions, as well as

the implementation of an independent mechanism to investigate cases of torture and ill-treatment. It reiterated the importance for Estonia to focus on the protection of vulnerable minorities against hate speech through amendments to criminal legislation, so as to include such behaviour. It also underlined the importance of ratifying the international instruments that protect vulnerable groups, such as migrant workers and their families and domestic workers.

583. Belarus (video statement) stressed that Estonia had not received the visit of a special procedure mandate holder for more than 13 years. Without such international monitoring, the State policy of multifaceted discrimination against national minorities was flourishing in the country. According to Belarus, the reference by Estonia to the existence of a standing invitation to special procedures confirmed the fact that the invitation was ineffective and useless. An invitation did not replace real visits. It added that the policy of Estonia to support Nazi accomplices was incompatible with the democratic principles promoted by the countries of Europe. Such action could only be regarded as a mockery of the memory of the victims of the Second World War. Politicians who encouraged such commemorative acts must be accountable before the international community. Belarus called upon Estonia to urgently implement the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms and the universal periodic review to end discrimination against the Russian-speaking population, including a comprehensive reform of the relevant legislation.

584. China expressed concern regarding the human rights situation in Estonia in which ethnic minorities faced increasing discrimination and hate crimes. Their linguistic and cultural rights were being restricted. China stated that the issue of trafficking in persons in Estonia was serious. It hoped Estonia would take its participation in the universal periodic review as an opportunity to solve its own human rights problems and to adopt effective measures to promote and protect human rights.

585. Cuba expressed concern about the non-acceptance by Estonia of the majority of recommendations related to hate speech and hate crimes, as well as those related to the situation of migrants and asylum seekers. Cuba called upon Estonia to adopt urgent measures to fight discrimination against migrants, refugees, ethnic and religious minorities and to combat and eradicate intolerance, hate speech and hate crimes.

586. Djibouti (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by Estonia of a large number of recommendations addressed to it during the third cycle of the universal periodic review.

587. Ghana (video statement) commended the commitment of Estonia to meet the goals set in the Paris Agreement by 2050.

588. India (video statement) appreciated the acceptance by Estonia of 192 recommendations. India took note with appreciation of the steps taken by Estonia in nominating the Chancellor of Justice to act as the national human rights institution duly accredited by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions with A status.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

589. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Estonia, two other stakeholders made statements.

590. The European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation (video statement) stated that the Registered Partnership Act had come into force in 2016 but without an implementation bill. Therefore, the plan to seek broad consensus in Parliament would not be viable since there would always be parties who oppose equal rights for same-sex couples and families. The missing provisions on implementation could be adopted with the votes of the coalition in power. The Federation welcomed the recommendation to change the regulation of gender recognition by separating the process of medical and legal gender recognition and ensure that legal gender recognition was based on self-determination. It expressed its appreciation to Estonia for having drafted amendments to the law on gender recognition and stressed the importance for the new legislation to be human rights-based and to follow the mentioned recommendation.

591. The World Jewish Congress (video statement) stated that Jews were discriminated against and oppressed when Estonia was part of the Russian Empire. Jews were unable to

develop their community until the restoration of the country's independence. Today, the Jewish community of Estonia was an integral part of Estonian society. Estonia had approved the concept of measures to combat antisemitism and, consequently, ministries and departments must create a single information field and involve the Jewish community in that process.

#### 4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

592. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 274 recommendations received, 192 had enjoyed the support of Estonia and 82 had been noted.

593. He thanked the delegation of Estonia for its presentation and for the constructive participation of Estonia throughout the universal periodic review process.

#### Belgium

594. The review of Belgium was held on 5 May 2021 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 Belgium 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;<sup>41</sup>

(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;<sup>42</sup>

(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.<sup>43</sup>

595. At its 29th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Belgium (see sect. C below).

596. The outcome of the review of Belgium comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>44</sup> 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.<sup>45</sup>

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

597. The delegation (video statement) stated that, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the Human Rights Council had continued its activities and the practical modalities of the universal periodic review process had been adapted to the situation. The unique dialogue among all States Members of the United Nations continued and would continue.

598. Belgium congratulated the Human Rights Council for its ongoing work under those exceptional circumstances and thanked all the intervening States for the time and effort that they had devoted to familiarizing themselves with the human rights situation in Belgium and cooperating with the country in order to make the current universal periodic review a meaningful and in-depth exchange. The contributions from civil society also enriched the discussions.

599. Belgium attached great importance to the implementation, at the national level, of the international standards and principles related to human rights as their protection required

<sup>41</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/BEL/1](#).

<sup>42</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/BEL/2](#).

<sup>43</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/BEL/3](#) and [A/HRC/WG.6/38/BEL/3/Corr.1](#).

<sup>44</sup> [A/HRC/48/8](#).

<sup>45</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/8/Add.1](#).

permanent interaction and ongoing dialogue with all components of society. In June 2021, Belgium had held a meeting with civil society about the interactive dialogue and its follow-up in the context of the universal periodic review.

600. Since Belgium was a federal State, the protection of human rights was ensured at several levels. The national report of Belgium, which had been presented to the Human Rights Council in May 2021 by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, was therefore the result of close consultations between the various constituents of Belgium, namely the federal Government, the Communities and the Regions. That institutional framework implied responsibilities at different levels but also a shared responsibility for certain subjects when following up on the recommendations accepted.

601. Belgium was able to immediately accept a large majority of the recommendations, 218 out of a total of 308. Belgium had then carefully considered 69 recommendations and committed to implementing 33 of them. As for the noted recommendations, Belgium nuanced its position on four recommendations that had been noted. The underlying principles and spirit of the recommendations had been partially supported by Belgium.

602. With regard to the recommendation in paragraph 36.11, freedom of expression was guaranteed by the Constitution and was subject to certain restrictions, notably through the law on racism. The Constitution provided specific protection for the freedom of expression of Members of Parliament; for example, parliamentarians could not be prosecuted for opinions shared during the exercise of their functions. That limitation existed in many countries.

603. With regard to the recommendation in paragraph 36.27, Belgium considered that due diligence legislation was generally broader than conflict zones.

604. With regard to the recommendation in paragraph 36.43, freedom of religion and freedom of expression were guaranteed in the Constitution. The Council of State had ruled that it was possible to prohibit the wearing of religious symbols, provided that there were elements to justify the measure, such as ensuring non-discrimination. Those potential actions were in accordance with article 18 (3) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and also article 9 (2) of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms on legal restrictions on freedom of religion.

605. Finally, regarding the recommendation in paragraph 36.46, only the first part had been accepted. The second part of the recommendation was in contradiction with the Constitution. Belgium was committed to combating antisemitic images while respecting the current regulations on freedom of expression.

606. Belgium considered the peer review of the universal periodic review an important exercise to continue to protect and strengthen the implementation of human rights in Belgium. It was a powerful instrument of the Human Rights Council in the promotion and protection of human rights everywhere. A universal human rights policy was one of the key pillars of effective multilateralism advocated by Belgium. The commitment of Belgium to human rights was guided by a spirit of dialogue and cooperation and the universal periodic review provided the perfect platform for such a dialogue for the country to exchange with delegations and representatives of civil society, to achieve even better implementation of its human rights commitments.

## **2. 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 Belgium, 13 delegations made statements.

608. Togo noted with appreciation the legislative and institutional measures taken by Belgium to guarantee equality and effectiveness of human rights at all levels of society, most notably for vulnerable persons. It further appreciated that Belgium had expressed its support for the majority of the recommendations received, including three recommendations made by Togo. It stated that Belgium could make additional progress to enhance enjoyment of human rights.

609. Tunisia (video statement) noted with satisfaction the adoption of judicial reforms, particularly in relation to detention conditions. Tunisia appreciated the enhanced efforts made by Belgium to address discrimination, xenophobia, gender-based violence, violence against children and persons with disabilities.

610. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) reiterated its recommendations on the ratification of both the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It urged Belgium to: end prison overcrowding; improve detention conditions; curb sexual and domestic violence; and establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles.

611. Viet Nam (video statement) appreciated that Belgium had supported its recommendations aimed at combating racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia. It also welcomed the acceptance by Belgium of its recommendations on the mainstreaming of the gender dimension and the adoption of inclusive measures in favour of vulnerable persons disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

612. Azerbaijan positively noted the partial acceptance by Belgium of its recommendation on the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, while regretting that Belgium had not considered adhering to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Azerbaijan further regretted that Belgium had not supported its recommendations on the investigation of excessive use of force and racially motivated violence by law enforcement officials, as well as those related to the fight against religious intolerance and the discrimination of minorities.

613. Barbados (video statement) commended Belgium for its acceptance of several of the recommendations received, which demonstrated the commitment of Belgium to advance the enjoyment of human rights.

614. Belarus (video statement) expressed hope that the 308 recommendations presented to Belgium would serve as an impetus to improve its human rights record. Belarus welcomed the fact that Belgium would have the opportunity to work on domestic human rights issues, by stressing that the uniqueness of the universal periodic review mechanism lay in its universally recognized and voluntary nature.

615. Botswana (video statement) welcomed the concrete steps taken by Belgium to improve the inclusivity of diverse communities in the context of law enforcement and employment. It also appreciated the acceptance of its two recommendations on ensuring an accessible mechanism for reporting acts of intolerance and on addressing school dropout rates, particularly among marginalized communities.

616. Burkina Faso (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by Belgium of most of the recommendations, including those presented by Burkina Faso calling for the eradication of female genital mutilation and the adoption of a national plan of action against racism.

617. China expressed concern about racial discrimination, the violation of migrants' rights and the survival of ethnic minorities in Belgium. It further mentioned police violence in the context of law enforcement and violence against women. China urged Belgium to take tangible measures to promote and protect human rights.

618. The Comoros (video statement) encouraged Belgium to implement all the recommendations for which Belgium had expressed its support.

619. Côte d'Ivoire encouraged Belgium to effectively implement all the recommendations that it had accepted. Even though Belgium had noted several recommendations, Côte d'Ivoire invited the Government of Belgium to pursue its efforts to protect people of African descent, migrant workers and the members of their families, as well as in the fight against racism.

620. Cuba noted with satisfaction the acceptance by Belgium of its recommendations pertaining to the right to employment of persons with disabilities and protection against discrimination. It also encouraged Belgium to implement a plan of action against racism,



discrimination and related intolerance; to prohibit the administrative detention of minors; and to grant appropriate reception conditions for migrant children.

### 3. General comments made by other stakeholders

621. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Belgium, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

622. The International Humanist and Ethical Union (video statement) noted with concern the lack of an independent institution to monitor detention centres, especially places in which minors were deprived of liberty. It urged Belgium to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment without delay and create an independent national preventive mechanism. It called upon Belgium to ensure the independence of the committee in charge of controlling the police in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee against Torture and the Human Rights Committee. It commended the Government of Belgium for its acceptance of the recommendations to fully implement the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) and urged its concrete and effective implementation with the establishment of a comprehensive national action plan to combat gender-based violence, including forced marriage, female genital mutilation and feminicide, and to increase sexual education in all educational settings.

623. The Alliance Defending Freedom (video statement) expressed concerns about the fact that Belgium had noted the recommendation to protect and promote the right to life of all people until natural death, without discrimination on the basis of age, disability or any other grounds. It said that legalization of euthanasia and assisted suicide was incompatible with obligation of Belgium concerning the right to life. It noted legal and technical failures on those issues, leading to an increase in the use of euthanasia and assisted suicide for persons who did not meet the eligibility criteria set out in law. It recommended that Belgium end the practice of euthanasia and redirect resources into improving palliative care to treat life with dignity and respect.

624. Defence for Children International (video statement) commended the acceptance of recommendations on the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the establishment of a national preventive mechanism. However, it stressed that, during the previous universal periodic review cycles, similar recommendations accepted by Belgium had not been implemented. It recommended the establishment of a national preventive mechanism, particularly for children deprived of their liberty in all contexts. It called upon Belgium to integrate into its future code on migration, the recommendations concerning the protection of children affected by migration. It reiterated that the ban on the detention of children must be enshrined in law and not in political moratoriums. It commended the Government of Belgium for the repatriation of Belgian children from conflict zones in the Syrian Arab Republic. It stressed that Belgian children who were still present in camps in the Syrian Arab Republic must be repatriated and taken care of.

625. The International Lesbian and Gay Association (video statement) commended the next federal debate on blood donation, which may end the restriction on men who have sex with men. It recommended that sexual orientation no longer be taken into account for blood donations and that the precautionary period before donation be reduced to three months. It stated that blood donors with HIV receiving treatment whose viral load was undetectable must not be prosecuted and vaccination against the human papillomavirus should be identical for boys and girls. It recommended that Belgium take measures to ensure free vaccination for persons at risk and better support for elderly lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, as well as the creation of a network of hospital centres specializing in diseases to which the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community were exposed.

626. Amnesty International (video statement) welcomed the commitment of Belgium to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, to reform the federal human rights institute and to adopt and implement a national action plan against racism. It appreciated the acceptance by

Belgium of recommendations to protect rape victims with the establishment of care and funding centres to assist survivors. It noted that Belgium had accepted recommendations on police violence due to an alarming number of deaths of persons belonging to minority groups in contact with police forces. It was disappointed that Belgium had not supported recommendations on the explicit prohibition of ethnic profiling by police. It recommended that Belgium also implement the recommendations noted, such as an absolute ban on the detention of children for reasons related to migration and ensure that the prison population did not exceed prison capacity.

627. United Nations Watch (video statement) expressed great concern about racist declarations made from within the Government of Belgium. It regretted that Belgium remained silent about the antisemitic speeches by its political elite.

628. The International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights (video statement) welcomed the respect shown by Belgium for human rights and its commitments emanating from international conventions, especially the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. It commended Belgian institutions and its immigration services, which provided all forms of assistance to victims.

629. Conscience and Peace Tax International (CPTI) (video statement) urged Belgium to reinvest its military budget in a fund dedicated to peace. It said that investing taxes in a military budget was incompatible with target 16.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which called for a reduction in the number of deaths due to armed conflicts and violence, because military spending led to violence.

630. The Institute for NGO Research (video statement) welcomed the statement made by Belgium that the fight against all forms of discrimination was a matter of particular importance and that the country sought to create an environment that was conducive to the prevention of antisemitism. Nevertheless, it urged Belgium to put an end to the funding of non-governmental organizations engaged in activities considered to be antisemitic under the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism, which had been adopted in 2018 by Belgium; to stop funding non-governmental organizations that were tied to terror organizations; and to cease support for reprisal attacks directed against Israeli and Jewish non-governmental organizations.

631. The Meezaan Center for Human Rights (video statement) welcomed the ratification by Belgium of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) and the efforts made in reducing domestic and gender-based violence. It recommended a new plan to collect accurate data on that type of violence and urged the authorities to conduct their monitoring missions in respect of its obligations under the Istanbul Convention. It expressed concern about the rise of racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia and ethnic profiling by police forces and the absence of laws targeting such misconduct. It urged Belgium to establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles. It recommended that Belgium ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

632. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 308 recommendations received, 251 had enjoyed the support of Belgium and 53 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another four recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations had been supported and which parts had been noted.

633. The delegation (video statement) thanked everyone for the constructive interventions addressed to the country and stressed their importance for the success of the universal periodic review as a whole.

634. Belgium was grateful to the troika – Austria, Indonesia and Togo – as well as the universal periodic review secretariat for their support and excellent work.

635. Belgium strongly supported the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms. It would continue its engagement with civil society, a key actor in the promotion and protection of human rights. The adoption of the final outcome was the last step in the third cycle review of Belgium, as preparations were already under way.

636. The result of the universal periodic review process was enriching and in-depth, providing an opportunity to move forward. Human rights were part of the identity of Belgium. The universality, indivisibility and interdependence of human rights had always been the cardinal principles guiding the actions of Belgium, both in domestic politics and on the international scene. Belgium thanked the colleagues of the universal periodic review secretariat and the interpreters who had facilitated the session.

### **Paraguay**

637. The review of Paraguay was held on 5 May 2021 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 Paraguay 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;<sup>46</sup>

(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;<sup>47</sup>

(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.<sup>48</sup>

638. At its 29th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Paraguay (see sect. C below).

639. The outcome of the review of Paraguay comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>49</sup> 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.<sup>50</sup>

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

640. The delegation (video statement) thanked all the other delegations that had contributed to the development of the third cycle of the universal periodic review, enriching it with their observations and recommendations. It deeply appreciated the interest shown through their participation in the dialogue with it, despite all the challenges that virtuality had posed.

641. The delegation also thanked the representatives of Germany, Namibia and Uruguay, for their outstanding work as members of the troika, the President of the Human Rights Council for her excellent leadership and the secretariat for its invaluable assistance throughout the entire process.

642. The delegation also recognized the contribution made by civil society organizations, special procedure mandate holders and other stakeholders who, through their reports, had collaborated in the transparent and objective analysis of the human rights situation in Paraguay. It demonstrated that, in view of the common challenges faced as a society, and despite the primary responsibility that felt on the State, joint efforts were necessary from everyone.

<sup>46</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/PRY/1](#).

<sup>47</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/PRY/2](#).

<sup>48</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/PRY/3](#).

<sup>49</sup> [A/HRC/48/9](#).

<sup>50</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/9/Add.1](#).

643. The universal periodic review, in addition to an evaluation exercise among peers, was also a space for reflection and self-evaluation. In accordance with the commitment of Paraguay to the universal periodic review, a serious and exhaustive internal inter-institutional process had been developed for the final evaluation of the 210 recommendations received during the third cycle.

644. On 5 May 2021, Paraguay had made a presentation on the human rights situation in the country, as well as on the progress and challenges associated with the implementation of the recommendations received in the previous cycle, within the framework of reforms and regulatory, institutional and public policy adjustments. The recommendations resulting from the universal periodic review contributed substantially to the permanent and evolving process of improving the standards for the promotion and protection of human rights in each State.

645. Paraguay had accepted almost all of the recommendations received in the first two cycles in 2011 and 2016 and, on the current occasion, the country had accepted 202 recommendations of the 210 received, according to the document duly presented, which detailed the observations of Paraguay on the conclusions and recommendations, in addition to the assumed voluntary commitments.

646. Those recommendations were in line with the issues that were a priority for Paraguay, encouraging the country to continue to redouble its efforts to face the associated challenges, such as the fight against poverty and effective access to essential rights, such as those to food, health, education, decent housing and a healthy environment. In all cases, there was a special emphasis on key groups such as women, children and adolescents, indigenous peoples, people with disabilities and the elderly.

647. Regarding the ratification of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement), an internal process of analysis, dialogue and exchange was under way among the various stakeholders, as part of an intersectoral approach prior to the parliamentary debate. Consequently, Paraguay had taken note of the recommendations in paragraphs 118.3, 118.4 and 118.5, emphasizing that their effective implementation would be subject to the conclusions reached in the aforementioned process.

648. Likewise, Paraguay had taken note of the recommendations in paragraphs 118.133, 118.135 and 118.136, due to their incompatibility with the current normative provisions of a constitutional nature that guaranteed the right to life. For the same reason, the country had partially accepted the recommendation in paragraph 118.134.

649. The same position had been assumed in relation to the recommendation in paragraph 118.69, given that various lines of investigation were being developed by the competent bodies, in accordance with the regulations and procedures in force in the country, which also required that all proposed actions in that regard must preserve the sovereignty and jurisdictional competence of Paraguay.

650. Paraguay firmly believed that the dignity and rights of all persons, without discrimination, should be protected and, for that reason, the Human Rights Council, together with the universal periodic review, which was one of its main evaluation mechanisms, had a fundamental role to play.

651. Paraguay continued to promote initiatives to ensure that the implementation agenda was present in the work of the Human Rights Council, particularly through the presentation of a resolution on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up of human rights recommendations. Likewise, the country would continue its best efforts, through its updated Recommendations Monitoring System (SIMORE Plus), to ensure the follow-up and implementation of the recommendations received with the aim of translating them into actions that had a real impact on improving the living conditions of everyone.

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

652. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Paraguay, 11 delegations made statements.

653. Botswana (video statement) noted the harmonization of the Sustainable Development Goals with the National Human Rights Plan and the National Development Plan of Paraguay, as well as the enactment of various laws and policies geared towards the protection of the environment in Paraguay. It welcomed the acceptance by Paraguay of many recommendations, including two from Botswana. Botswana wished Paraguay success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

654. Brazil (video statement) commended the continued efforts made by Paraguay to reduce poverty and promote decent work, such as the National Poverty Reduction Plan “Jajapo Paraguay” and the Domestic Labour Act of 2019. It also acknowledged the good practice of monitoring commitments carried out through the updated Recommendations Monitoring System (SIMORE Plus). Brazil reiterated its recognition of the progress made in Paraguay in relation to the access of vulnerable groups to justice, to gender equality in the judicial, labour and political spheres, and other policies for the prevention and promotion of human rights.

655. Cuba saluted the delegation of Paraguay and acknowledged their commitment to the universal periodic review process. Cuba was grateful that Paraguay had accepted the recommendations made by Cuba regarding strategies to reduce maternal and infant mortality, as well as legislation and plans for the comprehensive protection of women against all forms of violence. Cuba urged Paraguay to continue to advance in the fight against poverty and in guaranteeing other essential rights. Cuba wished Paraguay success in implementing the accepted recommendations.

656. India (video statement) appreciated that 204 recommendations that had been accepted by Paraguay, including three made by India. It also appreciated the constructive engagement by the delegation of Paraguay during the review, which was a reflection of the strong commitment that Paraguay attached to the universal periodic review process. India noted with appreciation the work of Paraguay in the creation of the Sustainable Development Goals Commission, as well as a number of initiatives taken to contribute to the realization of the economic, social and cultural rights of its people.

657. Morocco welcomed the commitment of Paraguay in its fight against corruption and poverty, the suppression of trafficking in persons and the improvement of maternal health, child protection and the comprehensive protection of women against all forms of violence. It noted with appreciation the acceptance by Paraguay of the recommendation made by Morocco regarding the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Morocco wished Paraguay every success in implementing all of the recommendations accepted.

658. Namibia (video statement) thanked Paraguay for its constructive engagement since the start of its universal periodic review and for the additional information provided. It noted that national human rights institutions played an important role in promoting and monitoring at the national level the implementation of international human rights law. It was of the utmost importance that those institutions operated with the necessary independence. Namibia was extremely pleased to note that Paraguay had accepted both recommendations of Namibia, including the recommendation for Paraguay to ensure that the Office of the Ombudsman operated in accordance with the Paris Principles.

659. Nepal (video statement) appreciated the fact that Paraguay had accepted most of the recommendations made during the third cycle, including both recommendations made by Nepal. Nepal welcomed the promulgation of the Climate Change Act and encouraged Paraguay to effectively implement environmental laws. Nepal took encouraging note of various plans and policies adopted by Paraguay to combat poverty, including the National Poverty Reduction Plan. Nepal wished Paraguay every success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

660. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted with satisfaction that Paraguay had accepted all the recommendations made to it by the Russian Federation. It included those to: improve the work of the penitentiary system; take effective measures to ensure real equality between men and women; adopt a law to combat all forms of discrimination; and combat domestic violence against women. It hoped that the recommendations accepted by Paraguay

during the universal periodic review would be implemented to overcome the existing shortcomings in the field of human rights in the country.

661. Tunisia (video statement) noted with satisfaction that Paraguay had accepted the recommendations made to it by Tunisia. Tunisia appreciated the steps taken by Paraguay in implementing the recommendations of the previous cycle of the universal periodic review and the progress made in strengthening the human rights system, which included the ratification of several important international instruments, support for the rights of women, children and indigenous peoples, and the alignment of the national human rights plan with the Sustainable Development Goals and climate change. Tunisia wished Paraguay every success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

662. UN-Women (video statement) appreciated the efforts made by Paraguay to promote gender equality. It encouraged Paraguay in its efforts to advance towards a national care policy, under the leadership of the Ministry for Women. UN-Women also welcomed the implementation of direct actions to prevent, eradicate and punish gender-based violence, both through the implementation of Act No. 5777/16 on the comprehensive protection of women from all forms of violence and through the fourth National Equality Plan. UN-Women reaffirmed its readiness to support and assist the Government of Paraguay in its efforts to accelerate gender equality and implement all related universal periodic review recommendations.

663. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) reiterated its deep concern about the sustained human rights violations in Paraguay, especially the structural discrimination against indigenous peoples, peasants, domestic workers and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. In that regard, it had recommended that Paraguay punish human rights violations committed by the Joint Task Force, such as arbitrary executions, the abusive use of lethal force and torture. It also reiterated the recommendations on putting an end to the high number of cases of labour and sexual exploitation and addressing the increase in domestic and school violence.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

664. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Paraguay, eight other stakeholders made statements.

665. The Swedish Association for Sexuality Education commended the acceptance of the majority of the recommendations on sexual and reproductive rights and appreciated the commitment of Paraguay to the universal periodic review process. It encouraged Paraguay to implement the recommendations accepted and to guarantee the rights of young persons, specifically access to health services and contraceptive methods, access to which had been made more difficult due to COVID-19. It urged Paraguay to adopt a public policy on comprehensive sex education to prevent and protect children and adolescents from sexual violence, as well as tackling the high level of pregnancies among the 15–19-year-old age group. It welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations requesting that resolution No. 29664 of the Ministry of Education and Science be repealed, which hindered gender equality in education, and expressed its commitment to collaborating in the evaluation, planning and implementation of the recommendations.

666. The World Jewish Congress congratulated Paraguay for having finished its third cycle review and wished it well with its continuing work to guarantee the full enjoyment of human rights for all. It emphasized that the Jewish community in Paraguay had a good relationship with the Government. It stated that Paraguay was a country where there had been no antisemitic incidents and that the Government had been careful to deal with any suggestions of antisemitic activity. It also asked Paraguay to adopt the definition of antisemitism proposed by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. Finally, it welcomed the initiative of the study of the Shoah in all schools. It expressed its hope that that would be finalized soon and offered its assistance on that initiative to the Government.

667. Action Canada for Population and Development urged Paraguay to implement the recommendations accepted on implementing legislation against any form of discrimination, offering sex education in schools, repealing resolutions that prohibited the teaching of gender equality and sex education in schools and further combating violence and discrimination

based on sexual orientation and gender identity, all of which it considered fundamental for the full enjoyment of human rights for women, girls, adolescents and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer persons in Paraguay. It also urged Paraguay to comply with recommendations accepted in previous cycles. It greatly regretted that Paraguay had not accepted the recommendations related to abortion and urged the Government to revise its position, as well as work collaboratively with civil society organizations on the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

668. In a joint statement, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES) and Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco appreciated the constructive attitude of Paraguay during the universal periodic review and commended the acceptance of the majority of the recommendations received. It welcomed the efforts made by Paraguay to improve the education system and commended the acceptance of the recommendations in paragraphs 118.150 and 118.151. It expressed concern about access to education for indigenous and peasant children due to lack of resources and other barriers, as well as emphasizing the problem with the registration of indigenous children and children living in rural areas. It recommended that Paraguay take measures to: guarantee access to education, especially for indigenous and peasant children; ensure equality in education throughout the country; guarantee civil registration of all citizens; and prosecute and punish perpetrators of any form of violence against women.

669. Amnesty International welcomed the acceptance of recommendations regarding the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the adoption of a law against all forms of discrimination, the protection of journalists and human rights defenders and the adaptation of the national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles. It regretted the only partial acceptance of the recommendation on the adoption of measures to promote women's rights and combat gender-based violence. It expressed concern about the continuing discrimination, such as that against the Tekoha Sauce indigenous community, which had had a hydroelectric plant built on its lands. It regretted that, in the investigation of the case of the death of the two Argentinean girls in the framework of the Joint Task Force military operation, it had not accepted the offer of forensic assistance from Argentina nor had it requested the support of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. It urged Paraguay to implement the recommendations accepted on the prevention of sexual abuse of children and adolescents and on the prevention of child pregnancy, as well as those regarding the health system.

670. United Nations Watch welcomed the progress achieved by Paraguay regarding the ratification of international human rights treaties and the strengthening of the institutional framework. It commended the implementation of various plans addressing the discriminatory treatment of vulnerable groups, especially the Indigenous Peoples National Plan of 2018 and the National Policy on Children and Adolescents. It urged Paraguay to take further steps to protect the human rights of women, children and indigenous people. It noted with concern the increase in sexual and gender-based violence against adolescents during the COVID-19 pandemic; however, it was encouraged by the criminalization of femicide in Paraguay. Finally, it called upon Paraguay to take assertive action and establish a national protection mechanism, and further recommended that Paraguay enact the law for the protection of human rights defenders.

671. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation welcomed the fact that Paraguay had accepted the recommendations on civil society space; however, it regretted that out of 19 such recommendations, 13 had not been implemented. It noted that both State and non-State actors had frequently attacked, intimidated and judicially harassed human rights defenders and journalists. It stated that freedom of expression was threatened by the systematic use of criminal defamation statutes by public figures and that freedom of assembly remained obstructed. It urged the Government to take proactive measures to address those concerns and implement recommendations to create and maintain, in law and in practice, an enabling environment for civil society.

672. Conselho Indigenista Missionário deeply regretted the refusal by Paraguay to accept the recommendations related to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (the Escazú Agreement) that would contribute to public information and the protection of

environmental rights defenders. However, it welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations related to indigenous peoples, especially those related to the protection of territorial rights. It also welcomed the acceptance of recommendations on environmental protection and further recommended that the Government go beyond mere normative declarations and turn protection into concrete practices, as regulations and programmes without political decisions and concrete actions would fall into a vacuum.

#### 4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

673. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 210 recommendations received, 202 had enjoyed the support of Paraguay and 6 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another two recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations had been supported and which parts had been noted.

674. The delegation (in-person statement) reiterated its gratitude to all those who had made possible the successful development and completion of the enriching universal periodic review process. Paraguay welcomed the observations and suggestions to continue to improve, as well as the recognition of the efforts made through public policies, mechanisms and measures that had been adopted for that purpose, which constituted an incentive that had reinforced the country's commitment to continuing to consolidate those advances.

675. The process had not been without challenges; however, Paraguay was aware that the closing of the third cycle was merely formal. Work had not been completed because the improvement of standards for the promotion and protection of human rights was a continuous process. Finally, the delegation reiterated the commitment of Paraguay to continue to invest its maximum effort in the follow-up and implementation of the recommendations, so that they could promote substantive progress in improving the human rights situation in the country.

#### Denmark

676. The review of Denmark was held on 6 May 2021 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 Denmark 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;<sup>51</sup>

(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;<sup>52</sup>

(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.<sup>53</sup>

677. At its 30th meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Denmark (see sect. C below).

678. The outcome of the review of Denmark comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>54</sup> 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.<sup>55</sup>

<sup>51</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/DNK/1](#).

<sup>52</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/DNK/2](#).

<sup>53</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/DNK/3](#).

<sup>54</sup> [A/HRC/48/10](#).

<sup>55</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/10/Add.1](#).



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

679. The delegation (in-person statement) stated that human rights remained a fundamental pillar in Danish society and that the Government had been firm in respecting its human rights obligations.

680. The protection of human rights had been generally in a good state in Denmark, which had been acknowledged by many States Members of the United Nations during the universal periodic review. Denmark could still make improvements as indicated by the recommendations put forward during the review. Denmark would continue to do better.

681. The preparation of the national report had been open, inclusive and transparent. In the process, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had coordinated with all parts of the central administration, and Greenland and the Faroe Islands had contributed directly with separate chapters of the report. Together with the national human rights institution of Denmark – the Danish Institute for Human Rights – the Government had organized countrywide public hearings and the outcome of those hearings had been reflected in the report. In addition, the draft report had been presented to the public for comments. A number of non-governmental organizations had submitted comments, resulting in useful amendments to the report.

682. During the review in the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, many States had touched upon the country's migration and asylum policy. Irregular migration, refugees and displacement had remained persistent challenges that would only increase in the future. Denmark had been pursuing a fair and realistic immigration policy without compromising its obligation to help persons in need of international protection. The Government offered accommodation, necessary social assistance and medical treatment to asylum seekers, as well as access to education for asylum-seeking children.

683. The delegation was of the view that the current international asylum system could lead to unfair and unethical results. It created incentives for children, women and men to embark on dangerous journeys along migratory routes, while human traffickers earned fortunes. It challenged the political stability, social cohesion and security of countries of origin, transit and destination. Therefore, Denmark had promoted a more fair and humane asylum system, in which irregular migration had been replaced by legal pathways for resettlement of quota refugees. The Government held the firm belief that more people could be helped if assistance were provided in the regions of origin and the root causes of irregular migration were addressed, creating genuine alternatives for persons in need.

684. Denmark had contributed to the protection and promotion of human rights internationally for decades, including through its development co-operation. Since 1978, Denmark had provided a minimum of 0.7 per cent of its gross domestic product in international development assistance. The Government's long-term engagement in development cooperation had remained an important contribution to the protection and promotion of human rights in many countries.

685. The delegation highlighted several steps that the Government had recently taken to improve its human rights record.

686. Violence against women remained a key priority for Denmark. Parliament had passed important legislation in the past few years. The maximum penalty for violence in close relations had been increased from three to six years of imprisonment. A new amendment criminalizing psychological violence in close relations had been adopted. In January 2021, a consent-based rape provision had entered into force.

687. In 2018, Denmark had adopted its first national action plan concerning lesbian, gay, bisexual and intersex persons. In 2020, the Government had launched 10 legislative proposals to improve the protection of their rights, including protection against discrimination and hate crimes and the possibility of legal gender recognition for minors.

688. In 2018, Parliament had passed the Act on Prohibition against Discrimination on Grounds of Disability, which prohibited direct and indirect discrimination and retaliation based on disability.

689. Denmark expected the ratification instrument for the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance to be forwarded to the depositary in the coming months.

690. During the review, Denmark had received 288 recommendations. After a thorough analysis, the Danish authorities had accepted 202 of them. The delegation provided several clarifications regarding some of recommendations that had been noted by the Danish authorities.

691. Denmark had received several recommendations on the development of a comprehensive human rights action plan. Denmark already had a number of thematic action plans in specific areas, including on gender equality, trafficking in persons and domestic violence. The Danish authorities considered that a general national action plan on human rights would not be beneficial.

692. A large group of States had recommended the incorporation of the international human rights conventions into Danish law. The Government considered that incorporation entailed a risk of a shift in powers from the Parliament and the Government to the courts. International conventions were currently a source of law in Danish courts. They could be, and were indeed, invoked before and applied by the courts and other law-enforcing authorities.

693. Some 45 States had raised discrimination-related issues. There should be no doubt that the Government attached great importance to combating discrimination. All citizens were equal before the law. Danish law contained a number of acts on non-discrimination.

694. A number of States also put forward recommendations to address racism. Denmark fully recognized the need to fight racism in all its forms and considered it as a key priority. Whereas Denmark had no current plans to develop a general action plan on racism and hate crimes, the Government had a number of initiatives in specific areas with a view to fighting such types of discrimination.

695. Anti-terrorism legislation was also mentioned during the review. The Danish authorities needed the necessary tools in the fight against terrorism in order to uphold public security. However, the Danish authorities had always considered it a priority to make sure that those tools did not compromise civil rights and that they were in line with the international obligations of Denmark.

696. A smaller number of States had made recommendations concerning trafficking in persons. The Government had decided to establish a new, national investigation unit to investigate the most complex areas of crime, including organized trafficking in persons. The Government had proposed to strengthen the efforts with 5 million Danish kroner annually in the next action plan on anti-trafficking for 2022–2025.

697. The Danish authorities would consult with national stakeholders in developing a plan for further implementation of the recommendations from the universal periodic review and would submit a midterm report in due time to document the progress made.

698. A range of issues pertaining to the enjoyment of human rights in Greenland was vested under the self-governing authorities of Greenland. In preparation of the universal periodic review and during the public hearing process, Greenland had benefited greatly from the recommendations of civil society actors and notably the Council for Human Rights of Greenland and the Danish Institute for Human Rights.

699. The Government of Greenland had accepted all eight recommendations received as they were closely intertwined with the political priorities of the Government that had come into power in April 2021. Those priorities were also reflected in the establishment of a separate ministry for children, youth and families to ensure coherent and systemic action to better secure the well-being of children, youth and families. Greenland was also pleased with the pertinent recommendations pertaining to legislation prohibiting discrimination.

700. The member of the delegation representing the Faroe Islands (video statement) stated that the Faroe Islands, enjoying a separate jurisdiction, was a party to seven core international human rights treaties. Since 2004, the Government of the Faroe Islands had submitted its contributions to the periodic reports of Denmark to those seven treaty bodies.

701. The Government of the Faroe Islands had held consultations with various stakeholders during the preparation of its part of the national report for the universal periodic review. The consultations had been carried out with public and non-governmental organizations in writing owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. The report covered several important human rights issues but could not be comprehensive owing to its limited size.

702. The representative of the Faroe Islands noted that the United Nations human rights monitoring mechanisms played an important role in strengthening the protection of human rights. The Government had supported all the recommendations received during the review that had been addressed to the Faroe Islands. Those recommendations, along with the feedback received from national stakeholders during the consultation, would have an important impact on the work of the Government to improve further the human rights situation in the Faroe Islands.

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

703. The Danish Institute for Human Rights (video statement) acknowledged the Government's close engagement with the Institute and with civil society representatives throughout the universal periodic review process. It welcomed the fact that the Government had accepted recommendations on some key issues, including the use of coercive measures in the psychiatric system and the prevention of sexual harassment and violence against women. However, the Institute found it regrettable that the Government had noted several recommendations concerning certain human rights challenges, including a national action plan to combat hate crime motivated by racism, ethnicity or religion and the three-year waiting period for family reunification for refugees with a temporary residence permit. The Institute looked forward to continuing its cooperation with the Government on the implementation of the recommendations that had been supported.

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

704. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Denmark, 13 delegations made statements.

705. Morocco welcomed the efforts of Denmark to establish a fair and realistic migration policy and measures to protect public health, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Morocco welcomed the acceptance of a recommendation put forward by Morocco to harmonize domestic law with the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

706. Namibia (video statement) welcomed the delegation of Denmark with their constructive participation in, and commitment to, the universal periodic review process. Namibia called upon Denmark to adopt comprehensive policies that addressed racism and racial discrimination in all its forms and manifestations.

707. Nepal (video statement) commended Denmark for having accepted most of the recommendations during the third cycle review. Nepal noted with appreciation the accomplishments of Denmark on gender equality. Nepal congratulated Denmark on its achievements concerning climate change and health care and its responses to managing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

708. The Russian Federation (video statement) noted that Denmark had supported the majority of the recommendations from the review. However, the Russian Federation observed that Denmark had noted all three recommendations put forward by its delegation. The Russian Federation remained concerned about the uncontrolled use of the Danish intelligence agency for the surveillance of Danish citizens and an increase in hate crime committed on the grounds of religion and race and in the use of solitary confinement for more than 14 days.

709. South Africa (video statement) noted with appreciation that Denmark had supported two out of three recommendations put forward by its delegation. South Africa encouraged Denmark to reconsider its position on the third recommendation, which called for the

incorporation of the United Nations human rights conventions into national legislation to give full effect to the rights enshrined in those conventions.

710. Sri Lanka (video statement) welcomed the recognition by Denmark of the need to fight racism in all its forms and its efforts to improve the quality of child protection. Noting the position of Denmark on recommendations to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, Sri Lanka encouraged Denmark to bring national laws into line with the Convention.

711. Tunisia (video statement) appreciated the steps taken by Denmark to implement recommendations from the review, including ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, in addition to several measures taken to address discrimination, hate speech and hate crime and promote equality.

712. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) reiterated recommendations to end the abusive and discriminatory practices of the police against ethnic minorities and prohibit ethnic profiling by police, and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) of the International Labour Organization.

713. Viet Nam (video statement) noted with appreciation that Denmark had accepted its two recommendations regarding tackling hate speech, intolerance, extremism and radicalization, and promoting the rights of minority groups. Furthermore, Viet Nam commended Denmark for its efforts to promote gender equality and reduce violence against women. It noted the measures taken by Denmark to protect women from domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic.

714. Algeria (video statement) noted measures taken by Denmark to facilitate migrants' access to the labour market and set up an effective social protection system. Algeria noted that Denmark had accepted recommendations calling for an increase in measures to develop inclusive education and improve accessibility to schools for persons with disabilities.

715. China hoped that Denmark would use the universal periodic review process to effectively tackle some outstanding human rights issues, including racial discrimination and violence against Asians, hate crime and hate speech, violation of the rights of refugees, migrants, older persons and persons with disabilities, and trafficking in persons.

716. Belgium (video statement) noted with appreciation that Denmark had accepted a recommendation put forward by Belgium to increase women's representation in politics and companies. Referring to a recommendation noted concerning the prevention of statelessness, specifically regarding children born in Denmark, Belgium invited Denmark to reconsider its position on the recommendation. It encouraged the Government to develop an action plan on combating racism in all its forms despite the fact that such recommendations had been noted by Denmark.

717. Libya (video statement) appreciated that Denmark had supported a recommendation to take measures to prevent all forms of discrimination. Libya called upon Denmark to reconsider its position on not ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

#### **4. General comments made by other stakeholders**

718. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Denmark, seven other stakeholders made statements.

719. The International Humanist and Ethical Union (video statement) noted with satisfaction that Denmark had accepted a recommendation to eliminate discrimination against minority groups and expressed its commitment to ensuring that all citizens were equal before the law. It recommended that the public school syllabus should encourage universal and human rights-based values, such as critical thinking, and refrain from preaching any one religion, in order to promote children's moral and cultural development in an inclusive manner.

720. The Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad (video statement) acknowledged the Government's political will to reduce the use of coercion in psychiatric

care. Due to the increasing use of coercive measures in Denmark, the organization requested that Denmark not only demonstrate its good intentions by accepting the recommendations in paragraphs 60.125–60.127 but also adopt the necessary legislative amendments to phase out the use of coercive measures in psychiatry and repeal the Psychiatry Act, and implement and use only rights-based practices.

721. Action Canada for Population and Development (video statement) stated that sex workers were intertwined with the public policy around immigration in Denmark. In many cities, including Copenhagen, sex workers were subjected to violent actions in public spaces. Many sex workers were migrant women who often experienced xenophobia and racism. The organization highlighted the need to ensure the safety and health of those sex workers. In that respect, the decriminalization of all aspects of sex work remained important. The law should allow sex workers to have adequate access to health care and receive effective protection from sex workers-led organizations. The organization recommended that Denmark ensure that sex workers became full members of Danish society.

722. The Meezaan Center for Human Rights (video statement) commended Denmark for its efforts to combat racism and discrimination. However, xenophobia, discrimination and hate speech, particularly anti-Muslim hatred, continued to be widespread in the country. It encouraged Denmark to strengthen its efforts in developing and implementing comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation and repealing provisions that had direct and indirect discriminatory effects on refugees and migrants. It urged Denmark to harmonize its domestic legislation with international human rights standards and reconsider its decision on not signing the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

723. Amnesty International (video statement) noted that Denmark had supported the recommendation to introduce legislation requiring companies and investors to respect human rights and prevent environmental harm. It considered it crucial that Denmark align that legislation with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Noting the recommendations supported to review social housing policies, it called upon Denmark to repeal the law amending the Social Housing Act, the Social Housing Rent Act and the Rent Act (known as L38). It urged the Government to address issues of well-being, including access to health services and medical screening for foreign nationals detained at the Ellebæk Centre. It urged Denmark to ensure that detention conditions conformed to international standards and to end the use of solitary confinement as punishment. It encouraged Denmark to establish a transparent and effective follow-up process that would actively engage with civil society.

724. The International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (video statement) commended Denmark for aligning the definition of rape in the Criminal Code with the principles of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention). Despite the measures taken, the organization was disappointed by the widespread impunity for gender-based violence. Women of colour and migrant women faced particular barriers to reporting and accessing justice. Migrant survivors often did not make reports to the police as they feared that their immigration status would be questioned or their immigration applications denied. It called upon Denmark to eliminate barriers to reporting, investigation and prosecution of gender-based violence.

725. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme (video statement) welcomed the steps taken by the Government to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. It highlighted the amendment of the legal definition of rape, in order to improve the protection of women from violence. The organization called upon the Government to reconsider its long-standing opposition to ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. The organization encouraged the Government to continue its provision of the necessary social and medical assistance to persons in situations of vulnerability, especially in the challenging context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## 5. Concluding remarks of the State under review

726. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 288 recommendations received, 202 had enjoyed the support of Denmark and 86 had been noted.

727. In conclusion, the delegation (in-person statement) thanked all those States Members of the United Nations that had participated in the dialogue during the adoption of the outcome of the review and in the preceding review of Denmark. The Government considered that the review process was constructive, informative and helpful. Denmark had always been ready to engage in further dialogue on issues – also in its bilateral relations.

728. The delegation reiterated the Government's appreciation for the constructive engagement of civil society in the whole process, also through their interventions during the review, and for good and constructive collaboration and ongoing dialogue with the Danish Institute of Human Rights. Denmark considered that all the recommendations as important inputs to its continuous work on improving human rights protection. Respect for the rule of law and high human rights standards were cornerstones of Danish society.

### Somalia

729. The review of Somalia was held on 6 May 2021 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 Somalia 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;<sup>56</sup>

(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;<sup>57</sup>

(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.<sup>58</sup>

730. At its 30th meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Somalia (see sect. C below).

731. The outcome of the review of Somalia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>59</sup> 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.<sup>60</sup>

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

732. The delegation (in-person statement) addressed the Human Rights Council regarding the third universal periodic review of Somalia.

733. Somalia had participated in the review through an inclusive process, with valuable contributions from various stakeholders. The Government had worked with civil society, local governments and a wide range of community groups to bring the process to a successful conclusion. Consultations had focused on the feasibility of recommendations.

734. The different institutions of the Government of Somalia were ready to take on the task of initiating implementation of the recommendations. The Ministry of Women and Human

<sup>56</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SOM/1](#).

<sup>57</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SOM/2](#).

<sup>58</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SOM/3](#).

<sup>59</sup> [A/HRC/48/11](#).

<sup>60</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/11/Add.1](#).

Rights Development was also ready to provide technical support; however, Somalia required technical assistance from its international partners. Somalia had the will and determination to safeguard the promotion and protection of human rights.

735. As in the past two universal periodic review cycles, Somalia was determined to work tirelessly on the implementation of the 246 recommendations that it had supported, from among the total of 273 that it had received, with 27 noted. All stakeholders in Somalia would have an important role to play in the implementation process and the Government, led by the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, would ensure that the implementation was adequately coordinated. Through the midterm review, Somalia would provide an update on the progress and challenges as it moved forward.

736. As Somalia moved towards the end of its membership of the Human Rights Council, it looked back at two and a half years of continuous engagement at the highest level in global human rights promotion and protection. After its tenure as a member, Somalia would be ready to continue its positive engagement and collaboration with the Council and its members.

737. Somalia had worked to address major national development challenges, including with respect to human rights. The reality on the ground attested to promising developments and achievements in Somalia.

738. The delegation thanked all the States that had engaged with Somalia during its universal periodic review.

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

739. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Somalia, 13 delegations made statements.

740. Djibouti (video statement) congratulated Somalia for its acceptance of many of the recommendations received during the third cycle of the universal periodic review, and particularly welcomed the acceptance by Somalia of the two recommendations presented by Djibouti. Djibouti wished Somalia success in implementing the recommendations accepted and recommended the adoption of the outcome of the review.

741. Egypt (video statement) commended the efforts made by the Government of Somalia to enhance stability in the country and expressed its appreciation for the acceptance by Somalia of the majority of the recommendations that it had received, including the recommendations made by Egypt during the review session. Egypt wished Somalia success in promoting and protecting human rights and recommended the adoption of the outcome of the review.

742. The Gambia (video statement) welcomed the participation of Somalia in the universal periodic review process. It commended the commitment of Somalia to eliminate harmful traditional practices, as demonstrated by having enacted relevant laws that criminalized all forms of female genital mutilation. The Gambia supported the adoption of the outcome of the review of Somalia and wished the Government success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

743. India (video statement) noted that the third periodic review of Somalia had involved active participation with 101 delegations taking the floor and making 273 recommendations. It was commendable that 246 recommendations had been accepted by Somalia. India appreciated the fact that Somalia had accepted the three recommendations that it had made. India recommended the adoption of the outcome of the review and congratulated Somalia on its successful review.

744. Indonesia recognized the acceptance by Somalia of 246 recommendations, the majority of those received, including all recommendations made by Indonesia. Indonesia believed that implementation of those recommendations would strengthen the domestic legal and institutional framework of Somalia and support efforts to ensure the enjoyment of human rights by the people of Somalia. Indonesia endorsed the adoption of the outcome of the review of Somalia and stood ready to extend its cooperation with Somalia in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

745. Iraq (video statement) expressed appreciation to Somalia for its having accepted the recommendations that Iraq had made regarding continued efforts in the constitutional review process to guarantee freedoms and promote the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities. Somalia was making efforts to promote human rights and was cooperating with international human rights mechanisms to build its capacities despite the challenges that it faced. Iraq recommended adopting the outcome of the review of Somalia.

746. Kuwait (video statement) commended the efforts made in implementing the recommendations that Somalia had accepted during its second cycle review. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Somalia had made progress, including through legislation on civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. Kuwait praised the second peaceful transfer of power and the parliamentary election of a president for Somalia in 2017. Kuwait wished Somalia success in implementing the recommendations that it had accepted and recommended the adoption of the outcome of the review of Somalia.

747. Lesotho (video statement) commended the progress made by Somalia since the last review, including criminalizing all types of female genital mutilation and implementing a national action plan on ending and preventing the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict. However, Lesotho remained cognizant of continued challenges, such as internal displacement and violence against women. Lesotho wished Somalia success in the promotion and protection of human rights within the country.

748. Libya (video statement) commended the progress made by the Government in fulfilling its international obligations and the important steps taken in capacity-building and institutional reforms to enhance human rights and achieve sustainable peace and security. Libya recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the outcome of the review of Somalia.

749. Malawi noted the progress made by Somalia in the promotion and protection of human rights and commended, in particular, the Government's commitment to eliminating harmful practices against women. Malawi stood ready to offer its support on best practices to Somalia. It recommended the adoption of the outcome of the review of Somalia and wished the country well in implementing the recommendations.

750. Mali (video statement) commended Somalia for having accepted a remarkable number of recommendations, including the one made by Mali regarding the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Mali welcomed the ratification of a number of international human rights instruments and the establishment of the national agency for persons with disabilities. Mali called upon the Human Rights Council to adopt the outcome of the review of Somalia.

751. Mauritania (video statement) welcomed efforts by Somalia over the previous four years to strengthen human rights mechanisms at the legislative and institutional levels to promote and protect human rights, its attempts to achieve equality and equal opportunities at the level of civil, political, economic and social rights and its endeavours to ensure the effective participation of women in all areas of life. Mauritania recommended the adoption of the outcome of the review.

752. Cuba congratulated Somalia for its commitment to the universal periodic review and thanked Somalia for having accepted the recommendations made by Cuba. Cuba urged Somalia to continue its efforts against sexual and gender-based violence and to continue to face the challenges associated with economic recovery and poverty reduction. It wished Somalia success in implementing the recommendations accepted and supported the adoption of the outcome of the review.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

753. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Somalia, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

754. The British Humanist Association (video statement) urged Somalia to use the upcoming redrafting of the domestic Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code to strengthen the rights and protections concerning freedom of religion and belief of Somali citizens. It



called upon Somalia to remove articles in the Penal Code related to blasphemy that had been used to harass, marginalize and justify vigilante attacks against religious and non-religious minorities. It implored the Government of Somalia to repeal the death penalty for the offence of apostasy, which ran counter to Human Rights Council resolution 36/17, in which the Council urged countries that had yet to repeal the death penalty to ensure that it was not imposed for specific forms of conduct.

755. The Alliance Defending Freedom (video statement) raised concerns regarding freedom of religion or belief. It regretted the rejection of recommendations to permit apostasy and decriminalize blasphemy in national legislation. Highlighting the situation of religious minorities facing discrimination and legal harassment, it stated that that was compounded by the unstable political situation. It asserted that religious minorities were also targets for violent persecution by terrorist groups and sometimes were threatened and forced to flee by their communities. It urged the Government of Somalia to protect all those facing stigmatization and violence as a result of their faith and to investigate, prosecute and hold accountable all perpetrators of acts of religiously motivated violence.

756. The East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (video statement) encouraged the Government to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and implement recommendations to withdraw the sexual intercourse and related crimes bill and instead adopt the sexual offences bill. It highlighted that Somalia should: fully respect freedom of opinion and expression, including revising the new media law and protecting journalists; amend its criminal law pertaining to defamation and national security provisions as they were used to suppress fundamental freedoms; and prioritize protecting human rights defenders and civil society actors against harassment, intimidation, threats and attacks, ensuring an open civic space.

757. The Minority Rights Group (video statement) called upon the Somali authorities to ensure fair elections with one vote for one person, noting that the temporary allocation of political posts based on the 4.5 power-sharing formula was considered to discriminate against minority clan communities. It called upon the Government to pay particular attention to members of minority clan communities and to work with those affected to identify ways in which exclusion continued to manifest itself, including in access to health, education, nutrition, work, housing, water, sanitation and hygiene. It also called upon the Government to participate in a review of humanitarian aid distribution and development interventions and to put in place remedies that enabled full inclusion.

758. Amnesty International (video statement) stated that it had documented how freedom of expression and media freedom had deteriorated in Somalia since 2017. It had also documented how the COVID-19 pandemic had exacerbated pre-existing structural issues within the health-care system and called upon the federal Government to allocate a portion of its debt relief proceeds and new grants to improve the right to health. It urged Somalia to scrap the proposed sexual intercourse-related crimes bill and ensure that any law introduced prohibited all forms of violence against women and girls and was in conformity with international law and regional standards. It urged Somalia to reconsider its rejection of the recommendation to abolish the death penalty.

759. Action Canada for Population and Development (video statement) stated that the Government of Somalia needed to take urgent action to protect the rights of women and girls. It recommended that the Government: pass an updated law addressing sexual and gender-based violence with a survivor-centred approach in line with international standards; adopt national action plans on sexual violence and on implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000); prosecute cases of sexual and gender-based violence; adopt legislation and policies for abolishing child, early and forced marriages; and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It stated that the Government should allocate resources to support judicial, health and social services.

760. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme (video statement) expressed concern regarding the political situation and constitutional crisis in Somalia, which was contributing to the proliferation of conflict and terrorism. It urged Somalia to reinforce measures to promote stability and prevent human rights violations, called upon Somalia to conduct peaceful elections and protect women, children and displaced civilians affected by

armed conflict and asserted that dialogue was the only way to reach an agreement and prevent further violations of international humanitarian law. It noted that judicial and institutional reform, eradication of violence against women and girls, freedom of expression and prevention of recruitment of child soldiers were necessary to achieve peace.

761. Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association (video statement) highlighted impunity regarding cases of rape and sexual violence and stated that the recruitment of children had increased. It expressed concern about enforced disappearances and noted the reported arrest of journalists and humanitarian workers. It recommended that the Government exert greater efforts to end impunity within the next four years and review its legislation to ensure alignment with international human rights conventions.

762. Partners for Transparency (video statement) noted that women and girls were among the vulnerable groups worst affected by the deteriorating situation in Somalia, despite government efforts to criminalize female genital mutilation. It recommended that Somalia take the necessary legislative measures to ensure that the perpetrators of all terrorist attacks were brought to justice. It called upon Somalia to ratify the United Nations human rights treaties and protocols, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

763. The Center for Inquiry (video statement) emphasized that it was important that, in the rewriting of its Penal Code, Somalia end the penalization of individuals renouncing a religion or converting to another faith. It contended that freedom of religion or belief necessarily included the right to apostatize, and that it should become legal to identify as non-religious, with non-believers being allowed to hold government office. It stated that Somalia must also decriminalize blasphemy, as ensuring the ability to question religious claims was an element of the freedom of expression, thus allowing opinions to be expressed while protecting individuals from threats and violence.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

764. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 273 recommendations received, 246 had enjoyed the support of Somalia and 27 had been noted.

765. The delegation (in-person statement) expressed its appreciation to the Chair of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and the members of the troika – Denmark, Malawi and Poland – for their valuable contributions and assistance during the preparation of the report.

766. Somalia particularly thanked Canada, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and other friends of Somalia for their continued tangible and strong support in its human rights work across the regions of Somalia. The delegation also conveyed its gratitude to the Human Rights Section of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia, the United Nations Development Programme and UNICEF for their substantial technical assistance and support for Somalia in implementing its human rights obligations.

767. Somalia was grateful to the Human Rights Council for its support and positive engagement in the current important peer-review process.

#### **Palau**

768. The review of Palau was held on 7 May 2021 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 Palau 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;<sup>61</sup>

<sup>61</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/PLW/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;<sup>62</sup>

(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.<sup>63</sup>

769. At its 30th meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Palau (see sect. C below).

770. The outcome of the review of Palau comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>64</sup> 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**

771. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, at the request of the delegation of Palau, she would directly pass the floor to member and observer States and other stakeholders.

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

772. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Palau, 13 delegations made statements.

773. UN-Women (video statement) noted the progress in implementing the Family Protection Act. It encouraged the Government of Palau to strengthen inter-agency coordination, establish shelters and expand support services for survivors of violence and abuse. It recommended that the National Code be revised to increase the age of marriage from 16 to 18 to ensure greater legal protection of children from abuse, violence, exploitation and adolescent pregnancies. It applauded the election of women and encouraged Palau to consider adopting temporary measures to advance women's participation in governance systems to achieve a 30 per cent representation of women in leadership by 2030.

774. UNICEF (video statement) commended the Government's commitment to integrating the Convention on the Rights of the Child in its legal system, adopting a national strategy for children supported by human, technical, and financial resources and ensuring that children were engaged in the development and implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks. It was encouraged by the commitment of the Government to providing shelters and safe homes for women and children subjected to violence. It called upon the Government to finalize the child protection systems assessment and child online protection research for the development of a child protection policy and legislation. It regretted that Palau had only taken note of recommendations pertaining to trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the elimination of labour and child marriage, the establishment of a child protection system, excluding corporal punishment, raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility and the promotion of inclusive education for children with disabilities, as well as mental and reproductive health among children and adolescents.

775. Vanuatu (video statement) commended Palau for having accepted a large number of recommendations, including those regarding strengthening mechanisms and policies to eradicate discrimination against women, persons with disabilities, migrants and stateless persons. It also commended the acceptance of the recommendation regarding ratifying the

<sup>62</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/PLW/2](#).

<sup>63</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/PLW/3](#).

<sup>64</sup> [A/HRC/48/12](#).

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and implementing a policy to combat climate change and advocate for climate action.

776. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) welcomed the commitment of Palau to human rights. It also welcomed the adoption of a gender perspective in the policymaking process of Palau and the implementation of policies to combat violence and discrimination against women. It commended the launch of the Belau Head Start Programme aimed at developing the capacities of low-income families and children aged 3 to 5. It welcomed and commended the achievements of Palau and encouraged it to continue to consolidate its social policies for the most vulnerable with the support and cooperation of the international community.

777. Viet Nam (video statement) appreciated the acceptance by Palau of the majority of the recommendations on climate change, the promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, young people and children. It welcomed the efforts of Palau to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and strengthen its legal system. It stated that it was confident that Palau would continue to prioritize the measures to address the adverse impact of climate change and promote and protect the rights of vulnerable groups.

778. Cuba (video statement) was delighted that Palau had accepted its recommendations regarding the participation of women in the political, economic and social life of the country, as well as awareness-raising measures about services related to HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. It reiterated its gratitude to Palau as it continued to confront the effects of climate change and other natural phenomena.

779. Fiji (video statement) welcomed the acceptance of three of its recommendations by Palau. Its recommendations focused on human rights awareness-raising programmes for women, young persons and children, as well as the efforts of Palau to combat climate change. It commended Palau for the steps that it had taken to advance human rights.

780. India (video statement) appreciated the fact that 67 recommendations had been accepted by Palau, including 3 of its recommendations. It also appreciated the constructive engagement and commitment of Palau to the universal periodic review process. It commended Palau for the measures taken to mitigate the impact of climate change and improve its adaptation capabilities. It acknowledged the challenges and constraints faced by Palau and also expressed its commitment to cooperating with Palau.

781. Indonesia noted that Palau had accepted 67 recommendations, including 1 made by Indonesia. It recognized the concerns of Palau related to limited resources and capacities. It recommended the development of capacity-building and training programmes. It encouraged the Government of Palau to optimize available mechanisms for capacity-building, particularly within the Human Rights Council framework, including the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review.

782. Maldives (in-person statement) commended the Government of Palau on the positive developments brought to the legal and institutional framework since the previous cycle of the universal periodic review, including the establishment of a policy on climate and disaster resilience to mitigate the effects of climate change. It noted that Palau had accepted its recommendation to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It highlighted that small island developing States such as Palau would require technical and financial assistance to enhance their capacity to implement the recommendations.

783. Morocco was pleased with the interest shown by Palau in implementing policies regarding gender equality and equal opportunities to promote women in political life and their access to decision-making. It appreciated the efforts of Palau to ratify various instruments and to continue to cooperate with human rights mechanisms.

784. Nepal (video statement) appreciated Palau for having supported most of the recommendations made during the third cycle review, including both of its recommendations. It welcomed the legislative and institutional efforts of Palau to promote and protect human rights. It noted that Palau had initiated its National Gender Mainstreaming Policy to achieve gender equality.

785. New Zealand commended Palau for its commitment to working towards the ratification of a number of human rights treaties and full implementation of those already ratified before the next scheduled periodic review. It was encouraged by the commitment of Palau to continuing to work towards establishing a dedicated human rights institution. It commended Palau for having completed its first voluntary national review in 2019 and for having recognized the need to eliminate disparities in education and employment due to gender, age and disability. It acknowledged the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Palau. New Zealand further commended Palau for its effort to protect the well-being of its people throughout the pandemic.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

786. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Palau, two other stakeholders made statements.

787. The World Jewish Congress (video statement) applauded the Government of Palau for having accepted recommendations that supported the vulnerable sections of its society, such as the intensified focus upon the care for the elderly and the national disability policy. It commended Palau for its gender mainstreaming policy in the pursuit of safety and equal opportunities in society. It stated that Palau had demonstrated its respect for the founding principles of the United Nations by supporting the promotion and protection of human rights. It called upon the Government of Palau to adopt the working definitions of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance on antisemitism and Holocaust denial and distortion as a means to institutionalize further the fight for human rights and against discrimination at all levels of society.

788. The Center for Global Nonkilling (video statement) lauded the Government of Palau for its decision to ratify the Convention on the Prevention and the Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. It hoped that that ratification would occur soon. It encouraged all States to offer their support for the ratification process.

### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

789. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 142 recommendations received, 67 had enjoyed the support of Palau and 75 have been noted.

790. The delegation (video statement) mentioned that, since the universal periodic review, the Government of Palau had taken the initiative to assign relevant agencies to deal with recommendations that had been accepted or noted. The Government of Palau is cognizant of the fact that, in order to pursue ratification of the remaining core human rights treaties, legislative reviews and public awareness of and education on those treaties must be increased. However, accomplishing that important task required technical expertise as well as financial assistance.

791. The Government of Palau appreciated the universal periodic review process and was committed to ensuring that fundamental human rights were enjoyed by every person living in Palau based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The universal periodic review process was a unifying force for all stakeholders in Palau as the Government collaborated closely and shared experiences, highlights and, most importantly, the challenges faced with regard to the promotion, protection and realization of human rights practices and issues in the country.

792. The Government of Palau reaffirmed its commitment to advancing and protecting the fundamental principles and values of human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and core human rights treaties. It acknowledged and noted all the kind words and recommendations made. It called for continuous support as it tried steadfastly to implement and monitor its human rights initiatives and programmes. As a single nation, Palau could not, alone, achieve that goal but working together collectively and cohesively generated the foundations and guidelines of the core principles of human rights. The Government of Palau would, in the following years, align and adjust its national priorities to implement the recommendations received during the third cycle review.

793. The delegation concluded by reiterating the humble appeal of Palau to the international community, especially donors and partners, namely to provide it with the much-needed assistance and support as it continued its efforts towards the ratification of the core human rights treaties that Palau had yet to ratify, and to help Palau with the establishment of its national human rights institution, to better address human rights issues in the country.

794. Palau looked forward to the next cycle of the universal periodic review in four and a half years to report and to share its stories on the tangible progress made, such as the ratification of at least half of the core human rights treaties, as well as to provide positive news about the implementation of the recommendations made during the third cycle review.

### **Solomon Islands**

795. The review of Solomon Islands was held on 10 May 2021 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 Solomon Islands in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21;<sup>65</sup>

(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;<sup>66</sup>

(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.<sup>67</sup>

796. At its 30th meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Solomon Islands (see sect. C below).

797. The outcome of the review of Solomon Islands comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>68</sup> 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.<sup>69</sup>

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

798. The delegation stated at the outset that out of a total of 160 recommendations received, it had supported 106 of them and had noted the rest.

799. As a small island developing State, it welcomed the recommendations that focused on addressing climate change and sea-level rise. The delegation reiterated its position that climate change posed an existential threat to the very existence of Solomon Islanders. Climate change threatened freshwater sources, food security and the life of the ecosystems in the sea and on land. The increasing abnormal weather events resulting from climate change damaged the much-needed infrastructure of Solomon Islands and challenged its ability to build back better and more resiliently. Despite having contributed the least to greenhouse gases, Solomon Islands was committed to addressing the human rights challenges caused by climate change.

800. Solomon Islands supported all those recommendations that addressed the strengthening of policy and coverage of universal health care. Basic health-care services were provided to citizens free of charge. Solomon Islands also remained steadfast in its approach

<sup>65</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SLB/1](#).

<sup>66</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SLB/2](#).

<sup>67</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SLB/3](#).

<sup>68</sup> [A/HRC/48/13](#).

<sup>69</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/13/Add.1](#).

to reducing maternal and infant mortality rates under its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals.

801. Solomon Islands also supported all recommendations covering access to basic education for both boys and girls, especially in rural areas. Solomon Islands further supported all recommendations related to compulsory education legislation and policy while highlighting that it had continued to implement its free education policy for primary education throughout the country. It supported the recommendation related to the right to development, in particular to strengthen its development policy and the full utilization of resources for the benefit of its people. Moreover, acknowledging the devastating impacts of COVID-19 on the economy and the lives of its people, Solomon Islands fully supported the recommendation to adopt a human rights perspective in COVID-19 recovery efforts.

802. Solomon Islands stressed that it had continued to take steps to address human rights abuses and trafficking as a result of resource extraction. Solomon Islands noted that, in many cases, victims of such activities were women and girls, hence Solomon Islands continued to address the whole spectrum of discrimination against women in all its various forms. Solomon Islands supported the recommendation to develop, enact and implement comprehensive legislation against trafficking in persons.

803. Solomon Islands also welcomed all recommendations addressing gender-based violence. Solomon Islands emphasized that it remained committed to implementing the provisions under the Family Protection Act, as well as the recommendations from the review on the Act. Solomon Islands further remained committed to providing access to justice for survivors of gender-based violence and a safe avenue for them to access assistance and recovery.

## **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 Solomon Islands, 12 delegations made statements.

805. China welcomed the efforts of Solomon Islands to: promote sustainable economic and social development that improved people's living standards; improve continuously the capability to respond to climate change and natural disasters; strengthen the public health system; and guarantee people's right to health.

806. Cuba (video statement) appreciated the fact that Solomon Islands had supported the recommendations made by Cuba regarding the development of infrastructure and educational policy and the implementation of the national health strategy focusing on universal coverage and access to basic health care. It welcomed efforts to tackle and mitigate the effects of climate change.

807. Fiji (video statement) welcomed the fact that Solomon Islands had supported the recommendations made by Fiji, which were related to: human rights awareness-raising programmes for young people and children; safeguards against violence against women; and efforts to combat climate change.

808. The Gambia (video statement) commended the Government of Solomon Islands for its continued efforts to empower women by improving their economic status and combating domestic violence through the enactment of legislation.

809. India (video statement) welcomed the establishment of the Anti-Human Trafficking Advisory Committee and the enactment of the Whistle-blowers Protection Act of 2018. India also noted the adoption of the National Health Strategy Policy 2016–2020.

810. Indonesia encouraged Solomon Islands to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It also underscored its continuous collaboration with Solomon Islands in addressing challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including access to countermeasures and vaccines.

811. Maldives acknowledged the commitment of the Government of Solomon Islands to address the challenges caused by climate change. It noted that Solomon Islands had supported the two recommendations made by Maldives to ratify the Convention on the Rights of

Persons with Disabilities and to seek technical assistance in establishing a formal justice system for all.

812. Morocco congratulated Solomon Islands for its engagement in several human rights areas, as well as for its commitment to the principles of multilateralism. It wished Solomon Islands success with its implementation of the recommendations supported.

813. Nepal (video statement) noted the priority of Solomon Islands to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and appreciated the healthy village project that addressed preventable diseases through the improvement of water, sanitation and hygiene. It also noted the national development strategy 2016–2035 aimed at improving the quality of life of all Solomon Islanders.

814. New Zealand commended Solomon Islands for its commitment to increasing participation in relevant and important human rights instruments and the promotion and translation of those obligations domestically. It welcomed the prioritization of the establishment of a national human rights institution. It recognized the progress made to address violence against women and children and enhance their well-being and safety. It also recognized the progress made to increase women's participation in leadership and access to economic empowerment. It reiterated its commitment to supporting Solomon Islands in combating the impacts of climate change.

815. Sierra Leone acknowledged the ratification by Solomon Islands of a number of key human rights treaties and commended it for having supported most of the recommendations received during the third cycle review.

816. Tunisia (video statement) appreciated the measures taken by Solomon Islands to implement the recommendations from the previous cycle, especially improving cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms and extending invitations to special procedure mandate holders. Tunisia also acknowledged the implementation by Solomon Islands of legislative reforms to bring national laws into line with human rights instruments, as well as the adoption of policies to promote gender equality and the rights of young people and women. Tunisia further commended Solomon Islands for the measures taken to combat trafficking in persons and corruption and to reduce the effects of climate change.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

817. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Solomon Islands, six other stakeholders made statements.

818. The Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (video statement) called upon the Government of Solomon Islands not to compromise on universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, as COVID-19 and climate change posed risks for the continuation of life-saving services for women, adolescents and young persons. It encouraged the Government to hone in on its commitment made during the 25-year review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development of zero unmet need for family planning, zero preventable maternal deaths and zero gender-based violence and harmful practices. It welcomed the Government's support for the recommendation to improve access to education for all by addressing barriers and allocating sufficient finance for education. It expressed concern about the absolute minimum age of marriage at 15 years with parental consent, calling for an increase in the legal age of marriage to ensure that girls completed their full education.

819. Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality (video statement) urged the Government of Solomon Islands to engage young persons in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and support their active participation in decisions related to education, health and employment. It also encouraged the Government to develop a national adolescent and young people sexual and reproductive health strategy that would ensure access to appropriate information, education and adolescent-friendly health services. It thanked the Government for having supported the recommendation by Fiji to ensure that women, children, persons with disabilities, minority groups and rural communities were at the forefront in the development and implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks.



820. The International Planned Parenthood Federation (video statement) welcomed the support of Solomon Islands for recommendations related to ensuring access to basic education for both boys and girls, ending gender-based violence and addressing climate change. It, however, regretted the decision by Solomon Islands not to support the recommendations related to: access to appropriate information, education and adolescent-friendly sexual and reproductive health care for adolescents and young people, including for persons with disabilities; decriminalization of abortion; and protection of the rights of children and persons with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. It highlighted the utmost need for continued engagement with civil society organizations to strengthen efforts for the realization of human rights for all Solomon Islanders.

821. In a joint statement, Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers and Franciscans International (video statement) commended Solomon Islands for having supported recommendations related to the impacts of logging on human rights, the environment and climate change. It highlighted that logging activities remained one of the most damaging economic activities in Solomon Islands. It also noted that commercial sexual exploitation of children remained a serious problem, due to lack of monitoring of the logging sites by the authorities. It urged the Government to diligently implement all universal periodic review recommendations related to logging activities and ensure the full and meaningful participation of civil society in that process.

822. In a joint statement, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES) (video statement) welcomed the support of Solomon Islands for the recommendations related to preventing gender-based violence. It expressed concern about the continued practice of the “bride price” that was prevalent among disadvantaged families that were forced to marry their daughters in exchange for monetary compensation. It urged the Government to strengthen its efforts to combat violence against women and children by bringing perpetrators to justice and ensure complete elimination of the practice of the “bride price.” It also urged the Government to adopt all necessary measures to facilitate access for children and teachers to schools in remote and rural areas and to take specific measures to improve the quality of education in rural and urban sectors.

823. The Center for Global Nonkilling (video statement) regretted that the Government of Solomon Islands had noted the recommendation made by Armenia to ratify the Convention on the Prevention and the Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. In that regard, the Center encouraged the Government of Solomon Islands to designate a focal point with responsibility to protect and to change the position of the Government regarding ratification of the Convention.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

824. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 160 recommendations received, 106 had enjoyed the support of Solomon Islands and 54 had been noted.

825. Solomon Islands thanked member States and all other stakeholders who had provided their views and comments on the outcomes of the third cycle review of Solomon Islands.

826. With regard to the rights of women and girls, Solomon Islands supported the recommendations to take further steps to increase the participation of women in public service and enhance measures for women’s economic empowerment, as well as their representation in leadership positions. With regard to the recommendation on wage parity, Solomon Islands did not encourage differences in wages on the basis of gender but according to responsibility.

827. Solomon Islands supported all recommendations related to the rights of the child. With regard to recommendations on corporal punishment, Solomon Islands highlighted that corporal punishment was prohibited in all schools throughout the country and such prohibition was specified in the Solomon Islands Teachers Handbook issued by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development and used by all teachers. Solomon Islands also noted that it was in the process of reviewing the Islanders Marriage Act with a view to increasing the legal age of marriage from 15 to 18 for girls.

828. With respect to international instruments, the immediate priority of Solomon Islands was to sign and/or ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. In that regard, Solomon Islands noted the importance of signing and acceding to the remaining human rights conventions and other related conventions concerning work and the Rome Statute, while the Government remained cognizant of the resources at its disposal to fully and meaningfully implement those treaties.

829. With regard to treaty body reporting, Solomon Islands was committed to honouring its human rights reporting obligations. As such, it supported the recommendations related to treaty body reporting. At the same time, Solomon Islands noted the country's limited resources and competing national priorities when it came to meeting its reporting obligations, thus they remained a challenge. Accordingly, Solomon Islands had adopted a precautionary approach to the signing and ratifying of all international conventions, including those on human rights, due to the financial and other resources arising from the "reporting burden".

830. Solomon Islands remained fully committed to the implementation of its human rights obligations. It welcomed the assistance of all donor and development partners that had helped it in that regard. It looked forward to continue to work with them and the international community in achieving the goals that it had set to better the lives of its people and the country.

### **Seychelles**

831. The review of Seychelles was held on 10 May 2021 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 Seychelles 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;<sup>70</sup>

(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;<sup>71</sup>

(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.<sup>72</sup>

832. At its 31st meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Seychelles (see sect. C below).

833. The outcome of the review of Seychelles comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>73</sup> 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.<sup>74</sup>

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

834. The delegation (video statement) stated that Seychelles was pleased to reaffirm its commitment towards human rights before the Human Rights Council and further engage with

<sup>70</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SYC/1](#).

<sup>71</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SYC/2](#).

<sup>72</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SYC/3](#).

<sup>73</sup> [A/HRC/48/14](#).

<sup>74</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/14/Add.1](#).

the international community on those important issues. Seychelles welcomed the work of the Council and was dedicated to improving human rights for its people.

835. During the review by the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review held in May 2021, Seychelles had been able to promptly accept 113 recommendations out of the 215 received because they addressed matters that were already being implemented through existing laws and policies. Consideration of the remaining 102 recommendations had been deferred and had been examined by Seychelles through a series of national consultations in order to properly assess the country's ability to implement them over the next four years, taking into account its resources and capabilities.

836. Seychelles had accepted all the recommendations received related to many issues, including the national human rights framework; the right to life, liberty and security of persons; the administration of justice; the prohibition of all forms of slavery; the right to work and to an adequate standard of living; the right to health; and the right to education.

837. The Seychellois Charter of Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms, an integral part of the Constitution of Seychelles, provided for the protection and promotion of human rights of all persons within the territory of the State and reflected the aspirations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Seychelles remained guided by article 27 of its Constitution, which ensured equal protection of all persons regardless of gender, race, nationality, age, skin colour, sexual orientation or political beliefs.

838. Seychelles was cognizant of its capacity as a small island developing State and had therefore taken a pragmatic approach towards six recommendations that it had noted and one that it had partially noted. Of the six noted recommendations, two were related to the subject of equality and non-discrimination. At present, Seychelles remained in a consultative phase vis-à-vis certain subjects that concerned the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community. There was no room for discrimination in Seychelles regardless of the sexual orientation of its citizens. Seychelles looked forward to continue to work with the international community and relevant treaty bodies on improving the quality of life and the fulfilment of human rights of its people, including the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community.

839. Two other recommendations noted by Seychelles related to the domestication of all international human rights treaties. As there was a multitude of international human rights instruments, accepting those recommendations would require an extensive review of the country's national laws that Seychelles did not perceive as feasible during the following four years. Seychelles was party to the nine core United Nations human rights treaties and remained committed towards all its human rights obligations.

840. The third category of noted recommendations included two noted recommendations and one partially noted recommendation concerning migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internationally displaced persons. Those recommendations had been noted largely on the basis of the size of the country and its inadequate technical and financial capacities, which made it a challenge to implement legislation in that respect.

841. During the following four years, Seychelles would increase its efforts and strive to implement the recommendations that it had accepted during the third cycle. Seychelles remained determined to continue to cooperate with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, as well as with the international community, to uphold the principles of democracy, good governance and peace.

842. Seychelles also welcomed the Human Rights Council's agenda on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change, a matter that remained at the top of the country's agenda. Seychelles, along with other small island States, remained exposed to the adverse effects of climate change and was confident that the Human Rights Council would continue to serve as a valuable platform to urgently address that critical issue.

843. The universal periodic review remained an important exercise that reinforced the country's national framework of accountability and transparency and Seychelles remained committed to continuing to work towards the full enjoyment of human rights by all persons in the country.

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

844. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Seychelles, 13 delegations made statements.

845. Djibouti (video statement) thanked Seychelles for its presentation, which emphasized the efforts and commitments of the country in terms of the protection and promotion of human rights. It also congratulated Seychelles for the acceptance of many of the recommendations received and particularly welcomed the acceptance of the two recommendations made by Djibouti.

846. Egypt (video statement) commended the efforts made by Seychelles in establishing the national human rights commission; the adoption of legislative reforms related to the protection of children; and the efforts made by the country to combat corruption and money laundering. Egypt also expressed its appreciation for the acceptance by Seychelles of the vast majority of the recommendations received, including the recommendations made by Egypt.

847. Fiji (video statement) welcomed the acceptance by Seychelles of the recommendations made by Fiji, which focused on the efforts of Seychelles to combat trafficking in persons, particularly child trafficking and prostitution, its continued efforts to address domestic violence and its efforts towards combating climate change. Fiji commended Seychelles for the steps taken to advance human rights.

848. India (video statement) commended Seychelles on having accepted as many as 208 recommendations out of the 215 received, which reflected the strong commitment that Seychelles attached to the universal periodic review process and to the implementation of its human rights obligations. India appreciated that Seychelles had accepted all three recommendations made by India. It acknowledged the challenges and constraints faced by Seychelles and remained committed to extending all possible assistance to the country in its endeavour to fulfil its obligations.

849. Indonesia noted with appreciation that Seychelles had accepted 208 recommendations, including all 4 recommendations from Indonesia. It commended, in particular, the acceptance of its recommendation to establish an adequate legal framework and human rights-based standards for the tourism and fisheries industries, paying particular attention to the prevention of trafficking in persons and forced labour. Indonesia wished Seychelles success in fully implementing all recommendations accepted, including through possible collaboration with Indonesia.

850. Libya (video statement) praised the progress made by Seychelles in the fields of health and education and its continued commitment to promoting human rights, social justice, equality and non-discrimination, despite the challenges that it faced. Libya wished Seychelles success in the implementation of the recommendations received.

851. Malawi commended Seychelles for the progressive steps taken to promote and protect human rights. It urged Seychelles to develop an implementation plan to methodically implement the recommendations accepted.

852. Maldives (video statement) commended Seychelles for having accepted most of the recommendations received, including both recommendations made by Maldives. It took positive note of the efforts made by Seychelles at the national and regional levels to mitigate the impacts of climate change and welcomed the efforts made by the country to review its national plans to address the COVID-19 pandemic. It noted that, as a small island developing State, Seychelles would require the assistance of the international community to implement the recommendations accepted.

853. Mali (video statement) congratulated Seychelles for having accepted almost all of the recommendations received, including the recommendation made by Mali regarding the ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled. It appreciated the good cooperation of Seychelles with the Human Rights Council and its various mechanisms and encouraged the country to step up the progress made in the promotion and protection of

children's rights, including regarding birth registration and the prohibition of all forms of corporal punishment.

854. Mauritania (video statement) welcomed the establishment of the national human rights commission in Seychelles, as well as the progress made by the country to promote and protect the human rights of persons with disabilities, women and children. It wished Seychelles success in pursuing the policies of promoting and protecting human rights and implementing the recommendations accepted.

855. Morocco commended Seychelles for the presentation of its national report. It noted with satisfaction the acceptance by Seychelles of a large number of the recommendations received, including the three made by Morocco, and understood the country's technical inability to respond favourably to all of them. Morocco noted that the commitment of Seychelles was all the more commendable as it had indicated that the rest of the recommendations could be considered later.

856. Nepal (video statement) appreciated the commitment of Seychelles to the universal periodic review process. It commended Seychelles for having accepted most of the recommendations received, including both recommendations made by Nepal. Nepal also took note of the efforts of Seychelles to achieve gender equality and gender mainstreaming, as well as to prevent trafficking in persons.

857. Cuba (video statement) recognized the commitment of Seychelles to the universal periodic review and was honoured to have been a part of the troika during the review. It was grateful that Seychelles had accepted its recommendations regarding the training of human resources and educational infrastructure, the promotion of vaccination campaigns and the prevention of communicable diseases. It reiterated its appreciation for the efforts of Seychelles to protect the environment and reduce the negative effects of climate change and wished Seychelles success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

858. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Seychelles, three other stakeholders made statements.

859. The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (video statement) appreciated the commitment of Seychelles to promote and protect human rights through legislative developments and structural reforms. It welcomed the establishment of the Seychelles Human Rights Commission in 2018 and called upon Seychelles to ensure that the Commission was adequately resourced and was fully compliant with the Paris Principles. It also welcomed the adoption of the Access to Information Act and urged Seychelles to ensure compliance with proactive disclosure requirements, improve its records management and further review the Act to bring it into line with international standards. It also noted that Seychelles had noted two recommendations on giving legal recognition to same-sex partnerships and hoped that the Law Reform Commission would address these concerns to ensure dignity and equality for the LGBTI+ communities. It urged Seychelles to: effectively implement the new Domestic Violence Act; continue to take steps towards effectively domesticating the core human rights treaties; and implement action plans to comply with its reporting obligations, including by considering technical assistance from OHCHR.

860. Action Canada for Population and Development (video statement) expressed its gratitude to all countries that had made recommendations and to Seychelles for the commitments made. However, it noted that young persons in Seychelles continued to face challenges. The adolescent fertility rate remained high, at 65 births per 1,000 girls aged 15–19 years, the contraceptive prevalence rate was 46.2 per cent and the teenage pregnancy rate was reported as 100 per 1,000, with associated high levels of unsafe abortion. Those figures indicated a need for a review of and improvements to sexual and reproductive health and family planning services in Seychelles. Young persons were also among the most vulnerable to gender-based violence. Moreover, those gaps were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. It concluded by acknowledging the support of Seychelles for most of the recommendations, which was a sign of the country's strong commitment to young persons. Action Canada for Population and Development was ready to monitor and to work with the

Government towards the full implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations.

861. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme (video statement) welcomed the commitment of Seychelles to foster human rights, social justice, equality and non-discrimination. It congratulated Seychelles on its peaceful and historic elections held in October 2020 and for the establishment of its human rights commission. However, it noted that much more needed to be done to provide the commission with adequate resources and ensure full compliance with the Paris Principles. It also stated that, with over 65 per cent of the country's gross domestic product derived from tourism, the COVID-19 pandemic posed a challenge for Seychellois society that required a balanced response. Furthermore, it considered noteworthy the country's ambitious climate action plan, which challenged the big, global polluters to carry their own weight, including in recognizing the adverse, global impacts of climate change on universal human rights. Finally, it encouraged Seychelles to continue to strengthen its efforts for the empowerment of women and girls and foster a culture of tolerance and democratic pluralism throughout society.

#### 4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

862. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 215 recommendations received, 208 had enjoyed the support of Seychelles and 6 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another recommendation indicating which parts of the recommendations had been supported and which parts had been noted.

863. The delegation (video statement) extended its sincere appreciation to the secretariat of the universal periodic review for the continuous support and dedication provided during the process of adopting the outcome of the review of Seychelles. Seychelles was equally grateful to States, which had contributed invaluable insights into the development of human rights in Seychelles.

864. The platform for constructive engagement provided by the Human Rights Council was crucial for the development of Seychelles as a small island developing State. While Seychelles appreciated the progress that it had achieved since its first review, it remained cognizant of the steps that needed to be taken to address its shortcomings, as matters of human rights were constantly evolving to meet the demands of societies. In that regard, Seychelles would continue to assess, based on its capabilities, those recommendations that it had noted.

865. Seychelles affirmed its commitment to implementing the 208 recommendations accepted in the coming four years. It acknowledged that the country's governance and capabilities had been altered due to the COVID-19 pandemic but reaffirmed that that did not alter the commitments that it had made and its desire to further human rights in the country.

#### Latvia

866. The review of Latvia was held on 11 May 2021 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 Latvia 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;<sup>75</sup>

(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;<sup>76</sup>

(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 resolutions 16/21.<sup>77</sup>

<sup>75</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/38/LVA/1.

<sup>76</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/38/LVA/2.

<sup>77</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/38/LVA/3.

867. At its 31st meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Latvia (see sect. C below).

868. The outcome of the review of Latvia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>78</sup> 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.<sup>79</sup>

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

869. The delegation (in-person statement) expressed appreciation to all the stakeholders – member States, the Office of the Ombudsman (Latvia), civil society organizations and other stakeholders – that had constructively engaged in the interactive dialogue on its national report during the thirty-eighth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. The delegation also thanked the troika – Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Italy and Japan – and the secretariat for their excellent work and assistance.

870. Latvia expressed its strong support for the universal periodic review process, which allowed it to reflect on its human rights policies and to set new goals for continuous improvements in that field.

871. During its review, Latvia had received a constructive assessment and many of its accomplishments had been noted, including the steps taken to promote gender equality and combat gender-based violence, as well as the adoption of its National Action Plan on the Implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security for the period 2020–2025.

872. Latvia had fully accepted 145 recommendations and partially accepted another 12 recommendations. A number of them had already been implemented or were in the process of being implemented.

873. Latvia had acceded to the major United Nations human rights instruments and regularly submitted reports to their monitoring mechanisms, while constantly considering the possible ratification of other international human rights instruments. Latvia was in the process of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, noting that the Office of the Ombudsman had already been allocated the necessary resources to act as the national preventive mechanism. The provisions of the Criminal Law of Latvia were in full compliance with the provisions of the Convention against Torture.

874. The delegation expressed the support of Latvia for the recommendations regarding cooperation with United Nations special procedure mandate holders, noting that the country would continue to closely cooperate with the special procedures.

875. Latvia had accepted and already implemented the recommendations on providing the Office of the Ombudsman with adequate financial and human resources and State budgetary resources allocated to the Office were growing each year.

876. In the past five years, Latvia had intensified its efforts to prevent and eliminate violence against women and domestic violence by improving the legal framework and implementing additional preventative mechanisms, including by establishing criminal liability for harassment, genital mutilation and emotional abuse, expanding the provisions on severe, medium and minor bodily harm, providing all victims with psychosocial support and the right to legal assistance, and criminalizing marital rape and domestic violence.

877. As a staunch promoter of gender equality in international forums, Latvia took the issue equally seriously at home and was implementing its gender equality policy based on an integrated approach. On 17 August 2021, the Cabinet of Ministers had approved the Plan for

<sup>78</sup> [A/HRC/48/15](#).

<sup>79</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/15/Add.1](#) and [A/HRC/48/15/Add.1/Corr.1](#).

the Promotion of Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men for 2021–2023, with the aim of ensuring integrated, targeted and effective policy in promoting equal rights and opportunities for women and men.

878. Legislation in Latvia provided for the elimination of all forms of discrimination, including in relation to employment, education and health care. The Criminal Code established criminal liability for any deliberate actions to incite national, ethnic, racial or religious hatred or enmity, including hate speech. Various government institutions had implemented practical measures to help identify and combat hate crimes. In summer 2021, a special working group on hate crimes was established within the Ministry of the Interior to assess the possible obstacles to the identification and detection of hate crimes, as well as to identify possible courses of action.

879. Latvia had supported all recommendations on access to education; equal access to education was ensured to everyone and basic education was compulsory. Support measures for children with special needs were available at all levels of education, starting with pre-school education. Latvia had and would continue to provide support for Roma pupils with the aim of reducing their marginalization in education and promoting their inclusion in the education process. Roma pupils with learning disorders were integrated in general public schools by providing them with support measures to address their learning difficulties.

880. Over the past five years, the education system in Latvia had been modernized, promoting the transition to competence-based learning. The use of the State language had been gradually increased in several stages throughout the education process. At the same time, Latvia continued to finance national minority education programmes in seven languages in accordance with specific educational models chosen by the educational institutions themselves.

881. Latvia was and had always been multicultural, with people from more than 150 ethnic groups living there. Such ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity was respected by all sides within Latvian society. The Constitution and legal framework of Latvia guaranteed and protected the rights of persons belonging to national minorities so that they could preserve and develop their languages, as well as their ethnic and cultural identities. Persons belonging to ethnic minorities were provided with multifaceted State support in preserving and developing their education and traditional culture. Latvia also supported the civic participation of ethnic minorities and representatives of ethnic minorities were involved in policymaking.

882. The overarching goal of policy on disability in Latvia was to promote, protect and ensure that persons with disabilities could fully and equally enjoy all human rights and fundamental freedoms, promote respect for human dignity and take measures to reduce the consequences of disability. Latvia had set a clear direction in the development of such policy – from a medical model to a human rights approach that emphasized the active involvement of a person in public processes and living an independent life.

883. Latvia reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to democracy, human rights and the rule of law. It was confident that the universal periodic review process and its work to implement the recommendations accepted would serve as the basis for further improvements. Human rights would remain at the centre of all its policies, both foreign and domestic.

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

884. The Office of the Ombudsman (Latvia) (video statement) agreed with the recommendations concerning the rights of persons with disabilities and believed those to be of utmost urgency, in particular those concerning the provision of technical aids to children and accessibility of inclusive education. While acknowledging progress in tackling trafficking in persons, the Ombudsman noted the concerns about the shortcomings regarding the cooperation among various stakeholders, undermining the identification and referral of victims to social service providers. The Government needed to increase its efforts in combating hate speech and hate crime through legislative and policy measures, including by amending the Criminal Code and improving the provision of information and education activities. As of September 2021, the ratification process of the Optional Protocol to the



Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment had not been completed. The Office of the Ombudsman was ready for constructive cooperation with the Government in the implementation of the recommendations.

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

885. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Latvia, 11 delegations made statements.

886. The Russian Federation (video statement) regretted that Latvia had not accepted a number of recommendations, including on: revision of legislation on State language, which it claimed discriminated against linguistic minorities; and on the inadmissibility of politically motivated persecution of Russian-speaking public figures and journalists advocating for minority rights and the need to carefully investigate and punish those responsible for such incidents. It added, when referring to a specific annual march in Riga, that glorification of Nazism could not be justified by freedom of assembly. It called upon Latvia to reconsider its approaches to the recommendations of the international community.

887. Tunisia (video statement) expressed its satisfaction with the acceptance of all its recommendations in order to continue the progress made in the areas of promoting gender equality, combating discrimination against minorities and the protection thereof, and combating trafficking in persons and providing all assistance and support services to victims of trafficking. It welcomed the steps taken in combating discrimination; social and economic integration of ethnic minorities, refugees and migrants, including in the labour market; reform of the prison sector; and improvements in conditions of detention.

888. Uzbekistan noted the serious approach and constructive participation of Latvia in the universal periodic review process. It highly appreciated the work carried out to strengthen human rights, including in the field of gender equality in employment and entrepreneurship, the elimination of violence against women and domestic violence, and the identification and suppression of hate crimes. It noted with special gratitude the fact that Latvia had accepted its recommendations.

889. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) expressed its satisfaction with the acceptance by Latvia of the recommendations made to expressly prohibit and punish violations of the human rights of minorities and to adopt effective measures to eradicate racism, racial discrimination and other related forms of intolerance, as well as to adopt educational initiatives with a comprehensive approach in favour of migrants and ethnic minorities, especially women and children from Roma communities. It reiterated its recommendation that Latvia adopt effective measures in favour of gender equality and increase the participation of women in public and political life.

890. Viet Nam (video statement) expressed its appreciation for the constructive engagement of Latvia with the universal periodic review process and thanked the country for having accepted the two recommendations that it had made regarding improving the legal framework and implementing practical measures to prevent violence against women, and promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. Viet Nam took good note of the efforts of Latvia to combat trafficking in persons and facilitate the naturalization procedure for children of non-citizens born in Latvia.

891. Belarus (video statement) reiterated its claim that Latvia had been conducting a discriminatory policy against ethnic minorities, restricting their access to justice and employment and depriving them by law of their civil and political rights. It stated that one in three residents of the country was at risk of poverty, and criticized its policy on asylum seekers. It recommended that Latvia, as a matter of priority, organize a visit by the Special Rapporteur on minority issues and implement other recommendations.

892. China stated that minority rights in Latvia were violated and discrimination and stigmatization were going on in many respects. During the COVID-19 pandemic, racial discrimination and hate crimes against Asians and people of Asian descent had increased and violence against women was widespread. China urged Latvia to use its participation in the

universal periodic review process as an opportunity to address its human rights problems and take effective measures to protect human rights, especially the rights of vulnerable groups and ethnic minorities.

893. Cuba (video statement), while thanking Latvia for having accepted some of the recommendations that it had made, regretted that Latvia had not accepted its recommendation on implementing effective measures to combat racism, xenophobia and hate crimes, as well as their manifestations in political speech. Cuba called upon Latvia to take concrete actions to combat all forms of discrimination, in particular against migrants, refugees and ethnic and religious minorities, on its territory, as well as hate speech and hate crimes.

894. India (video statement) stated that there had been active participation and constructive engagement during the review, with 87 delegations taking the floor and making 244 recommendations. It noted that Latvia had accepted 145 recommendations fully and 12 recommendations partially. India expressed its appreciation for Latvia having accepted both the recommendations that it had made.

895. Libya (video statement) expressed its appreciation for the acceptance by Latvia of the two recommendations that it had made in relation to combating xenophobia and reforming the prison system, as well as for the measures taken by Latvia to promote and protect human rights.

896. Nepal (video statement) expressed its appreciation to Latvia for its constructive engagement in the universal periodic review process and for having supported most of the recommendations made, including both recommendations made by Nepal. Nepal welcomed the National Action Plan on the Implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security and took note of the efforts of Latvia to combat trafficking in persons.

#### **4. General comments made by other stakeholders**

897. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Latvia, one other stakeholder made a statement.

898. The World Jewish Congress (video statement) stated that the progress made by Latvia since it had regained independence was most remarkable. It stated that, while there had never been any pogroms prior to the Second World War, 90 per cent of the Jewish community had perished during the Holocaust and Latvia remembered those who had been lost with 4 July as National Holocaust Remembrance Day. It noted the issue of reimbursing the Jewish community for the unclaimed property following the nationalization of properties in 1940 and hoped that that issue would be addressed by the Saeima. It stated that the Jewish community of Latvia was proud to live in a society that had very low levels of antisemitism. Most expressions of antisemitism took place online and the Government had established a working group to address that and other expressions of hate speech and hate crimes. It thanked the Government for the good working relationship.

#### **5. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

899. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 244 recommendations received, 145 had enjoyed the support of Latvia and 87 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another 12 recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations had been supported and which parts had been noted.

900. The delegation (in-person statement) thanked all delegations and civil society organizations for their engagement. It affirmed that that day marked one of the first steps in the follow-up and implementation of the numerous recommendations Latvia had accepted. Although Latvia had achieved much in the field of human rights since the restoration of its independence in 1990, as well as since its previous universal periodic review, there was still room to grow. Latvia remained fully committed to the universal periodic review process and would ensure a transparent and inclusive implementation process for the recommendations accepted.

## Singapore

901. The review of Singapore was held on 12 May 2021 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 Singapore 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;<sup>80</sup>

(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;<sup>81</sup>

(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.<sup>82</sup>

902. At its 31st meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Singapore (see sect. C below).

903. The outcome of the review of Singapore comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>83</sup> 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.<sup>84</sup>

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

904. The delegation (in-person statement) stated that the universal periodic review was the signature process of the Human Rights Council and welcomed the role that it played in promoting the protection of human rights globally, including fostering an appreciation of the different approaches to the realization of human rights.

905. Singapore was deeply committed to achieving better outcomes for its people in a manner that reflected its national context and realities. Singapore stated that it was a small, densely populated city-State with a multiracial and multireligious society. Forging a common national identity while maintaining racial and social harmony had always been of paramount importance to Singapore.

906. The unique context and history of Singapore had necessitated a practical and outcome-based approach to implement its human rights obligations. That approach was based on two fundamental principles, namely that human rights did not exist in a vacuum and had to take into account the specific cultural, social, economic and historical contexts of a country and, second, that the rule of law was a cornerstone for the protection and promotion of human rights.

907. Singapore had continued to apply those principles amidst the new challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. It had taken swift measures to protect its population, especially the most vulnerable. It had implemented financial assistance schemes to support lower to middle-income households, ensured that social services and legal recourse remained available for victims of family violence and actively tested the elderly population. It had also cared for its migrant workers, in the same way that Singaporeans were cared for. Singapore had ensured that they received medical care, stayed in touch with their families and could return to work as soon as possible.

908. Misinformation had been a major challenge during the pandemic and in order to address it, Singapore had taken an approach of complete transparency. It had provided

<sup>80</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SGP/1](#).

<sup>81</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SGP/2](#).

<sup>82</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SGP/3](#).

<sup>83</sup> [A/HRC/48/16](#).

<sup>84</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/16/Add.1](#).

accurate, up-to-date information through multiple reliable channels, including government websites and messaging platforms. The Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act had allowed it to apply corrections on falsehoods on the pandemic that had affected public interest. As the original content had remained posted alongside the facts, people were able to decide for themselves which was better.

909. Regarding the recommendations received through the universal period review, Singapore had noted those for which it already had legislation and policies in place that addressed the underlying objectives in ways that best suited its unique social and cultural context. The principle of equality of all persons before the law was already enshrined in its Constitution. It had laws and policies to protect its people from discrimination. It was already implementing policies to strengthen social safety nets and support lower income Singaporeans, whether women, children, migrant workers, the elderly or persons with disabilities. Singapore would continue to review and improve on its approach. The Government would study the views raised during the Conversations on Singapore Women's Development, which were a series of national conversations to gather feedback from Singaporeans on issues concerning women. Concrete proposals would be presented in a white paper to Parliament in 2022.

910. Singapore also had not supported recommendations that were predicated on unfounded assertions, inaccurate assumptions or erroneous information. It could not implement recommendations that were not appropriate in its national context.

911. Singapore would continue to review its policies to ensure that they were fit for purpose. Its objective of achieving better outcomes for its people would remain constant.

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

912. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Singapore, 13 delegations made statements.

913. Lebanon was encouraged that Singapore had accepted both recommendations presented by Lebanon.

914. Libya (video statement) appreciated the efforts made by Singapore to build an inclusive, equitable and democratic society, inter alia, by protecting the rights of the most vulnerable groups and establishing an adequate standard of living for them.

915. Maldives positively noted the comprehensive consultation process carried out by the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights to review the recommendations presented to Singapore.

916. Mauritania (video statement) welcomed efforts to implement the Sustainable Development Goals, including spreading the culture of consultations and developing human rights institutions. It further commended efforts to improve access to quality education for all.

917. Mauritius (video statement) appreciated that Singapore had accepted the recommendations presented by Mauritius, inter alia, on the ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

918. Mongolia commended the Government of Singapore for having accepted the recommendations presented by Mongolia.

919. Morocco welcomed the commitment of Singapore to build a democratic, equitable and inclusive society, and its willingness to provide increased social support to the vulnerable members of society.

920. Nepal (video statement) appreciated that Singapore had accepted both recommendations made by Nepal. It also appreciated the initiatives taken by Singapore on the protection of the rights of children, elderly persons and persons with disabilities.

921. Nigeria applauded Singapore for its commitment to and progress achieved in the promotion and protection of the rights of women and girls, persons with disabilities, and older persons.

922. Oman (video statement) was pleased to note that Singapore had supported the recommendations made by Oman.

923. Pakistan encouraged Singapore to continue to take steps aimed at protecting the rights of migrant workers and building an inclusive society based on the principles of tolerance, respect and religious harmony.

924. The Philippines (video statement) thanked Singapore for having accepted all three recommendations presented by the Philippines. It acknowledged the measures taken by Singapore for the further advancement of human rights, especially those of vulnerable groups.

925. Qatar (video statement) appreciated the acceptance by Singapore of the recommendations presented by Qatar, most notably those pertaining to the right to education in line with Goal 4 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

926. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Singapore, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

927. The International Fellowship of Reconciliation (video statement) called upon Singapore to provide, without delay, for conscientious objection to military service in its legislation, in accordance with international standards, ensuring a civil alternative service that was compatible with the reasons for conscientious objection, of a non-combatant or civilian character, in the public interest and not of a punitive nature.

928. The International Lesbian and Gay Association (video statement) welcomed the decision of the Government of Singapore to support two recommendations on the registration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex organizations and on the training of health-care professionals on sexual orientation and gender identity issues. It was disappointed that Singapore continued to retain section 377A of the Penal Code. While not actively enforced, it informed discriminatory policies and attitudes that fuelled stigma against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in all areas of their lives. It regretted that Singapore had not addressed the recommendation on legal gender recognition. The organization also recalled that violence and institutionalized discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex Singaporeans in education, employment and housing remained a reality. It urged the Government to share their plans for tackling that specific discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

929. Conscience and Peace Tax International (video statement) stated that the right to self-defence of Singapore must be balanced against the rights of its citizens and the country's international human rights obligations. Conscientious objection, as a refusal to kill, was only the personal expression of the right to life. It had highlighted, in its submission, various problems related to compulsory military service in Singapore. Singapore had the unenviable record of having the greatest number of conscientious objectors currently imprisoned in any country in the world. It hoped that Singapore would consider a change of policy to bring its military practices into compliance with human rights standards and law.

930. Amnesty International (video statement) was concerned about the low acceptance by Singapore of recommendations on key issues. It stated that the death penalty in Singapore continued to be retained as the mandatory punishment for several offences, including drug trafficking and murder. It stated that drug-related offences failed to meet the threshold of "most serious crimes" as defined under international human rights law and standards. It called upon Singapore to establish a moratorium on all executions and bring legislation that allowed for the use of the death penalty into line with international human rights law and standards, including by removing the mandatory death penalty and restricting the scope of the punishment to intentional killing as critical first steps. It stated that political activists, human rights defenders and government critics continued to face targeted prosecution under repressive laws for the exercise of their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly. It regretted that Singapore had rejected most recommendations related to those rights. The preservation of a harmonious society was not a legitimate reason to derogate from those rights. It regretted the rejection of recommendations to ratify the remaining core human rights treaties and establish an independent national human rights institution. It urged

the Government to reconsider its position and implement those recommendations before its next review.

931. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (video statement) stated that the near blanket refusal by Singapore to accept recommendations related to the abolition of the death penalty, detention without trial, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex rights, and the ratification of international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, was a major setback to progress in the promotion and protection of human rights. It stated that many of the laws and policies currently enforced in Singapore were blatantly inconsistent with international human rights standards. Draconian laws, such as the Internal Security Act, the Criminal Law (Temporary Provisions) Act, the Public Order Act, the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act and the Administration of Justice (Protection) Act, continued to plague the ability of Singaporeans to enjoy the full spectrum of human rights. The imposition of the death penalty for drug-related offences and detention without trial were inconsistent with international standards as well. It stated that the adoption of the foreign interference (countermeasures) bill would pose a serious threat to civil society, independent media and the rule of law.

932. The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (video statement) stated that the failure of Singapore to accept several recommendations to ratify key human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, raised serious questions about its commitment to meaningfully protecting and promoting human rights. It regretted that Singapore had rejected a number of recommendations to amend legislation that imposed broad and unlawful restrictions under international human rights law on freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association. It stated that Singapore had rejected several recommendations, claiming their inconsistency with efforts to ensure an inclusive, cohesive and resilient society. It reminded Singapore that inclusive, cohesive and resilient societies could only be built upon a strong foundation of respect for and guarantees of fundamental human rights and freedoms as enshrined in international human rights treaties. It called upon Singapore to work with civil society towards ratification of key international human rights treaties and revision or repeal of all laws that imposed undue restrictions on fundamental freedoms in line with international human rights standards.

933. Advocates for Human Rights (video statement) expressed disappointment that Singapore had noted 40 recommendations related to the death penalty, and reiterated that drug-related offences did not rise to the level of “most serious” crimes under international standards. The drug problem in Singapore had to be addressed as a social issue, rather than a criminal one. It was also disappointed that Singapore had actively pursued implementing the death penalty during the COVID-19 pandemic, contradicting its life-saving efforts aimed at combating the pandemic. It also expressed its concern about the flawed approach of Singapore to human rights, which asserted that the rule of law was an essential precondition for the promotion and protection of human rights.

934. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (video statement) stated that Singapore had accepted just 4 of the 21 recommendations on civic freedoms and that it had persistently failed to address unwarranted restrictions on the freedoms of peaceful assembly and expression. The Government had eroded the freedom of peaceful assembly by its continuous deployment of the Public Order Act, which had been regularly used to harass and investigate activists and critics for organizing peaceful gatherings, and even solo protests. The Government had also continued to use restrictive laws to criminalize dissent. The Administration of Justice (Protection) Act had been used to prosecute human rights defenders for criticism of the courts, under the guise of protecting the judicial system. It stated that the authorities had also failed to reform laws restricting media freedom and had introduced the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act to harass the political opposition, activists, journalists and civil society. It stated that the foreign interference (countermeasures) bill would potentially narrow civic space even further. It called upon Singapore to engage

constructively with the universal periodic review process and international human rights mechanisms by implementing the recommendations that it had accepted, to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to establish a national human rights body.

935. SPD (video statement) stated that the commitment of Singapore towards an inclusive society was evident in the progress made over the years. That included the Enabling Masterplan, which was the national disability road map, spelling out what was needed to improve the quality of life of those living with disabilities. It was encouraged to see more persons with disabilities living in and accepted as part of the community, which could be attributed to the efforts at inclusion by the Government. It would continue to bring disability issues to the fore and work with the Government to ensure that persons with disabilities were not an afterthought and that they would have access to equal opportunities.

936. Singapore Children's Society (video statement) stated that the laws and policies of Singapore had ensured that the rights of children to basic needs, education, leisure and protection were largely fulfilled. However, more needed to be done. It stated that, in 2020, the number of child abuse and neglect investigations in Singapore had reached the highest in a decade. It stated that corporal punishment to the extent of causing physical and psychological harm was absolutely not acceptable and that even with judicious use, the impact of corporal punishment could be detrimental. It stated that regular reviews of laws and policies on that issue were needed and that education was key in breaking down deep-rooted cultural norms.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

937. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 324 recommendations received, 210 had enjoyed the support of Singapore and 114 had been noted.

938. The delegation (in-person statement) stated that regarding the death penalty, international law did not prohibit it and that there was no international consensus against its use when applied according to the due process of law and judicial safeguards. Every State had the sovereign right to determine the laws most suitable for its national circumstances within the context of its legal system and in accordance with its international obligations. In Singapore, the death penalty was reserved only for the most serious crimes, such as murder, drug trafficking and the use of firearms. In the experience of Singapore, the death penalty had been an effective deterrent against such offences. Singapore regularly reviewed its criminal justice system to ensure its effectiveness and relevance.

939. With regard to conscientious objection, national defence was fundamental to every State's sovereignty. Singapore, given its national context, had no choice but to rely on conscription. The system was only viable if every male citizen of Singapore and second-generation permanent resident, regardless of race or religion, fulfilled their obligations to defend Singapore. In addition, the right to freedom of religion was constitutionally protected. That right was not an absolute right under international law. Singapore did not recognize the universal applicability of the right to conscientious objection to military service.

940. Singapore said that the right to freedom of speech and expression was guaranteed under the Constitution. Consistent with international law, that right was not absolute. The law regulating public assemblies and processions was the Public Order Act, and its provisions ensured adequate space for an individual's right to peaceful assembly and expression while preserving public order. A police permit was required for cause-based assemblies or processions so that the authorities could assess the public order risks.

941. On the ratification of human rights treaties, Singapore took its international human rights obligations seriously. Its approach was to ensure that the necessary legal, policy and institutional framework was in place to fully implement a treaty before it was ratified. Singapore actively reviewed its ability to ratify additional human rights treaties and to ensure the full and effective implementation of its treaty obligations.

942. Regarding the foreign interference (countermeasures) bill, Singapore did not intend to prevent all forms of foreign influence, only those attempts at manipulation. Its concern lay

with coordinated, deceptive methods by hostile foreign actors to manipulate its political discourse. Singapore did not intend to use the powers under the bill against foreign individuals, non-governmental organizations and academics engaged in legitimate commentary, news reporting, civil activities or academic research that were open, transparent and with attributed comments about Singapore that were not part of a hostile information campaign. There were appeal mechanisms to ensure that there were no overreaching powers. Persons issued with hostile information campaign directions under the bill could apply to the Minister for Home Affairs for reconsideration, before appealing to an independent review tribunal chaired by a High Court judge and two individuals from outside the Government. Appeals were made to the tribunal and not the court so as to protect sensitive intelligence that may be relied on to make a decision. Decisions made by the tribunal would be final and binding on all parties.

943. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons were members of society and had access to education, employment and health care and were protected from violence and harassment. Social services were accessible to all members of the public without discrimination. Violence against, abuse, discrimination and harassment of any person for any reason was not condoned and the law protected lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals the same as everyone else. The Government had stated clearly that section 377A of the Penal Code was not enforced. Any move on that issue must be made carefully and sensitively, taking into account the sentiments of all communities in the context of Singapore, where attitudes towards homosexuality were still evolving and various communities held different views. All organizations offering social services were welcome to apply to be registered and each case would be assessed on its own merits. The Government did not support the registration of organizations that advocated on sensitive issues in a socially divisive manner, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. That position was applied equally to all applications, regardless of whether the organization was advocating for or against the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender cause.

944. Singapore was committed to building inclusivity, safeguarding social cohesion and meeting the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It respected the fundamental human rights enshrined in its Constitution and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was fully committed to its human rights obligations under international law.

### **Sierra Leone**

945. The review of Sierra Leone was held on 12 May 2021 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 Sierra Leone 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;<sup>85</sup>

(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;<sup>86</sup>

(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.<sup>87</sup>

946. At its 31st meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Sierra Leone (see sect. C below).

947. The outcome of the review of Sierra Leone comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review,<sup>88</sup> 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

<sup>85</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SLE/1](#).

<sup>86</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SLE/2](#).

<sup>87</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/38/SLE/3](#).

<sup>88</sup> [A/HRC/48/17](#).



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.<sup>89</sup>

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

948. The delegation (in-person statement) expressed its appreciation to all States that participated in the interactive dialogue. Sierra Leone initiated a transparent consultative process to review the 274 recommendations received, which helped in its decision-making process.

949. According to the addendum to the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, Sierra Leone had accepted 216 recommendations and noted 58. However, the delegation indicated some corrections and clarifications. The recommendations in paragraphs 143.218, 143.257 and 143.267 that had been previously accepted were now noted. Sierra Leone would seriously consider those recommendations since they involved matters of deep and entrenched cultural practices. On the other hand, the recommendations in paragraphs 143.15, 143.111, and 143.172, which had been previously noted, were now accepted.

950. Sierra Leone had ratified the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143) of the International Labour Organization; abolished the criminal seditious libel law in part V of the Public Order Act, 1965; and ratified the Independent Media Commission Act of 2020, which granted civil instead of criminal powers to the Independent Media Commission in regulating mass media institutions. In Sierra Leone, no journalists, politicians, human rights defenders or activists were in prison for expressing their views or defending the human rights of others.

951. At the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly, the President of Sierra Leone made a passionate plea for global solidarity on access to justice and remedies for survivors of sexual violence and cited measures, such as the establishment of the Sexual Offences Model Court in 2020, to fast-track sexual offences. Accordingly, the recommendations in paragraphs 143.15, 143.111 and 143.172 were consistent with existing government policies and law and had been achieved.

952. Sierra Leone was absolutely committed to fully implementing all 216 recommendations accepted and, by the time it submitted its midterm report, Sierra Leone would present an even more positive and impressive story of change, and a better and improved human rights record.

953. The conviction of Sierra Leone about strengthening and improving its human rights record was not motivated by sentiment and optimism. Rather, it was rooted in its commitment, resolve, capability and wartime experience never again to allow Governments and laws to be used as instruments of, or be complacent in, human rights violations.

954. Regarding the pledges that Sierra Leone made during the thirty-eighth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, the delegation was proud to formally notify the Human Rights Council and the international community that a law abolishing the death penalty had been passed. Sierra Leone believed that the death penalty was an inhumane form of punishment that violated the rights to life and all other human rights standards and contradicted the principle of proportionality in penal and restorative justice. Sierra Leone committed to never again executing anyone for any reason whatsoever.

955. Sierra Leone worked closely with civil society organizations, both local and international, and valued civil society's perspective. It provided registered civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations with several duty-free tax concessions and other incentives. Sierra Leone committed to continuing to improve the space for civil society organizations.

<sup>89</sup> See also [A/HRC/48/17/Add.1](#).

956. The abolition of the criminal seditious libel law and the death penalty had, in fact, widened the space for human rights defenders, including journalists and civil society organizations to operate without fear of criminalization or death.

957. OHCHR and its universal periodic review branch in Geneva, the United Nations country team in Sierra Leone, including the office of the resident coordinator, United Nations agencies and many others had all contributed in diverse ways to supporting efforts to improve the state of human rights in Sierra Leone.

958. Sierra Leone thanked the Commonwealth in London and its Permanent Mission in Geneva, as well as UPR Info, for their support in the preparation for the third cycle review. It also thanked the United Nations Development Programme, in particular, for the support provided for the consultations that led to the adoption of the current recommendations and its support in popularizing the recommendations following the adoption of the outcome.

959. Sierra Leone also thanked the resident and non-resident diplomatic missions for their support on its human rights work, in particular the Embassy of Ireland and the High Commission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Freetown.

960. The human rights architecture of Sierra Leone has its own challenges and the country was taking progressive steps to make it better. Sierra Leone was convinced that an improved human rights infrastructure was necessary to fulfil its national development goals, including goals linked to the Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, the delegation called upon all stakeholders (United Nations agencies, programmes and funds, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, friendly States and bilateral partners) to support the implementation of the recommendations supported by Sierra Leone.

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

961. The National Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (video statement) welcomed the decision of the Government to accept the recommendations, which highlighted the constitutional review process and the commitment to protecting and promoting human rights. It urged the Government to give consideration to the recommendations pertaining to improving the situation of women and girls, combating discrimination and addressing acts of violence, such as female genital mutilation. It also urged the Government to implement the voluntary pledges to review the Sexual Offences Act of 2019 and bring it into line with the provisions of the Child Rights Act of 2007 and international standards on child rights.

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

962. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Sierra Leone, 12 delegations made statements.

963. Togo (video statement) noted the new measures taken by Sierra Leone during the third cycle to give effect to the recommendations dealing with pregnant girls, gender-based violence, empowerment of women, criminalization of slander and the death penalty. It congratulated Sierra Leone for having accepted the recommendations made by Togo. It encouraged the authorities of Sierra Leone to carry out in-depth consultations regarding the legal arsenal for combating female genital mutilations.

964. UN-Women (video statement) appreciated the steps taken by Sierra Leone to promote gender equality and women empowerment, including the new National Male Involvement Strategy, the one-stop centres and the Sexual Offences Model Court to provide access to justice for survivors. It welcomed the gender equality policy and bill on gender equality and the empowerment of women as significant achievements. It reiterated its continued support for a speedy passage of the bill into law. It commended the Government for having facilitated the return of pregnant girls to school and developing policies on radical inclusion and safety for girls to promote equitable access to education. It reiterated the importance of adopting a law to expressly prohibit female genital mutilation.

965. The United Arab Emirates (video statement) welcomed the measures taken by Sierra Leone in the field of human rights, especially on social, cultural and economic rights. It

appreciated the political leadership of Sierra Leone to promote human rights and abide by international commitments and standards. It also appreciated the commitment that Sierra Leone had displayed to work with all parties and stakeholders in implementing social justice and maintaining the dignity of its citizens.

966. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement) supported the commitment of Sierra Leone to develop a national human rights action plan. It was pleased that Sierra Leone had supported its recommendation on abolishing the death penalty and commended the Parliament on the vote to abolish the practice. It regretted that Sierra Leone had not accepted its recommendation to end female genital mutilation and was concerned that that did not support the country's agenda to protect women's rights.

967. UNICEF (video statement) welcomed the commitment of Sierra Leone to strengthening efforts to protect child rights, including by addressing child labour, child marriage and sexual and other forms of violence against children. It commended Sierra Leone for having promoted access to education for all, particularly the radical inclusion and comprehensive safety policy on the inclusion of all children and lifting the ban on pregnant girls attending school. It called upon the Government to strengthen its efforts to protect girls and women by taking steps to eradicate female genital mutilation.

968. UNFPA (video statement) applauded the country for its policy of radical inclusion, which had overturned the ban on pregnant girls attending school and implemented comprehensive sexuality education. It highly appreciated the achievements made to address gender-based violence. It encouraged Sierra Leone to work towards the elimination of female genital mutilation for girls and women of all ages.

969. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (video statement) noted with satisfaction the launch of the "Hands Off Our Girls" campaign taken to combat gender-based violence. It noted that Sierra Leone was making efforts to make the population aware of and reduce the practice of female genital mutilation. It also noted with satisfaction the "Visibility of Disability" policy and its mainstreaming of it in all areas.

970. Viet Nam (video statement) commended the efforts of Sierra Leone to combat the COVID-19 pandemic while safeguarding the socioeconomic rights of its citizens through the Saving Lives and Saving Livelihoods support packages. It welcomed the measures of Sierra Leone to extend better protection and empowerment to women and girls through the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy. It encouraged Sierra Leone to cooperate with the international and regional mechanisms to implement its National Development Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals.

971. Botswana (video statement) commended Sierra Leone for having accepted two of its recommendations regarding strengthening and broadening labour inspection and awareness-raising to promote the identification and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking and the prosecution of perpetrators.

972. Burkina Faso (video statement) noted that Sierra Leone had accepted most of the recommendations, including both of its recommendations, one of which was on the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It encouraged Sierra Leone to strengthen efforts to promote human rights and urged it to effectively implement the recommendations accepted.

973. China commended the progress made by Sierra Leone in protecting human rights, including actively promoting sustainable economic and social development, reducing poverty, strengthening the social security system, actively combating the COVID-19 pandemic, safeguarding the rights of women and other vulnerable groups, and promoting harmonious existence among all ethnic groups.

974. Côte d'Ivoire congratulated Sierra Leone for the recommendations accepted and remained convinced that effective implementation of those recommendations would improve the human rights situation in the country, in particular that of the most vulnerable groups, women and children. It encouraged Sierra Leone to continue to cooperate with the mechanisms of the United Nations for the protection and promotion of human rights.

#### 4. General comments made by other stakeholders

975. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Sierra Leone, eight other stakeholders made statements.

976. Defence for Children International (video statement), in a joint statement with SOS Kinderdorf International, welcomed the commitment of Sierra Leone to review provisions applicable to children under the age of 14 in the Sexual Offences Act of 2019, the sentencing guidelines for sexual penetration cases and other related instruments. It was concerned that the current measures in Sierra Leone were inadequate to address female genital mutilation and eliminate the practice. It stated that the failure of the Government to pass legislation on protecting human rights defenders and repealing part III of the Public Order Act accentuated the vulnerability of human rights defenders and child rights advocates. It called upon the Government to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Right of the Child on a communications procedure; to pass a more comprehensive amended child rights bill; prohibit child labour in all circumstances; and fully implement the radical inclusion policy to ensure access to education for pregnant girls.

977. International Service for Human Rights (video statement) commended the efforts and openness of the Government of Sierra Leone towards strengthening legislation on the protection of human rights defenders. While it commended the decision to discontinue the prosecution of members of the Mouvement contre les armes légères en Afrique de l'Ouest, it was concerned by the continued criminalization and repression by law enforcement agencies of land defenders. It called upon Sierra Leone to ensure adequate protection of land defenders against threats, reprisals and harassment by State security forces or individuals with ties to private groups. It also called upon Sierra Leone to review the restrictive development cooperation framework and adopt a law on the protection of human rights defenders in conformity with the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (Declaration on Human Rights Defenders) and the Model National Law on the Recognition and Protection of Human Rights Defenders.

978. Plan International, Inc. (video statement) expressed disappointment that the Government of Sierra Leone had not supported the recommendations regarding female genital mutilation. It appreciated the efforts made to provide universal access to education for all children by lifting the ban on pregnant girls attending school and the enactment of the recent gender empowerment bill to support the economic and social rights of women and girls. It called upon the Government to review the Child Rights Act and harmonize the conflicting age around child marriage and a possible ban on female genital mutilation.

979. The Lutheran World Federation (video statement) called upon the Government to work closely with national and local stakeholders to implement all recommendations accepted. It urged the Government to prioritize the implementation of recommendations related to good governance and mitigation of electoral violence; the rule of law and access to justice; access to safe and clean drinking water; improvements in social protection and land rights; access to education; and the rights of women and girls. It also called upon the international community to provide the necessary technical and material support to Sierra Leone.

980. The Center for Global Nonkilling (video statement) lauded Sierra Leone for its decision to ratify the Convention on the Prevention and the Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. It called upon the Government to swiftly ratify the Convention. It noted that Sierra Leone had a focal point to protect against genocide and mass atrocity crimes.

981. Advocates for Human Rights (video statement) commended Sierra Leone for its voluntary pledge to legislate to abolish the death penalty. It urged Sierra Leone to work with civil society to improve the criminal justice system, while ensuring that any convicted individual eligible for severe punishment be represented by competent counsel at all stages of the legal proceedings. It also urged Sierra Leone to ensure that detention conditions complied with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules).

982. Amnesty International (video statement) welcomed the recent abolition of the death penalty and the gender equality bill, which was currently awaiting Parliamentary debate and approval. It applauded Sierra Leone for its reported change in position regarding acceptance of the recommendation to enact legislation to protect human rights defenders. It was, however, concerned that Sierra Leone had not supported recommendations on the eradication of female genital mutilation and noted that entrenched cultural practices had resulted in a massive dropout of girls from schools, promoted early and forced marriage and preventable maternal deaths. It was concerned by the slow progress regarding the implementation of recommendations made in the previous review on expediting the constitutional review. It urged that that process be fast-tracked in order to implement the recommendations accepted. It regretted that Sierra Leone had noted recommendations related to the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and decriminalization of same-sex relations between consenting adults and called upon Sierra Leone to reconsider its position on those recommendations.

983. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme (video statement) congratulated Sierra Leone on its announcement of the abolishment of the death penalty in order to strengthen the protection of the right to life. It commended measures to enact legislative reform and ensure a humane system of imprisonment. It noted the challenges in tackling sexual violence against women and trafficking in persons. It highlighted the importance of combating all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls and trafficking in persons. It called upon the Government to strengthen cooperation with the international community and African countries to implement programmes and ratify international human rights treaties to protect the right of all citizens, particularly in the interests of ending gender-based violence.

## 5. Concluding remarks of the State under review

984. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 274 recommendations received, 216 had enjoyed the support of Sierra Leone and 58 had been noted.

985. The delegation (in-person statement) expressed the gratitude of Sierra Leone for the constructive interventions during the adoption of the outcome of the review; including those urging Sierra Leone to accept recommendations that had been noted, particularly those related to female genital mutilation and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community. Sierra Leone had not rejected those recommendations, but wanted to make sure that every recommendation accepted would be implemented. For that to happen, it was necessary to first engage in wide-ranging national consultations to forge consensus on issues involving significant cultural and legal implications.

986. Finally, Sierra Leone expressed its gratitude to the troika (China, Libya and Mexico), the members of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and the entire universal periodic review secretariat.

## B. General debate on agenda item 6

987. At its 32nd meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 6, during which statements were made by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Ecuador and Honduras), Bahrain (video statement), Belgium<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the States members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie) (video statement), China, Cuba (video statement), India (video statement), India (also on behalf of Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe) (video statement), Indonesia, Malaysia<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of

<sup>90</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Slovenia<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Guyana (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Kenya, Lesotho (video statement), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (video statement), South Africa (video statement), Tunisia (video statement);

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action of Human Movement, Amnesty International, Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaïdjanais-Iran – "ARC", Centre catholique international de Genève (CCIG) (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Edmund Rice International, Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos, International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT), International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES), Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and VIVAT International), Colombian Commission of Jurists, European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme, Federation for Women and Family Planning, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, Jeunesse étudiante tamoule, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (also on behalf of International Bar Association, International Service for Human Rights and Lawyers for Lawyers), Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH), Tourner la page, UPR Info.

## C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

### Namibia

988. At its 28th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/101 on the outcome of the review of Namibia.

### Niger

989. At its 28th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/102 on the outcome of the review of the Niger.

### Mozambique

990. At its 29th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/103 on the outcome of the review of Mozambique.

### Estonia

991. At its 29th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/104 on the outcome of the review of Estonia.

### Belgium

992. At its 29th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/105 on the outcome of the review of Belgium.

### Paraguay

993. At its 29th meeting, on 30 September 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/106 on the outcome of the review of Paraguay.

### Denmark

994. At its 30th meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/107 on the outcome of the review of Denmark.

**Somalia**

995. At its 30th meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/108 on the outcome of the review of Somalia.

**Palau**

996. At its 30th meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/109 on the outcome of the review of Palau.

**Solomon Islands**

997. At its 30th meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/110 on the outcome of the review of Solomon Islands.

**Seychelles**

998. At its 31st meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/111 on the outcome of the review of Seychelles.

**Latvia**

999. At its 31st meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/112 on the outcome of the review of Latvia.

**Singapore**

1000. At its 31st meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/113 on the outcome of the review of Singapore.

**Sierra Leone**

1001. At its 31st meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 48/114 on the outcome of the review of Sierra Leone.

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

### General debate on agenda item 7

1002. At the 32nd meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Director of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/32, the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the allocation of water resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem (A/HRC/48/43), and the High Commissioner's oral update on the progress made in the implementation of resolution S-30/1 (in-person statement), followed by a general debate on agenda item 7, during which statements were made by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Honduras), Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) (video statement), Bangladesh (video statement), China (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Egypt<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal (video statement), Sudan (also on behalf of the Group of African States) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Brunei Darussalam (video statement), Chile (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Jordan (video statement), Kuwait (video statement), Lebanon, Luxembourg (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Maldives, Morocco (video statement), Nigeria, Qatar (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), South Africa (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Timor-Leste, Tunisia (video statement), Turkey, United Arab Emirates (video statement), Yemen (video statement);

(c) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta (video statement);

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Independent Commission for Human Rights (State of Palestine);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-Haq (also on behalf of Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Habitat International Coalition, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH) and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling), Al Mezan Center for Human Rights (also on behalf of Al-Haq, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH) and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling), American Association of Jurists, B'nai B'rith, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Al-Haq, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Service for Human Rights, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH) and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling), Centre Europe-tiers monde (also on behalf of International Association of Democratic Lawyers), Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, Defence for Children International (also on behalf of Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH)), European Union of Jewish Students, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Human Rights Watch, Institute for NGO Research, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Human Rights Council, Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Meezaan Center for Human Rights, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Next Century Foundation, Palestinian Return Centre, Ltd., United Nations Watch, Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, World Jewish Congress.



## 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**

1003. At its 22nd meeting, on 27 September 2021, 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 “The gender digital divide in times of the COVID-19 pandemic”.

1004. At the same meeting, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel discussion.

1005. Also at the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, Tlaleng Mofokeng (in-person statement); a disability consultant, Tatiana Vasconcelos (video statement); Head of the Office for Europe at the International Telecommunication Union, Jaroslav Ponder (in-person statement); a legal researcher, Lainah Ndiweni.

1006. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting. During the first speaking slot, statements were made and questions to the panellists were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Barbados<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago) (in-person statement), Chile<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay) (video statement), Egypt<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Lesotho<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Benin, Cambodia, the Comoros, the Gambia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Nepal, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia) (video statement), Luxembourg<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Belgium and the Netherlands) (video statement), Norway<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Switzerland<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Austria, Liechtenstein and Slovenia) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia (video statement), Canada (video statement), Greece (video statement), Israel (video statement);

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

(d) Observer for national human rights institutions: National Human Rights Commission (India);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation (also on behalf of International Lesbian and Gay Association).

1007. During the second speaking slot, statements were made by:

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

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola (video statement), Cyprus (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Spain (video statement), Thailand (video statement), Viet Nam (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Plan International, Inc. (also on behalf of Child Rights Connect, International Planned Parenthood Federation and World Vision International), Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality.

1008. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made concluding remarks.

## B. General debate on agenda item 8

1009. At its 33rd meeting, on 4 October 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 8, during which statements were made by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (also on behalf of Belgium, Chad, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Fiji, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Lebanon, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, the Netherlands, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Austria (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Montenegro, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay) (video statement), Azerbaijan<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Honduras), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China (video statement), China (also on behalf of Belarus, Cambodia, the Comoros, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen) (video statement), China (also on behalf of Armenia, Bahrain, Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, the Comoros, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Malaysia, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen) (video statement), Cuba, India (video statement), Egypt<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Estonia<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Indonesia, Israel<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay) (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Russian Federation (video statement), Slovenia<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Ukraine (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) (in-person statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and the United States of America), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (in-person statement), Albania (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Belarus (video statement), Georgia (video

statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Israel (video statement), South Africa (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Asociación HazteOir.org, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association for Women's Rights in Development, Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaïdjanais-Iran – "ARC", Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Center for Reproductive Rights, Centre Zagros pour les droits de l'homme, China Foundation for Human Rights Development, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), Conselho Indigenista Missionário (also on behalf of Conselho Federal da Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil, Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos, Justiça Global and Terra de Direitos), European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme, Federation for Women and Family Planning, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Ingénieurs du monde (also on behalf of United Nations Watch), Institute for NGO Research, Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG), International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Planned Parenthood Federation, International Service for Human Rights, International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific, Liberation, Maloca Internationale, 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 (OIPMA), Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie, Sikh Human Rights Group, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Federation for Women and Family Planning, International Planned Parenthood Federation and Rutgers), Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development, World Barua Organization, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress.

1010. At the same meeting, the representative of Ethiopia made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

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

### **A. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders**

#### **Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent**

1011. At the 33rd meeting, on 4 October 2021, the Chair of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, Dominique Day, presented the report of the Working Group ([A/HRC/48/78](#)) (in-person statement).

1012. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 34th meeting, on the same day, statements were made and questions to the Chair of the Working Group were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China (video statement), Cuba, Indonesia, Malawi, Mauritania (video statement), Pakistan, Peru<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama) (in-person statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Chad, Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), Kenya, Mauritius, Panama (video statement), Peru (in-person statement), South Africa (video statement), Tunisia (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Africans in America for Restitution and Repatriation, Inc., American Civil Liberties Union, Friends World Committee for Consultation, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Meezaan Center for Human Rights, Minority Rights Group.

1013. At the 34th meeting, the Chair of the Working Group answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

#### **Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance**

1014. At the 34th meeting, on 4 October 2021, the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, E. Tendayi Achiume, presented her reports ([A/HRC/48/76](#) and [A/HRC/48/77](#)).

1015. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Special Rapporteur were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Bangladesh (video statement), Brazil (video statement), China, Cuba, India (video statement), Indonesia, Mauritania (video statement), Namibia (video statement), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Chad, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt (video statement), Iraq (video statement), Israel (video statement), Kenya, Lesotho (video statement), Luxembourg (video statement), Morocco, Panama (video statement), Paraguay, Portugal (video statement), South Africa (video statement), Turkey, United States of America (video statement), State of Palestine;

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, American Civil Liberties Union, China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Institute for NGO Research, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Meezaan Center for Human Rights, World Jewish Congress.

1016. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

1017. At the 35th meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

1018. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan made statements in exercise of the second right of reply.

## **B. General debate on agenda item 9**

1019. At its 34th meeting, on 4 October 2021, and its 35th meeting, on 5 October 2021, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 9, during which statements were made by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia (video statement), Austria (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay) (video statement), Azerbaijan<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Honduras), Bahrain (video statement), Bangladesh, Brazil (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru) (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China, China (also on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Brazil, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, the Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Eswatini, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and the State of Palestine) (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Egypt<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), European Union<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America), Germany (video statement), Iceland<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya, Malawi, Nepal (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) (video statement), Philippines, Russian Federation (video statement), Slovenia<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Colombia (video statement), Comoros (video statement), Costa Rica (video statement), Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Iran

(Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Israel (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Nigeria, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), South Africa (video statement), Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia (video statement), Turkey, United States of America (video statement), Viet Nam (video statement);

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Africa culture internationale, African Green Foundation International, Africans in America for Restitution and Repatriation, Inc., Al-Haq (also on behalf of Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH) and Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling), Alsalam Foundation, American Civil Liberties Union, Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain, Inc., Asociación HazteOir.org, Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaïdjanais-Iran – "ARC", Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Bahá'í International Community, Center for Africa Development and Progress, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, Centre Zagros pour les droits de l'homme, China Foundation for Human Rights Development, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, European Union of Jewish Students, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, Institute for NGO Research, Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG), International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Service for Human Rights, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (also on behalf of International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities), Iraqi Development Organization, Liberation, Meezaan Center for Human Rights, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Prahar, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Tumuku Development and Cultural Union (TACUDU), World Barua Organization, World Jewish Congress, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

## C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

### **From rhetoric to reality: a global call for concrete action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance**

1020. At the 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.3/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Chile, Turkey and Yemen. Subsequently, Panama and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

1021. At the same meeting, the representatives of Namibia and the Philippines made general comments on the draft resolution.

1022. 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.

1023. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Australia) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

1024. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

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

*Against:*

Austria, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Abstaining:*

Bulgaria, Japan, Marshall Islands, Republic of Korea, Uruguay

1025. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 32 votes to 10, with 5 abstentions (resolution 48/18).

1026. After adoption of the draft resolution, Azerbaijan, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Indonesia and Sri Lanka joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

1027. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, and Cuba made statements in explanation of vote after the vote and general comments in relation to the resolution adopted under agenda item 9.

## **X. Technical assistance and capacity-building**

### **A. Interactive dialogue on the oral presentation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Ukraine**

1028. At the 35th meeting, on 5 October 2021, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 47/22, an oral presentation on the situation of human rights in Ukraine.

1029. At the 36th meeting, on the same day, the representative of Ukraine made a statement as the State concerned (in-person statement).

1030. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meetings, statements were made and questions to the Deputy High Commissioner were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bulgaria (video statement), Czechia (video statement), Denmark (video statement), European Union<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Iceland<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Poland (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania (video statement), Australia (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Croatia (video statement), Estonia (video statement), Finland (video statement), Georgia (video statement), Hungary (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Latvia (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Lithuania (video statement), Montenegro (video statement), North Macedonia (video statement), Norway (video statement), Republic of Moldova, Romania (video statement), Slovakia (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Turkey, United States of America (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Human Rights House Foundation, Ingénieurs du monde (also on behalf of United Nations Watch), International Commission of Jurists, International Council of Russian Compatriots (ICRC), International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Minority Rights Group, United Nations Watch, World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations.

1031. At the 36th meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

1032. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.



**B. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on the final report of the team of international experts on the situation in Kasai**

1033. At the 36th meeting, on 5 October 2021, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/34, a comprehensive report on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/HRC/48/47).

1034. At the same meeting, the Chair of the team of international experts on the situation in Kasai, Bacre Waly Ndiaye, presented, pursuant to the same resolution, the final report of the team (A/HRC/48/82) (in-person statement).

1035. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by: Minister for Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Albert Fabrice Puela (in-person statement); Director of the Panzi Foundation, Denis Mukwege (video statement).

1036. During the ensuing enhanced interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the presenters were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China, France, Malawi, Netherlands (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sweden<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway) (video statement), Togo (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Botswana, Egypt (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Holy See (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Elizka Relief Foundation, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers), International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights, World Vision International.

1037. At the same meeting, the presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

**C. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the oral update of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on technical assistance and capacity-building for South Sudan**

1038. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2021, the High Commissioner provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 46/29, an oral update on the human rights situation in South Sudan.

1039. At the same meeting, statements were made by: Special Representative of the Secretary-General for South Sudan and Head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (in-person statement); Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs of South Sudan, Ruben Madol Arol Kachuol.

1040. During the ensuing enhanced interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the presenters were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Mauritania (video statement), Russian

Federation (video statement), Senegal, Sudan (video statement), Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Egypt (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, Amnesty International, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Elizka Relief Foundation, Human Rights Watch, Ingénieurs du Monde, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

1041. At the same meeting, the presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

#### **D. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Sudan**

1042. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2021, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/25, the report of OHCHR on the situation of human rights in the Sudan ([A/HRC/48/46](#)).

1043. At the same meeting, statements were made by: Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and the Assistant Undersecretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Sudan, Ilham Ibrahim Mohamed Ahmed (in-person statement).

1044. During the ensuing enhanced interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 38th meeting, on the same day, statements were made and questions to the Deputy High Commissioner were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Egypt<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Norway<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Republic of Korea (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Botswana (video statement), Chad, Egypt (video statement), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Jordan (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), South Sudan, Spain (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), Tunisia, United Arab Emirates (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Yemen (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Christian Solidarity Worldwide, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Elizka Relief Foundation, Human Rights Watch, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Service for Human Rights, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, World Evangelical Alliance.

1045. At the 38th meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

1046. At the same meeting, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Ali Ibn Abi Talib Abdelrahman Mahmoud (in-person statement), made their concluding remarks.

## **E. Interactive dialogue with the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya**

1047. At the 39th meeting, on 7 October 2021, the Chair of the Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya, Mohamed Auajjar, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 43/39, the report of the Mission to the Council ([A/HRC/48/83](#)) (in-person statement).

1048. At the same meeting, the representative of Libya made a statement as the State concerned (in-person statement).

1049. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the presenters were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Austria (video statement), Bahrain (video statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China, Czechia (video statement), Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Egypt<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), France, Germany (video statement), Italy, Mauritania (video statement), Netherlands (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Sudan (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Chad, Cyprus (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Greece (video statement), Iraq (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Jordan (video statement), Liechtenstein (video statement), Mali (video statement), Malta (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Spain (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Tunisia (video statement), Turkey, United States of America (video statement), Yemen (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Elizka Relief Foundation, Human Rights Watch, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Commission of Jurists, International Human Rights Council, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, World Organisation against Torture.

1050. At the same meeting, the Chair and two members, Tracy Robinson and Chaloka Beyani, of the Mission (in-person statements) answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

## **F. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders**

### **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia**

1051. At the 37th meeting, on 6 October 2021, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, Viti Muntarbhorn, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/37, his report ([A/HRC/48/79](#)) (video statement).

1052. At the same meeting, the representative of Cambodia made a statement as the State concerned (in-person statement).

1053. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Special Rapporteur were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brunei Darussalam<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Cameroon, China, Cuba (video statement), France, India (video statement), Iceland<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), Indonesia, Japan (video statement), Philippines, Russian Federation (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia (video statement), Azerbaijan, Belarus (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Brunei Darussalam, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (video statement), Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan (video statement), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Sri Lanka (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Thailand (video statement), Turkey, United States of America (video statement), Viet Nam (video statement);

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

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Human Rights Now, Human Rights Watch, Ingénieurs du monde (also on behalf of United Nations Watch), International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Liberal International.

1054. At the same meeting, the representative of Cambodia made concluding remarks.

1055. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

### **Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia**

1056. At the 38th meeting, on 6 October 2021, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, Isha Dyfan, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/27, her report ([A/HRC/48/80](#)) (in-person statement).

1057. At the same meeting, the representative of Somalia made a statement as the State concerned (in-person statement).

1058. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, statements were made and questions to the Independent Expert were posed by:

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

(b) Representatives of observer States: Botswana (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Qatar (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Yemen (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Elizka Relief Foundation, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Federation of Journalists, Minority Rights Group, United Nations Watch.

1059. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

### **Independent expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic**

1060. At the 38th meeting, on 6 October 2021, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic, Yao Agbetse, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 45/35, his report ([A/HRC/48/81](#)) (in-person statement).

1061. At the same meeting, the representative of the Central African Republic made a statement as the State concerned (in-person statement).

1062. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 39th meeting, on 7 October 2021, statements were made and questions to the Independent Expert were posed by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Cameroon, China, France, Mauritania (video statement), Norway<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden) (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Senegal (video statement), Sudan (video statement), Togo (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola (video statement), Belgium (video statement), Egypt (video statement), Ireland (video statement), Morocco (video statement), Portugal (video statement), Sri Lanka (video statement), United States of America (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Defence for Children International, Elizka Relief Foundation, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, World Evangelical Alliance (also on behalf of Caritas Internationalis – International Confederation of Catholic Charities).

1063. At the 39th meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

## **G. General debate on agenda item 10**

1064. At the 39th meeting, on 7 October 2021, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 46/30, 45/26 and 42/37, respectively, her reports on technical assistance provided by OHCHR to Georgia ([A/HRC/48/45](#)), on substantive capacity-building and technical assistance to the Government of Yemen and technical support to the National Commission of Inquiry to ensure that it continued to investigate allegations of violations and abuses committed by all parties to the conflict in Yemen ([A/HRC/48/48](#)), the report of the Secretary-General on the role and achievements of OHCHR in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights ([A/HRC/48/49](#)) and her oral update on the progress and results of technical cooperation and capacity-building for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines.

1065. At the 40th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Cambodia (in-person statement), Georgia (in-person statement), the Philippines (in-person statement) and Yemen made statements as the States concerned.

1066. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 10, during which statements were made by:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Honduras), Bahrain (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) (video statement), Brunei Darussalam<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of Association of Southeast Asian Nations) (video statement), Bulgaria (video statement), Cabo Verde<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries) (in-person statement), Cameroon (on behalf of the Group of African States), China (video statement), China (also on behalf of Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) (video statement), Cuba (video statement), Egypt<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) (video statement), Eritrea, Finland<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden) (video statement), France, Gambia<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Benin, Cambodia, the Comoros, Lesotho, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Nepal, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia) (video statement), Germany (video statement), India (video statement), Indonesia, Libya (video statement), Mali<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of Benin, Cambodia, the Comoros, the Gambia, Mauritius and Togo) (video statement), Mauritania (video statement), Nepal (video statement), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Pakistan (also on behalf of Bangladesh, Burundi, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Poland (video statement), Russian Federation (video statement), Slovenia<sup>90</sup> (on behalf of the European Union) (video statement), Sudan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (video statement), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Australia, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United States of America) (video statement), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia<sup>90</sup> (also on behalf of the Gambia, Lesotho, the Sudan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania) (video statement);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan (video statement), Algeria (video statement), Azerbaijan, Benin (video statement), Brunei Darussalam (video statement), Cambodia (in-person statement), Costa Rica, Egypt (video statement), Estonia (video statement), Ethiopia, Finland (video statement), Hungary (video statement), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (video statement), Kuwait (video statement), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia (video statement), Lebanon, Lesotho (video statement), Lithuania (video statement), Malaysia (video statement), Morocco, New Zealand (video statement), Republic of Moldova (video statement), Saudi Arabia (video statement), Sierra Leone, South Africa (video statement), South Sudan, Sri Lanka (video statement), Suriname (video statement), Sweden (video statement), Switzerland (video statement), Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia (video statement), Turkey, United Arab Emirates (video statement), United States of America (video statement), Viet Nam (video statement);

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

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

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action of Human Movement, Amnesty International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (also on behalf of World Organisation against Torture), Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Center for Africa Development and Progress, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance (FIND), Franciscans International (also on behalf of Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers, Dreikönigsaktion – Hilfswerk der Katholischen Jungschar and International Federation for Human Rights Leagues), Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, IDPC Consortium, Institut international pour les

droits et le développement, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Commission of Jurists, International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA) (also on behalf of IDPC Consortium), Jeunesse étudiante tamoule, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (also on behalf of International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Commission of Jurists, International Service for Human Rights, Lawyers for Lawyers and The Law Society), Maloca Internationale, Next Century Foundation, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), Prahar, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

## H. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

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

1067. At the 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.1](#), sponsored by Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Turkey. Subsequently, France, Japan, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. Thereafter, France, Portugal and Slovakia withdrew their sponsorship.

1068. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

1069. 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.

1070. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 48/19).

1071. After adoption of the draft resolution, Norway and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

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

1072. At the 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.2](#), sponsored by Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Belgium, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovenia and Turkey. Subsequently, Canada, Japan, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Ukraine and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

1073. At the same meeting, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group African States, orally revised the draft resolution.

1074. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo made a statement as the State concerned.

1075. 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.

1076. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, without a vote (resolution 48/20).

1077. After adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, Finland, Norway and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

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

1078. At the 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the Group of Arab States, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.6](#), sponsored by Egypt, on behalf of the Group of Arab States. Subsequently Lesotho, the Marshall Islands, Senegal and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

1079. At the same meeting, the representative of Yemen made a statement as the State concerned.

1080. 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.

1081. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 48/21).

**Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights**

1082. At the 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of Somalia, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.15/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Somalia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and co-sponsored by Albania, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Slovakia, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine and Yemen. Subsequently, Australia, Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Hungary, Iceland, Japan, Latvia, Malawi, Malta, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand and the United States of America joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

1083. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

1084. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Somalia made a statement as the State concerned.

1085. 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.

1086. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 48/22).

1087. After adoption of the draft resolution, Costa Rica, Georgia, Norway and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

**Advisory services and technical assistance for Cambodia**

1088. At the 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the representative of Japan introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.16](#), sponsored by Japan. Subsequently, the Marshall Islands and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

1089. At the same meeting, the representative of Japan orally revised the draft resolution.

1090. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution as orally revised.

1091. At the same meeting, the representative of Cambodia made a statement as the State concerned.

1092. 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.



1093. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, without a vote (resolution 48/23).

1094. After adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

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

1095. At the 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the representative of Thailand, also on behalf of Brazil, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Qatar, Singapore and Turkey, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.20/Rev.1](#), sponsored by Brazil, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand and Turkey, and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Nepal, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Somalia, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United States of America, Uruguay and Yemen. Subsequently, Andorra, Angola, Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Egypt (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Panama, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

1096. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines made a general comment on the draft resolution.

1097. 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.

1098. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

1099. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 48/24).

1100. After adoption of the draft resolution, Azerbaijan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Georgia, Guatemala, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, South Africa and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

### **Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Libya**

1101. At the 45th meeting, on 11 October 2021, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution [A/HRC/48/L.25](#), sponsored by Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States. Subsequently, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. Thereafter, Canada withdrew its sponsorship.

1102. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the Netherlands made general comments on the draft resolution.

1103. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Libya made a statement as the State concerned.

1104. 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.

1105. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

1106. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 48/25).

1107. After adoption of the draft resolution, Bahrain, on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, and Egypt, on behalf of the Group of Arab States, joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

1108. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cameroon and the Philippines made statements in explanation of vote after the vote and general comments in relation to all resolutions adopted under agenda item 10.

## Annex I

### Attendance

#### Members

Argentina	Denmark	Netherlands
Armenia	Eritrea	Pakistan
Austria	Fiji	Philippines
Bahamas	France	Poland
Bahrain	Gabon	Republic of Korea
Bangladesh	Germany	Russian Federation
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	India	Senegal
Brazil	Indonesia	Somalia
Bulgaria	Italy	Sudan
Burkina Faso	Japan	Togo
Cameroon	Libya	Ukraine
China	Malawi	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Côte d'Ivoire	Marshall Islands	Uruguay
Cuba	Mauritania	Uzbekistan
Czechia	Mexico	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
	Namibia	
	Nepal	

#### States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Afghanistan	Guatemala	Nicaragua
Albania	Guinea	North Macedonia
Algeria	Guyana	Norway
Andorra	Haiti	Oman
Azerbaijan	Honduras	Panama
Barbados	Hungary	Paraguay
Belarus	Iceland	Portugal
Belgium	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Romania
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Iraq	Rwanda
Botswana	Ireland	Saudi Arabia
Brunei Darussalam	Israel	Singapore
Burundi	Jamaica	Slovenia
Cabo Verde	Jordan	South Africa
Cambodia	Kazakhstan	South Sudan
Canada	Kenya	Sri Lanka
Colombia	Kuwait	Sweden
Comoros	Kyrgyzstan	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Syrian Arab Republic
Croatia	Latvia	Tajikistan
Cyprus	Lebanon	Thailand
Chad	Liechtenstein	Tunisia
Djibouti	Lithuania	Turkey
Ecuador	Luxembourg	Turkmenistan
Egypt	Madagascar	Uganda
El Salvador	Malawi	United Arab Emirates
Estonia	Malaysia	United Republic of Tanzania
Ethiopia	Malta	Viet Nam
Finland	Montenegro	Yemen
Georgia	Morocco	Zimbabwe
Ghana	Nauru	
Greece	New Zealand	

## Non-Member States represented by observers

Holy See  
State of Palestine

## United Nations

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

## Specialized agencies and related organizations

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
International Committee of the Red Cross	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)
International Telecommunication Union	United Nations Environment Programme
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
United Nations Children's Fund	United Nations Population Fund
United Nations Development Programme	United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	World Health Organization

## Intergovernmental organizations

African Union	International Development Law Organization
Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf	Organization of American States
European Union	Organization of Islamic Cooperation
	South Centre

## Other entities

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

Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission	Independent Commission for Human Rights (State of Palestine)
Australian Human Rights Commission	National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (France)
Burundi Independent National Commission on Human Rights	National Human Rights Commission (India)
Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation	National Human Rights Commission (Niger)
Commission on Human Rights (Philippines)	National Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone
Danish Institute for Human Rights	National Human Rights Council (Morocco)
Equality and Human Rights Commission (England, Scotland and Wales)	National Human Rights Committee (Qatar)
Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions	Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission
	Office of the Ombudsman (Latvia)
	Scottish Human Rights Commission
	Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

## Non-governmental organizations

ABC Tamil Oli	Action Canada for Population and Development
Access Now	

Action of Human Movement	Association pour la défense des droits de développement durable et du bien-être familial
Advocates for Human Rights	
Africa culture internationale	
African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies	Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaïdjanais-Iran – "ARC"
African Development Association	Association Thendral
African Green Foundation International	Association "Un monde avenir"
Africans in America for Restitution and Repatriation, Inc.	Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII
Agence pour les droits de l'homme	Bahá'í International Community
Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work	Bahrain Jurists Society
Al-Haq	Baptist World Alliance
Alliance Creative Community Project	Beijing Changier Education Foundation
Alliance Defending Freedom	Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center
All Win Network	Beijing Crafts Council
Al Mezan Center for Human Rights	Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges
Alsalam Foundation	B'nai B'rith
American Association of Jurists	British Humanist Association
American Civil Liberties Union	Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Senioren-Organisationen
Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain, Inc.	Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies
Amnesty International	Caritas Internationalis – International
Anglican Consultative Council	Confederation of Catholic Charities
Anti-Slavery International	Center for Africa Development and Progress
Article 19: International Centre against Censorship	Center for China & Globalization
Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development	Center for Global Nonkilling
Asian Legal Resource Centre	Center for Inquiry
Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women	Center for International Environmental Law
Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development	Center for Justice and International Law
Asociación HazteOir.org	Center for Organisation Research and Education
Association apprentissage sans frontières	Center for Reproductive Rights
Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul	Centre catholique international de Genève (CCIG)
Association culturelle des Tamouls en France	Centre de documentation, de recherche et d'information des peuples autochtones
Association d'entraide médicale Guinée	Centre du Commerce International pour le Développement
Association des étudiants tamouls de France	Centre Europe-tiers monde
Association Dunenyó	Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment
Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism	Centre for Human Rights
Association for the Prevention of Torture	Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy
Association for Women's Rights in Development	Centre pour les droits civils et politiques (Centre CCPR)
Association internationale pour l'égalité des femmes	Centre Zagros pour les droits de l'homme
Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration	Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales
Association of World Citizens	Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims
Association PANAFRICA	Child Development Foundation
Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi	Child Rights Connect
	China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture
	China Family Planning Association
	China Foundation for Human Rights Development
	China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation
	China NGO Network for International Exchanges
	China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS)
	Chinese Association for International Understanding

Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries	Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance (FIND)
Christian Solidarity Worldwide	Family Health Association of Iran
Chunhui Children's Foundation	Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland
CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation	Federation for Women and Family Planning
Colombian Commission of Jurists	FIAN International
Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos	Franciscans International
Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la Charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples (CIRAC)	Freedom House
Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme	Friedrich Ebert Foundation
Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches	Friends World Committee for Consultation
Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative	Fundación Abba Colombia
Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC)	Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social
Conectas Direitos Humanos	Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd	Genève pour les droits de l'homme: formation internationale
Conscience and Peace Tax International (CPTI)	Global Appreciation and Skills Training Network
Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle (COJEP)	Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health
Conselho Federal da Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil	Global Welfare Association
Conselho Indigenista Missionário	Graduate Women International (GWI)
Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations	Hamraah Foundation
Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience	Health and Environment Program
"Coup de Pousse" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud	Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
Defence for Children International	Human Rights House Foundation
Disability Association of Tavana	Human Rights Information and Training Center
Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers	Human Rights Now
Earthjustice	Human Rights Watch
East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project	IBON International Foundation, Inc.
Eastern Sudan Women Development Organization	IDPC Consortium
Edmund Rice International	Il Cenacolo
Elizka Relief Foundation	Indian Council of South America
Ensemble contre la peine de mort	Indian Law Resource Centre
Environment Conservation Organization – Foundation for Afforestation, Wild Animals and Nature	Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee
Escuela del Estudio de la Intuición	Indigenous World Association
Enseñanza de Valores	Ingénieurs du monde
European Centre for Law and Justice/Centre européen pour le droit, la justice et les droits de l'homme	Institute for NGO Research
European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation	Institut international de l'écologie industrielle et de l'économie verte
European Union of Jewish Students	Institut international pour les droits et le développement
	Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG)
	International Action for Peace & Sustainable Development
	International Association of Democratic Lawyers
	International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists
	International Bar Association
	International Buddhist Relief Organisation
	International Career Support Association
	International Commission of Jurists
	International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas
	International Council of Russian Compatriots (ICRC)

International Council of Women  
 International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights  
 International Federation for Human Rights Leagues  
 International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities  
 International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT)  
 International Federation of Journalists  
 International Federation on Ageing  
 International Fellowship of Reconciliation  
 International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA)  
 International Human Rights Association of American Minorities  
 International Human Rights Commission Relief Fund Trust  
 International Human Rights Council  
 International Humanist and Ethical Union  
 International Indian Treaty Council  
 International-Lawyers.org  
 International Lesbian and Gay Association  
 International Longevity Center Global Alliance  
 International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism  
 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 Planned Parenthood Federation  
 International Service for Human Rights  
 International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES)  
 International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific  
 International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs  
 International Yazidis Foundation for the Prevention of Genocide  
 International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations  
 Iraqi Development Organization  
 Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco  
 Iuventum, eV  
 Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian  
 Japan Society for History Textbook  
 Jeunesse étudiante tamoule  
 Justiça Global  
 Karelian Republican Public Organization "Center for Support of Indigenous Peoples and Civic Diplomacy – Young Karelia (Molodaya Karelia)"  
 Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture  
 L'Observatoire mauritanien des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie  
 Law Council of Australia  
 Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada  
 Legal Action Worldwide  
 Le pont  
 Liberal International  
 Liberation  
 Lutheran World Federation  
 Ma'arij Foundation for Peace and Development  
 Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association  
 Make Mothers Matter  
 Maloca Internationale  
 Meezaan Center for Human Rights  
 Minority Rights Group  
 Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group  
 Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples  
 National Association of Vocational Education of China  
 New Humanity  
 Next Century Foundation  
 Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA)  
 Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale  
 Organization for Defending Victims of Violence  
 Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development Partners for Transparency  
 Palestinian Return Centre, Ltd.  
 Peace Brigades International Switzerland  
 Penal Reform International  
 Plan International, Inc.  
 Prahar  
 PRATYEEK  
 Promotion du développement économique et social  
 Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative  
 Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme  
 Reprieve  
 Right Livelihood Award Foundation  
 Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung – Gesellschaftsanalyse und Politische Bildung, eV  
 Réseau international des droits humains (RIDH)  
 Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie  
 Rutgers  
 Save the Children International  
 Servas International  
 Servicios y Asesoría para la Paz  
 Shivi Development Society  
 Sikh Human Rights Group  
 Singapore Children's Society  
 Society for Development and Community Empowerment  
 Society for Threatened Peoples  
 Soka Gakkai International  
 Solidarité Suisse-Guinée

Soroptimist International  
SOS Kinderdorf International  
South Youth Organization  
Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of  
Jerusalem (OSMTH)  
SPD  
Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality  
Stichting Global Human Rights Defence  
Swedish Association for Sexuality Education  
Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and  
Transgender Rights (RFSL)  
Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund  
Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement  
durable  
Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression  
Tamil Uzhagam  
Terre des hommes fédération internationale  
Tourner la page  
Tumuku Development and Cultural Union  
(TACUDU)  
United Nations Association of China  
United Nations Watch  
Universal Rights Group  
US Committee for Human Rights in North Korea  
Village Suisse ONG  
Villages unis/United Villages  
VIVAT International  
Voie éclairée des enfants démunis (VED)  
Witness  
Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling  
Women's Human Rights International Association  
Women's International League for Peace and  
Freedom  
World Barua Organization  
World Council of Arameans (Syriacs)  
World Evangelical Alliance  
World Federation of Ukrainian Women's  
Organizations  
World Jewish Congress  
World Muslim Congress  
World Organisation against Torture  
World Peace Council  
World Vision International  
YouChange China Social Entrepreneur Foundation  
Zéro pauvre Afrique



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## Annex II

### Agenda

- Item 1. Organizational and procedural matters.
- Item 2. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.
- Item 3. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.
- Item 4. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention.
- Item 5. Human rights bodies and mechanisms.
- Item 6. Universal periodic review.
- Item 7. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories.
- Item 8. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Item 9. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance: follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Item 10. Technical assistance and capacity-building.

## Annex III

### Documents issued for the forty-eighth session

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*Documents issued under general distribution*

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/1</a>	1 Agenda and annotations
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/2</a>	1 Report of the Human Rights Council on its forty-eighth session
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/3</a>	3, 4, 7, 9, 10 Communications report of Special Procedures - Communications sent, 1 March to 31 May 2021; Replies received, 1 May to 31 July 2021
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/4</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Namibia
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/4/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/5</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on the Niger
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/5/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/6</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Mozambique
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/6/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/7</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Estonia
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/7/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/8</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Belgium
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/8/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/9</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Paraguay
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/9/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/10</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Denmark
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/10/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review

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*Documents issued under general distribution*


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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/11</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Somalia
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/11/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/12</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Palau
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/13</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Solomon Islands
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/13/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/14</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Seychelles
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/14/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/15</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Latvia
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/15/Add.1</a> and <a href="#">A/HRC/48/15/Add.1/Corr.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/16</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Singapore
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/16/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/17</a>	6 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Sierra Leone
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/17/Add.1</a>	6 Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/18</a>	4 Report of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/19</a>	2 Situation of human rights and technical assistance in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/20</a>	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 href="#">A/HRC/48/21</a>	3 Study on the contribution of the special procedures in assisting States and other stakeholders in the prevention of human rights violations and abuses: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/22</a>	2, 3 Biennial panel discussion of the Human Rights Council on the right to development: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/23</a>	2, 3 Full-day meeting of the Human Rights Council on the rights of the child: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/24</a>	2, 3 Access to medicines and vaccines in the context of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health: note by the Secretariat
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/25</a>	2, 3 One-day intersessional seminar of the Human Rights Council on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/26</a>	2, 3 Right to development: report of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/28</a>	2, 5 Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights: report of the Secretary-General
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/29</a>	2, 3 Question of the death penalty: report of the Secretary General
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/30</a>	2, 3 Rights of indigenous peoples: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/31</a>	2, 3 The right to privacy in the digital age: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/32</a>	2, 3 Current state of play of the mainstreaming of the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations in the work of the Human Rights Council: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/33</a>	2, 3 Good practices and challenges faced by States in using the guidelines on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs: note by the Secretariat
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/34</a>	2, 3 Human rights and the regulation of civilian acquisition, possession and use of firearms: note by the Secretariat
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/35</a>	2, 3 Safety of journalists: note by the Secretariat
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/36</a>	2, 3 Contribution of transitional justice to sustaining peace and the realization of Sustainable Development Goal 16: note by the Secretariat

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/37</a>	2, 3 Freedom of opinion and expression: note by the Secretariat
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/38</a>	2, 3 High-level panel discussion on the question of the death penalty: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/39</a>	2, 3 Summary of the intersessional panel discussion on the fifteenth anniversary of the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, as enshrined in the 2005 World Summit Outcome: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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<a href="#">A/HRC/48/G/2</a>	4 Note verbale dated 27 September 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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<a href="#">A/HRC/48/G/4</a>	4 Note verbale dated 6 September 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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<a href="#">A/HRC/48/G/7</a>	4 Note verbale dated 6 September 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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<a href="#">A/HRC/48/G/10</a>	4 Note verbale dated 8 October 2021 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/G/11</a>	9 Note verbale dated 12 October 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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*Documents submitted by Governments*

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<a href="#">A/HRC/48/G/13</a>	4 Note verbale dated 25 November 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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<a href="#">A/HRC/48/G/15</a>	3 Note verbale dated 25 November 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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<a href="#">A/HRC/48/G/18</a>	4 Note verbale dated 25 November 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/G/19</a>	4 Note verbale dated 25 November 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/G/20</a>	4 Note verbale dated 25 November 2021 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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*Documents submitted by national institutions*

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<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NI/2</a>	5 Written submission by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) and the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC)
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NI/3</a>	5 Written submission by the Philippines: Commission on Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NI/4</a>	3 Written submission by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) and the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC)
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NI/5</a>	7 Written submission by the State of Palestine: Independent Commission for Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NI/6</a>	3 Written submission by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC)
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NI/7</a>	3 Written submission by the Republic of Korea: the National Human Rights Commission of Korea
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NI/8</a>	3 Written submission by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NI/9</a>	3 Written submission by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC)

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<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/1</a>	3 Written statement submitted by International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/2</a>	3 Written statement submitted by International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/3</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Chunhui Children's Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/4</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Fundación Abba Colombia, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

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<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/6</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Institut International pour les Droits et le Développement, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/7</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/8</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/9</a>	3 Joint written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Abshar Atefeha Charity Institute, Chant du Guépard dans le Désert, Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, The, Disability Association of Tavana, Ertegha Keyfiat Zendegi Iranian Charitable Institute, Family Health Association of Iran, Humanitarian Ambassadors NGO, Iran Autism Association, Iranian Thalassemia Society, Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, Maryam Ghasemi Educational Charity Institute, Peivande Gole Narges Organization, Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative, Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment, The Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection “Manshour-e Parseh”, non-governmental associations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/10</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, The, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/11</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/12</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Abshar Atefeha Charity Institute, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/13</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status



*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/14</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/15</a>	13 Written statement submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/16</a>	6 Written statement submitted by International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/17</a>	3 Written statement submitted by International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/18</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Association PANAFRICA, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/19</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/20</a>	3 Joint written statement submitted by Fundacion para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad, Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, Fundacion Vida – Grupo Ecologico Verde, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/21</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/22</a>	2 Exposé écrit présenté par Association Thendral, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/23</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Institut International pour les Droits et le Développement, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/24</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Institut International pour les Droits et le Développement, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/25</a>	2 Written statement submitted by Réseau Unité pour le Développement de Mauritanie, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/26</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Réseau Unité pour le Développement de Mauritanie, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/27</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Prahar, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/28</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/29</a>	3 Written statement submitted by National Association of Vocational Education of China, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/30</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Human Rights League of the Horn of Africa, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/31</a>	3 Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/32</a>	7 Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/33</a>	3 Exposé écrit présenté par Chant du Guépard dans le Désert, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/34</a>	7 Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/35</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Association pour l'Intégration et le Développement Durable au Burundi, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/36</a>	3 Exposé écrit présenté par Promotion du Développement Economique et Social – PDES, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/37</a>	3 Exposé écrit présenté par Promotion du Développement Economique et Social – PDES, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/38</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/39</a>	3 Joint written statement submitted by Graduate Women International (GWI), Canadian Federation

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	of University Women, Federación Mexicana de Universitarias, Women Graduates – USA, Inc., non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/40</a>	7 Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre Ltd, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/41</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Beijing Children’s Legal Aid and Research Center, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/42</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/43</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/44</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/45</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/46</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/47</a>	3 Written statement submitted by China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/48</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/49</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Disability Association of Tavana, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/50</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/51</a>	2 Written statement submitted by Human Rights Information and Training Center, a

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/52</a>	7 Joint written statement submitted by Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/53</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/54</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Action on Smoking and Health, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/55</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/56</a>	4 Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/57</a> and Rev.1	4 Revised written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/58</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/59</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/60</a>	3 Written statement submitted by World Barua Organization (WBO), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/61</a>	3 Written statement submitted by International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/62</a>	3 Written statement submitted by International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/63</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Indian Council of Education, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/64</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Indian Council of Education, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/65</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Modern Advocacy, Humanitarian, Social and Rehabilitation Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/66</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Indian Law Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization on the roster
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/67 and Rev.1</a>	4 Revised written statement submitted by World Evangelical Alliance, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/68</a>	7 Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre Ltd, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/69</a>	4 Written statement submitted by Centre pour les Droits Civils et Politiques – Centre CCPR, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/70</a>	3 Joint written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/71</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/72</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Institut International pour les Droits et le Développement, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/73 and Rev.1</a>	4 Revised written statement submitted by Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/74</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Stichting Global Human Rights Defence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/75</a>	3 Written statement submitted by International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/76</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Stichting Global Human Rights Defence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/77 and Rev.1</a>	4 Revised written statement submitted by Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	pour la Liberté de Conscience, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/78</a>	9 Written statement submitted by Agence pour les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/79</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Iran Autism Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/80</a>	3 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 href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/81</a>	3 Joint written statement submitted by China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center, Beijing Guangming Charity Foundation, Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges, China Association for NGO Cooperation, China Family Planning Association, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, China Soong Ching Ling Foundation, Chinese Association for International Understanding, Chunhui Children's Foundation, YouChange China Social Entrepreneur Foundation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/82</a>	3 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 href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/83</a>	2 Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/84</a>	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 href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/85</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/86</a>	3 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

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/87</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/88</a>	3 Joint written statement submitted by Centre du Commerce International pour le Développement., African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies, Himalayan Research and Cultural Foundation, Nord-Sud XXI - North-South XXI, Organisation pour la Communication en Afrique et de Promotion de la Cooperation Economique Internationale - OCAPROCE Internationale, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/89</a>	2 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 href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/90</a>	7 Written statement submitted by Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/91</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Planetary Association for Clean Energy, Inc., The, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/92</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/93</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Fundacion para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/94</a>	2 Written statement submitted by TOBE Foundation for Rights & Freedoms, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/95</a>	3 Joint written statement submitted by Fundacion para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad, Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, Fundacion Vida - Grupo Ecologico Verde, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/96</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Association Thendral, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/97</a> and <a href="#">Rev.1</a>	4 Revised written statement submitted by Christian Solidarity Worldwide, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/98</a>	3 Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/99</a>	2 Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/100</a>	4 Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/101</a>	3 Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/102</a>	3 Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/103</a>	3 Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/104</a>	3 Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/105</a>	3 Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/106</a>	3 Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/107</a>	3 Written statement submitted by The Next Century Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/108</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/109</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/110</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Chinese Association for International Understanding, a



*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/111</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Planetary Association for Clean Energy, Inc., The, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/112</a>	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 href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/113</a>	4 Joint written statement submitted by International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/114</a>	10 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 href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/115</a>	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 href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/116</a>	9 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,

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/117</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/118</a>	3 Written statement submitted by ODHIKAR – Coalition for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/119</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/120</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/121</a>	9 Written statement submitted by Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/122</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/123</a>	9 Written statement submitted by ADALAH - Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/124</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/125</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/126</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/127</a>	2 Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/128</a>	7 Joint written statement submitted by International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Organization for Defending Victims of

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	Violence, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/129</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/130</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/131</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/132</a>	3 Written statement submitted by YouChange China Social Entrepreneur Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/133</a>	10 Written statement submitted by Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/134</a>	3 Written statement submitted by ArabEuropean Forum for Dialogue and Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/135</a>	3 Written statement submitted by ArabEuropean Forum for Dialogue and Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/136</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Iranian Association for United Nations Studies, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/137</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Stichting Global Human Rights Defence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/138</a>	2 Joint written statement submitted by Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo, Lazarus Union, non-governmental organizations in general consultative status, Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, “ECO-FAWN” (Environment Conservation Organization – Foundation for Afforestation Wild Animals and Nature), “Women and Modern World” Social Charitable Centre, ABC Tamil Oli, Action of Human Movement (AHM), Africa Unite, African Agency for Integrated Development (AAID), African Centre for Advocacy and Human Development, African Citizens Development Foundation, African Development Association,

## Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations

Symbol	Agenda item
	<p>African Heritage Foundation Nigeria, African Network of Young Leaders for Peace and Sustainable Development, Ageing Nepal, Agence pour les droits de l'homme, AIMPO, All Believers Pentecostal Church International, Alliance internationale pour la défense des droits et des libertés, Aman against Discrimination, Amis d'Afrique Francophone-Bénin (AMAF-Benin), Amman Center for Human Rights Studies, ANAJA (L'Éternel a répondu), Arab Society for Academic Freedoms, Archbishop E. Kataliko Actions for Africa "KAF", Asabe Shehu Yar Adua Foundation, Asociación Civil Generación Par, Asociación Civil Hecho por Nosotros, Asociación Colectivo Mujeres Al Derecho Sigla ASOCOLEMAD, Asociación Española para el Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos AEDIDH, Asociación Forjando Futuro para Todos, Asociación Nacional de Empresarios de Colombia, Asociación Nacional de Estudiantes de ingenierías Industrial, Administrativa y de Producción, Asociación ProBienestar de la Familia Colombiana "Profamilia", Association Aide aux femmes et enfants, Association Aide aux femmes et enfants, Association Avocats Sans Frontière Humanitaires du Cameroun, Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association Congolaise pour le Développement Agricole, ASSOCIATION CULTURELLE DES TAMOULS EN FRANCE, Association de Développement Agricole, Educatif et Sanitaire de Manono, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association des Jeunes Engagés pour l'Action Humanitaire (A.J.E.A.H.), Association des Jeunes pour l'Agriculture du Mali, Association des jeunes volontaires au service du monde environnemental, Association du Développement et de la Promotion de Droits de l'Homme, Association Elmostakbell pour le Développement, Association femmes solidaires au Togo, Association Gabonaise pour les Nations Unies (AGNU), Association Internationale des Medecins pour la Promotion de l'Education et de la Santé en Afrique, Association Malienne de Savoir Construire (A.M.S.C.), Association mouvement pour la défense de l'humanité et abolition de la torture (MDHAT), Association nationale des partenaires migrants, Association of Youths with Vision (AOYWV), Association pour la Défense des Droits de Développement Durable et du Bien-être Familial (ADBEF), Association pour la Promotion de la Lutte Contre les Violences faites aux Femmes et la Participation au Développement de la Femme africaine, Association pour les Droits de l'Homme et l'Univers Carcéral, Association pour les Droits de l'Homme et l'Univers Carcéral, Association pour les Victimes Du Monde,</p>

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	<p>Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), Association Thendral, Association-Santé-EducationDémocratie (ASED), Autre Vie, Blessed Aid, Campaign for Human Right and Development Sierra Leone, Center for Africa Development and Progress, Center for Integrated Rural and Child Development, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Centro Regional de Derechos Humanos y Justicia de Genero, Change Human's Life, CIRID (Centre Independent de Recherches et d'Iniatives pour le Dialogue), City2000 Youth Action International, Collectif des Associations Contre l'Impunité au Togo (C.A.C.I.T.), Colombian Commission of Jurists, Comité des observateurs des droits de l'homme, Comité Permanente por la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos, Community Center for Integrated Development, Community Restoration Initiative Project, Compagnons D'action pour le Développement Familial, ComunidadMujer, Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, Corporación ATS Acción Técnica Social, Corporación Centro de Estudios de Derecho Justicia y Sociedad, Corporación Colectivo de Abogados Jose Alvear Restrepo, Corporacion Colombia Unida por el Respeto al Adulto Mayor (COR PRO ADULTO MAYOR) / Corporation Colombia United for the Respect of the Elder, Corporación Equipo Colombiano Interdisciplinario de Trabajo Forense y Asistencia Psicosocial, Corporación Excelencia en la Justicia, Corporacion para la Defensa y Promocion de los Derechos Humanos Reiniciar, Corporación para la Investigación, el Desarrollo Sostenible y la Promoción Social CORPROGRESO, Corporación Red Nacional de Mujeres Comunes, Comunitarias, Indígenas y Campesinas de la República de Colombia, Coup de Pouce, Dayemi Complex Bangladesh, Edfu Foundation Inc., Elizka Relief Foundation, Excellent World Foundation LTD/GTE, Families of the Missing, Federación Mexicana de Universitarias, Fitilla, Foreningen for Human Narkotikapolitikk, Freann Financial Services Limited, Fundação de Apoio a Pesquisa Científica, Educacional e Tecnológica de Rondônia, Fundación Abba Colombia, Fundación Acción Pro Derechos Humanos, Fundacion Alvarallice, Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Fundación América Solidaria Internacional, Fundación Antonio Núñez Jiménez de la Naturaleza y el Hombre, Fundación Argentina a las Naciones Camino a la Verdad, Fundación Atenea Grupo GID, Fundación Avina, Fundación BBVA para las Microfinanzas, Fundación Centro</p>

## Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations

Symbol	Agenda item
	<p>Latinoamericano de Derechos Humanos, Fundación Cepaim, Acción Integral con Migrantes, Fundación Charles Darwin para las Islas Galápagos, Fundación Contemporánea, Fundación Cooperadora de la Nutrición Infantil (C.O.N.I.N.), Fundación Crisálida, Fundación Cultural Baur, A.C., Fundación DARA Internacional, Fundación del Empresariado Chihuahuense AC, Fundación Descúbreme, Fundación Ecología y Desarrollo, Fundación Educación y Cooperación (EDUCO), Fundación Éforo, Fundación Familias Monoparentales Isadora Duncan, Fundación Grupo Sólido para la Promoción de los Valores, Fundación Latinoamérica Reforma, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Fundación Lobbying Social, Fundación Lonxanet para la Pesca Sostenible, Fundación Luz María, Fundación More Peace Less AIDS, Fundación Multitudes, Fundación Nacional para la Superación de la Pobreza, Fundación Novia Salcedo, Fundación ONCE para la Cooperación e Inclusión de Personas con Discapacidad, Fundación para la Democracia Internacional, Fundación para la Protección de los Árboles La Iguana, Fundación Riba, Fundación Ronda, Fundación SES (Sustentabilidad, Educación, Solidaridad), Fundación Síndrome de Down del Caribe, Fundación Voluntarias Contra el Cáncer, A.C., Giving Life Nature Volunteer, Goodness and Mercy Missions Common Initiative Group, Haitelmex Foundation A.C., Idheas, Litigio Estratégico en Derechos Humanos, Asociación Civil, Inter-Action Globale (I.A.G.), International Career Support Association, International Centre for Environmental Education and Community Development, International Federation of Medical Students' Associations, International Movement for Advancement of Education Culture Social and Economic Development, International Organization for Educational Development, J'ai Rêvé Foundation, Jeunesse Etudiante Tamoule, JFMO Servicios en Intermediación Pública A en P, Le Pont, Lebanese American Renaissance Partnership, Inc., L'observatoire mauritanien des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie, L'Organisation Non Gouvernementale des Cercles Nationaux de Réflexion sur la Jeunesse - ONG CNRJ, Mandala Transformation Foundation Inc., Mijoro Mandroso (Mi.Ma.), Murna Foundation, Nobel Laurate Mother Teresa Charitable Trust, Northern CCB, Ocean Lifeline Inc., ONG Funsocial Crecer Colombia, Otro Tiempo México, Asociación Civil, Pirate Parties International Headquarters, Planetary Association for Clean Energy, Inc., The, Project 1948 Foundation, Rassemblement des frères unis pour le</p>

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	développement socio-culturel (RAFUDESC - BENIN), Reachout and Smile Initiative for Social Empowerment, Red de Educacion Popular Entre Mujeres (REPEM), Réseau Unité pour le Développement de Mauritanie, Safe Campaign LLC, Save the Climat, Semilla Warunkwa, Shirley Ann Sullivan Educational Foundation, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Solidarité Agissante pour le Développement Familial (SADF), Solidarité Humanitaire, Stichting Global Human Rights Defence, Stichting Spanda, Tamil Uzhagam, Tourner La Page, Trilok Youth Club and Charitable Trust, Vadodara, United Zo Organization (USA) Inc., Vision GRAMInternational, Vision Welfare Group, World for World Organization, Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia, Youth in Technology and Arts Network (YOTAN), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/139</a>	2 Written statement submitted by Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/140</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/141</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/142</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/143</a>	10 Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/144</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/145</a>	7 Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/146</a>	4 Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/147</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Aid Organization, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/148</a>	2 Written statement submitted by Partners For Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/149</a>	2 Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Human Rights & Democratic Participation Center “SHAMS”, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/150</a>	7 Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Human Rights & Democratic Participation Center “SHAMS”, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/151</a>	7 Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Human Rights & Democratic Participation Center “SHAMS”, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/152</a>	7 Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Human Rights & Democratic Participation Center “SHAMS”, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/153</a>	2 Written statement submitted by Anglican Consultative Council, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/154</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Anglican Consultative Council, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/155</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status



*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/156</a>	2 Written statement submitted by Partners For Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/157</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/158</a>	9 Written statement submitted by Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/159</a>	2 Written statement submitted by Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/160</a>	5 Written statement submitted by Partners For Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/161</a>	3 Written statement submitted by World Barua Organization (WBO), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/162</a>	4 Written statement submitted by Partners For Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/163</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Tourner La Page, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/164</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Tourner La Page, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/165</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Liberation, a non-governmental organization on the roster
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/166</a>	3 Exposé écrit présenté par Tourner La Page, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/167</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/168</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Partners For Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/169</a>	10 Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/170</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Global Welfare Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/171</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/172</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/173</a>	5 Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/174</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Center for Organisation Research and Education, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/175</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/176</a>	3 Exposé écrit présenté par Association Thendral, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/177</a>	9 Written statement submitted by Integrated Youth Empowerment - Common Initiative Group (I.Y.E. – C.I.G.), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/178</a>	10 Written statement submitted by Christian Solidarity Worldwide, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/179</a>	9 Written statement submitted by Association pour l'Intégration et le Développement Durable au Burundi, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/180</a>	10 Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/181</a>	10 Written statement submitted by Promotion du Développement Economique et Social - PDES, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/182</a>	10 Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/183</a>	3 Written statement submitted by Center for Global Nonkilling, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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*Documents submitted by non-governmental organizations*

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<a href="#">A/HRC/48/NGO/184</a>	3 Joint written statement submitted by Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, Women's Human Rights International Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status, Association of World Citizens, International Society for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations on the roster

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**Annex IV****Advisory Committee members elected by the Human Rights Council at its forty-eighth session and duration of terms of membership**

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<i>Member</i>	<i>Term expires</i>
Frans Jacobus Viljoen (South Africa)	30 September 2024
Nurah Maziad S. Alamro (Saudi Arabia)	30 September 2024
José Augusto Lindgren Alves (Brazil)	30 September 2024
Vassilis Tzevelekos (Greece)	30 September 2024

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## **Annex V**

### **Special procedure mandate holders and members of subsidiary expert mechanisms appointed by the Human Rights Council at its forty-eighth session**

#### **Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights**

Alexandra Xanthaki (Greece)

#### **Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent**

Barbara G. Reynolds (Guyana)

#### **Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises**

Fernanda Hopenhaym (Mexico)

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