



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
17 February 2010

Original: English

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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Eighth session**  
Geneva, 3-14 May 2010

## **Summary prepared by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1**

### **Sweden\***

The present report is a summary of 14 stakeholders' submissions<sup>1</sup> to the universal periodic review. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), nor any judgement or determination in relation to specific claims. The information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes and, to the extent possible, the original texts have not been altered. Lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to the absence of submissions by stakeholders regarding these particular issues. The full texts of all submissions received are available on the OHCHR website. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review.

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\* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.

## **I. Background and framework**

### **A. Scope of international obligations**

1. The United Nations Association of Sweden (UNA-Sweden) and the Saami Council (SC) recommended that Sweden ratify ILO Convention No. 169.<sup>2</sup> SC further recommended that Sweden establish mechanisms for implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in full cooperation with the Saami people.<sup>3</sup>
2. UNA-Sweden and the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (CoE Commissioner) recommended that Sweden ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.<sup>4</sup>

### **B. Constitutional and legislative framework**

3. Although Sweden is party to relevant international instruments, Civil Rights Defenders (CRD) reported that Sweden has not yet specifically criminalized torture. In addition, CRD stated that, although being a strong supporter of the International Criminal Court, Sweden has not so far implemented the Statute of the court, in particular the list of crimes.<sup>5</sup> CRD recommended that Sweden introduce the crime of torture and other main crimes of the Rome Statute into its legislation.<sup>6</sup>
4. UNA-Sweden reported that Sweden does not see a need for legislative measures to ban racist organizations as the activities of such organizations are countered through existing legislation.<sup>7</sup> UNA-Sweden recommended that Sweden develop comprehensive legislation to address racism as a crime and implement a ban on racist organizations, in line with international obligations; intensify efforts to ensure legislation on racist crime is applied in practice and; intensify efforts to prevent, combat and prosecute hate speech.<sup>8</sup>

### **C. Policy measures**

5. Forum Syd (FS) recommended that Sweden acknowledge the overriding duty to promote respect for human rights and freedoms as an obligation which must be at the centre of its political concern when it comes to formulate foreign policies. It also recommended that Sweden accept that the various human rights instruments constitute a mutually supporting set of international binding law and does not side with the perception that the statutes of the Multilateral Development Banks hinder them from acknowledging their human rights obligations.<sup>9</sup>
6. UNA-Sweden reported that Sweden's lack of disaggregated data is a recurring theme in the concluding remarks of several treaty bodies. UNA-Sweden recommended that Sweden review domestic data protection and privacy laws for the collection of equality data and adopt a national action plan setting out measures to develop a national knowledge base on equality and discrimination.<sup>10</sup>
7. The Swedish Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (IKFF) reported that Sweden has adopted a second National Action Plan for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, but did not include mechanisms for accountability and instruments to encourage implementation.<sup>11</sup>

## II. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground

### Implementation of international human rights obligations

#### 1. Equality and non-discrimination

8. IKFF recalled the main concluding observations made by UN treaty bodies on the advancement of women and recommended, *inter alia*, that Sweden introduce effective monitoring and accountability mechanisms at all levels for gender mainstreaming including sanctions for non-compliance.<sup>12</sup> In that regard, IKFF recommended that Sweden consider disarmament and the reallocation of financial resources, from military expenditures to the allocation of sufficient financial resources for the implementation of the recommendations of UN Treaty Bodies to, among other things, prioritize women's advancement.<sup>13</sup>

9. Save the Children-Sweden (SC-Sweden) reported that municipalities and regional councils enjoy a high level of autonomy, which may lead to wide variations in how such entities make decisions on issues concerning children. In that regard, SC-Children provided information on these disparities regarding child poverty and social services' resources for children at risk.<sup>14</sup> SC-Sweden recommended that Sweden increase the incentives for municipalities and regional councils to implement CRC in both their decision-making and their practical work.<sup>15</sup>

10. UNA-Sweden stated that persons with disabilities face discrimination and human rights violations in many areas, but especially in terms of access to public transportation, information and buildings and access to work and employment. Accessibility measures were not included in the new Anti-discrimination Act, which entered into force in 2009. Women with disabilities fare worse than their male counterparts.<sup>16</sup> UNA-Sweden notably recommended that Sweden conduct a thorough inventory of laws and regulations to bring to light those that are not in accordance with the principle of equality and/or the CRPD. It also recommended that Sweden launch awareness-raising campaign to combat negative stereotypes and prejudice against persons with disabilities.<sup>17</sup>

11. The Institute on Religion and Public Policy (IRPP) reported that, since 2000, about 130 anti-Semitic crimes have been committed each year.<sup>18</sup>

12. IRPP reported that various discriminatory incidents have occurred which target the gay community.<sup>19</sup> The Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU) and the Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights (RFSL) (RFSU/RFSL) reported that, despite the fact that recurrent studies show that young LGBT people are at high risk of suffering from mental and/or physical illnesses, very little action has been taken to improve their health situation.<sup>20</sup> RFSU/RFSL recommended that professionals get more LGBT knowledge and understanding and that Sweden ensure that sexuality education in schools responds to the needs of students of all sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions.<sup>21</sup>

13. RFSU/RFSL reported that most transgendered individuals are denied the right to change their legal gender and that the fear of discrimination and stigma that many transgendered people feel are barriers to accessing health care. RFSU/RFSL recommended that Sweden review the legislation and practice relevant to gender recognition and gender reassignment treatment, stop forced sterilization of transgendered and ensure that sex reassignment treatments respect the dignity of the person concerned and is available for all transgendered people.<sup>22</sup>

## 2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

14. The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CoE CPT) reported that the right of notification of custody is often delayed “in the interests of the investigation” until a person has been remanded in custody by a court and that access to health care for persons in police custody continues to be left to the discretion of the police.<sup>23</sup> CoE CPT reported on few isolated allegations of physical ill-treatment by police officers.<sup>24</sup> CoE Commissioner recommended that Sweden establish a separate and independent body for investigation of complaints of police misconduct.<sup>25</sup>

15. CoE Commissioner welcomed the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention Against Torture. Yet, he encouraged Sweden to take into account the concerns raised by the Parliamentary Ombudsmen with a view to ensuring an effective monitoring of its implementation at national level.<sup>26</sup>

16. CoE CPT also expressed concerns at the situation of prisoners held in isolation for prolonged periods and considered that urgent measures should be taken to review the situation of prisoners held in isolation. Similar concerns were expressed regarding restrictions applied to remand prisoners.<sup>27</sup>

17. The Office of the Children’s Ombudsman (OCO) reported that it is possible to isolate children (solitary confinement) in special approved homes if they display violent behaviour or are affected by drugs to the extent that they jeopardise the public order . Further to recommendations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in June 2009, the government commissioned the Swedish Standards Institute (SIS) to evaluate the situation and identify potential deficiencies.<sup>28</sup>

18. CoE CPT expressed concerns about the situation of juveniles in police custody, who apparently may be questioned without the presence of their parents or social welfare representatives.<sup>29</sup>

19. UNA-Sweden indicated that, although domestic violence statistics are believed to have remained relatively static since 2000, the number of reported cases of sexual violence increased almost by 50 per cent between 1995 and 2008. The overwhelming majority of victims of sexual violence are women and girls. Immigrant, refugee and minority women, as well as women with disabilities, are particularly vulnerable.<sup>30</sup>

20. UNA-Sweden notably recommended that Sweden establish and implement a national action plan against sexual violence; improve data collection and statistics on violence against women and; work to change attitudes and behaviors related to domestic and sexual violence.<sup>31</sup> IKFF recommended that Sweden allocate sufficient financial resources to ensure the effective implementation of comprehensive measures to address all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence and crimes committed in the name of honour and criminalize acts of domestic violence.<sup>32</sup>

21. Franciscans International [FI] reported that no data has yet been collected on the number of homeless children. FI added that the right to adequate housing is implicitly recognized in the Social Service Act, but that there is no universal and enforceable right to adequate housing. Homeless children are directly affected by the insufficient recognition and implementation of the right to adequate housing. FI recommended that Sweden carry out an updated national survey, in order to evaluate the magnitude of child homelessness and its root causes, and prepare an appropriate and effective action plan, in order to address specifically homeless children as a separate issue.<sup>33</sup>

22. CoE Commissioner welcomed the modifications in the Penal Code to criminalise trafficking within national borders as well as trafficking for other purposes than sexual exploitation and other steps aimed at fighting against trafficking. He recommended that

Sweden grant residence permits for victims not only for the purpose of cooperation with the competent authorities in investigation or criminal proceedings but more generally when their stay is necessary owing to their personal situation.<sup>34</sup>

### **3. Administration of justice, including impunity**

23. UNA Sweden reported that during 2007, 155 cases of agitation against ethnic minorities were reported, but the attorney general initiated proceedings against only six of them. It recommended that Sweden intensify efforts to prevent, combat and prosecute hate speech.<sup>35</sup>

### **4. Right to privacy, marriage and family life**

24. CRD referred to the law on surveillance and that on measures to prevent particularly serious crimes, which entered into force in 2008 and whose regulations are temporary until December 2010. In July 2009, a Commission of Inquiry concluded that the laws have had no or very little effect. In January 2008 a Parliamentary Committee on Integrity concluded that the right to privacy was not being, and had never been, sufficiently considered when new laws were enacted. CRD recommended that Sweden suggest legislative changes to improve the protection of the right to privacy; initiate an independent investigation in order to examine the effectiveness of the different surveillance methods used, and do not enact or prolong new laws on secret surveillance until the impact on the right to privacy and the effectiveness of the methods used have been scientifically investigated.<sup>36</sup>

25. ICJ reported that the new law on surveillance provides for wide powers to intercept electronic communications. Despite amendments, there remain concerns that the law is insufficiently precise to prevent disproportionate interference with the right to privacy. ICJ nevertheless welcomed the fact that the recent amendments also require signals interceptions to be authorized, except in certain urgent cases by an independent quasi-judicial body, the special Defense Intelligence Court. ICJ also reported that it is likely that under the amended law, many of those whose communications are intercepted will not be notified.<sup>37</sup> ICJ recommended Sweden to closely monitor the interpretation and application of the law to prevent any interference with the right to privacy; to establish an independent review to re-assess, after one year, the permissible purposes for which signal data may be acquired; and to provide for judicial recourse in order to obtain binding orders requiring disclosure as to whether such persons have been or are being subject to acquisition of data.<sup>38</sup>

### **5. Freedom of religion or belief**

26. IRPP reported that the constitution allows for freedom of religion and that other laws and policies provide for free practice of religion.<sup>39</sup> IRPP added that, after the separation of the church from the State in 2000, there are eight major religious denominations recognized in addition to the Church of Sweden.<sup>40</sup> Registration or recognition of a religious group is not required to practice religious activity.<sup>41</sup>

27. IRPP reported on several cases of Muslim women being denied access to various facilities throughout Sweden as well as on occasions when Muslims were denied employment due to discriminatory reasons and how these cases were settled.<sup>42</sup> IRPP reported that, in 2007, the Swedish National agency for Education declared its continued support for the right of students to wear religious headgear in schools.<sup>43</sup> IRPP also reported on a cartoon of the Prophet Mohammad in a regional Swedish newspaper in 2007. The Swedish Chancellor of Justice decided against having legal proceedings and the artist went into hiding due to the number of threats that he received for his actions.<sup>44</sup>

**6. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work**

28. UNA-Sweden reported that too little progress has been made in eliminating discrimination against women in the labour market and in decision-making positions in the private and academic sectors. UNA-Sweden recommended that Sweden implement measures to promote an equal balance of women and men in all levels of professional life and enforce labour laws and, if needed, strengthen legislation to eliminate discrimination against women in the labour market.<sup>45</sup> The European Committee on Social Rights (CoE ECSR) concluded that the employment insurance legislation indirectly discriminated against women working part-time. Social security legislation requires a minimum working-time to be entitled to unemployment insurance. Part-time contracts, the length of which is below such minimum, mostly concern women.<sup>46</sup> CoE ECSR reported that, in 2006, the average women's wages were 93 per cent of men's wages, after standard weighting, which is a small improvement compared to previous years.<sup>47</sup>

**7. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living**

29. FI recommended that Sweden fully incorporate the right to adequate housing in the national legislation, take appropriate measures to fulfill the right to adequate housing for all and address the shortage of affordable housing.<sup>48</sup>

30. RFSU/RFSL made comments on the legal obligation to inform prospective sexual partners of HIV status, as it is counterproductive to HIV prevention and indicated how this is used by courts in criminal cases. RFSU/RFSL recommended that Sweden review criminal and public health law and practice with a view to eliminate provisions and practices that are counterproductive to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support, or provisions or practices that otherwise violate the human rights of people living with HIV.<sup>49</sup>

**8. Right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community**

31. SC-Sweden reported that the determining factor in lower level of academic performance is the social conditions (crowded housing conditions, high unemployment among adults, absence of a functioning social network, etc.), which characterizes areas with a large immigrant population. SC-Sweden indicated that it did not see that any proposals have been put forward to properly address these variations.<sup>50</sup> SC-Sweden recommended that schools with extremely low average performance ratings should receive increased resources aimed at eradicating the variations in results between schools and regions and that students with specific needs should receive the help they need so they can meet the qualification criteria.<sup>51</sup>

32. CoE ECSR reported that a foreign national can obtain Swedish study support if he/she has a permanent residence permit in Sweden and has settled primarily for a purpose other than training. CoE ECSR concluded that this requirement is not in conformity with Article 10(5) of the Revised Charter.<sup>52</sup>

33. SC-Sweden recommended that education on human rights and the rights of the child be incorporated into school curricula and that training on the Convention on the Rights of the Child should be required in undergraduate education for all professional groups that work with and for children.<sup>53</sup>

**9. Minorities and indigenous peoples**

34. The Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of national Minorities (CoE ACFC) reported that, although the offices responsible for minority issues have shown clear commitment to their tasks, their effectiveness and capacity have been negatively affected by frequent shifts and changes in their institutional responsibilities. CoE ACFC therefore recommended that Sweden take further steps to

ensure that the protection of national minorities is tackled in a consistent and coordinated manner at both central and local levels, and that there is clarity and stability as regards institutional responsibilities.<sup>54</sup>

35. Society for Threatened People (STP) reported that Sweden officially recognized Saami as a minority language on 1 April 2000 and that the Minority Languages Act ensures that in so called "Saami schools" in Northern Sweden instruction is given in both Swedish and the Saami language. It gives Saami individuals the right to use their native language in all oral and written communications with authorities. Unfortunately there are still today not enough officials proficient in the language to allow its widespread use in bureaucratic settings.<sup>55</sup> CoE ACFC reported that the legislative guarantees on minority languages remain limited to the five northern municipalities and was concerned that minority language education in public schools remains limited. Bilingual education is offered in private schools and by isolated public initiatives. CoE ACFC indicated that there is a need to take further measures to address the shortage of teachers and other capacity problems.<sup>56</sup>

36. UNA-Sweden reported that the Saami do not have constitutional protection as an indigenous people and that their right to traditional lands, waters and natural resources is systematically violated. Land conflicts are likely to rise with increased resource exploitation in the Saami region. UNA-Sweden notably recommended that Sweden provide constitutional protection of the Saami people as an indigenous people.<sup>57</sup> STP indicated that unlike minorities, indigenous people have individual rights but also some collective rights as a people.<sup>58</sup> UNA-Sweden recommended that Sweden transfer administration of land user rights and land use in the reindeer husbandry area to the Saami Parliament, and ensure that Saami communities are involved earlier in decision-making processes affecting the exploitation of their traditional land, their culture and livelihoods.<sup>59</sup> STP reported on various mining projects in Northern Sweden, which affect Saami people.<sup>60</sup>

37. SC reported that the Boundary Delimitation Committee (BDC), a governmental commission, has to a large degree, identified the Saami winter grazing lands.<sup>61</sup> SC recommended that Sweden allow the BDC to complete its work with demarcating the Saami people's traditional land and transform the findings into Swedish law, in cooperation with the Saami people. It also recommended that Sweden reverse the burden of proof in Saami land rights cases and provide Saami parties with legal aid in such cases.<sup>62</sup>

38. SC reported that a 2009 bill on Saami issues was presented but contains nothing on Saami land rights.<sup>63</sup> STP reported that the Saami Council complained that they were not consulted during the draft of this bill, which will be presented in Swedish Parliament in 2010.<sup>64</sup> SC recommended that Sweden introduce legislation that effectively protects the Saami people's possibility to continuously preserve its traditional livelihoods and cultural identity in competition with industrial activities on Saami traditional land.<sup>65</sup> SC also recommended that Sweden implement the concluding observations of the United Nations Human Rights Committee and Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination pertaining to the Saami people's right to land.<sup>66</sup>

39. UNA-Sweden reported on discrimination and socioeconomic marginalization that affect the Roma people on many fronts, especially in the areas of housing, education and employment.<sup>67</sup> CoE ACFC raised similar concerns.<sup>68</sup> UNA-Sweden notably recommended that Sweden develop methods and strategies to increase knowledge among the Roma of their rights and monitor and counteract negative messages spread by the media that reinforce prejudices against the Roma.<sup>69</sup> CoE ACFC recommended that Sweden pursue further efforts to combat discrimination against Roma and persons belonging to other national minorities, keeping this as a key consideration in the continuing institutional and legislative reforms.<sup>70</sup>

## 10. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

40. CoE Commissioner welcomed the new asylum procedure introduced in the 2006 Aliens Act and encouraged Sweden to undergo further professional training of decision-makers, perhaps in co-operation with the UNCHR, to ensure proper application of this new legislation.<sup>71</sup>

41. The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV) reported that 109,446 Iraqi were reportedly living in Sweden in 2008; however the Swedish Immigration Department announced that there were no military conditions in Iraq any longer and therefore the number of accepted asylum-seekers were dropped and following this the Swedish and Iraqi governments reached an agreement on forced repatriation of these refugees back to Iraq. ODVV added that the forced repatriation can bring along difficult conditions for Iraqi refugees and asylum-seekers.<sup>72</sup>

42. CRD reported that the 2006 Aliens Act regulates the procedure applied for asylum seekers for the so-called security cases. In such cases, the security police (SÄPO) plays a important role. CRD mentioned that, whenever information is classified secret by SÄPO, the applicant is in a weaker position than the party representing the state. CRD stated that a decision by the Supreme Migration Court can never be appealed against, not even regarding the non-disclosure of information. CRD recommended that Sweden consider and suggest changes in the Aliens Act concerning appeals against decisions from the Supreme Migration Court on classified information.<sup>73</sup> In this regard, ICJ recommended that Sweden make the necessary changes to law and practice to ensure that in asylum deportation hearings, evidence is not withheld from the asylum seeker on national security grounds and the right to equality of arms is protected.<sup>74</sup>

43. ICJ recommended that Sweden review the law and practice in relation to “exceptional” lengthy detention of asylum seekers and impose maximum limitations on such detention.<sup>75</sup>

44. FI stated that the fact that a high number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children disappear from reception centers is particularly worrisome.<sup>76</sup> CoE Commissioner reported that the number of such disappearances reduced in 2006.<sup>77</sup> UNA-Sweden reported that in asylum processes the best interests of the child principle is not always applied.<sup>78</sup> It recommended that Sweden enact legislation that will ensure that unaccompanied asylum-seeking children are appointed a temporary guardian within 24 hours of arrival.<sup>79</sup> In that regard, SC-Sweden recommended that Sweden conduct a thorough evaluation of trusteeship for unaccompanied children, and thereafter formulate national guidelines and clear directives defining the work of a trustee.<sup>80</sup>

45. SC-Sweden recommended that Sweden appoint an inquiry charged with framing legislation which establishes that child-specific reasons for or forms of persecution may serve as grounds for granting refugee status or other protective status.<sup>81</sup>

46. UNA-Sweden reported that 2006 legislative amendments transferred responsibility for the reception and housing of unaccompanied minors from the Swedish Migration Board to the municipalities. However, only one-third of Sweden’s municipalities are willing to accept unaccompanied minors. As a result, hundreds of children are spending months in temporary housing situations without access to education or adult guidance.<sup>82</sup>

47. FI reported that homeless migrant children who are in an irregular situation are a particularly vulnerable group. They often live in hiding, they do not go to school nor have access to medical facilities. They are subject to exploitation and deplorable work conditions.<sup>83</sup> UNA-Sweden reported that undocumented children only have a right to receive urgent medical care, for which they must pay the full fee.<sup>84</sup> UNA-Sweden recommended that Sweden enact legislation that ensures the provision of education and the



highest attainable standard of health care to all children, including asylum-seeking and undocumented children.<sup>85</sup>

48. FI recommended that Sweden identify the specific needs of irregular migrant children, in particular those who are homeless, and take measures to fulfill their human rights, including their right to education, to adequate housing and to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health.<sup>86</sup> UNA-Sweden noted that education is not compulsory for asylum-seeking children, and the number of asylum-seeker children attending compulsory school is decreasing.<sup>87</sup> SC-Sweden reported that a government inquiry has proposed enshrining in law the right to education of children who are avoiding the enforcement of an expulsion or deportation order. However, this initiative neither proposes changes with respect to confidentiality, nor restricts the enforcement agency's power to collect children when they come to school or the other activities, which means that it is difficult for children to enjoy this right.<sup>88</sup>

49. SC-Sweden reported that, as for undocumented children, undocumented pregnant women have a right to emergency care only, for which they are required to pay the full cost.<sup>89</sup> Referring to the conclusions of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, following its visit to Sweden in 2006, RFSU/RFSL recommended that Sweden ensure that all asylum-seekers and undocumented people are offered the same health care, on the same basis, as people legally resident in Sweden.<sup>90</sup>

50. RFSU/RFSL reported that Sweden continues to forcibly return LGBT people to countries where homosexual or other "unnatural acts" by law can result in the death penalty or imprisonment or other persecution. RFSU/RFSL recommended that Sweden review legislation, policies and practices concerning LGBT people in the asylum procedure and stop encouraging LGBT people to refrain from expressing their sexual orientation or gender identity in order to avoid persecution.<sup>91</sup>

#### **11. Human rights and counter-terrorism**

51. The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) reported on the involvement of Swedish authorities in the renditions of Mohammed Alzery and Ahmed Agiza involving a third country. No criminal investigation or prosecutions have been instituted. ICJ reported that the HR Committee and the Committee against Torture had found that the removal of these two individuals were in violation of ICCPR and CAT respectively. ICJ welcomed that these two persons were awarded 3 million SEK each in 2008. The ICJ is concerned, however, that Sweden has failed to provide full reparation to the two victims, which should include not only compensation, but also rehabilitation and guarantees of non-repetition. Sweden has declined to allow one of them to return to Sweden to be reunified with his family and receive necessary medical rehabilitation.<sup>92</sup> ICJ recommended that Sweden carry-out criminal investigations in respect of both Swedish and foreign officials involved in the rendition cases and review the capacity of the criminal justice system to ensure prosecutions for crimes of torture in appropriate cases. It also recommended that Sweden ensure that full reparation is provided to the victims and ensure that safeguards are put in place to protect against similar violations in the future.<sup>93</sup> In that regard, CoE Commissioner urged Sweden to refrain from using diplomatic assurances prior to a deportation, as they do not provide an effective safeguard against ill treatment.<sup>94</sup>

### **III. Achievements, best practices, challenges and constraints**

52. CoE Commissioner noted that the definition of "refugee" was extended so as to cover also persecution based on gender or sexual orientation.<sup>95</sup>

#### IV. Key national priorities, initiatives and commitments

N/A

#### V. Capacity-building and technical assistance

N/A

#### Notes

- <sup>1</sup> The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org). (One asterisk denotes a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council)

##### *Civil society*

CRD	Civil Rights Defender, Stockholm, Sweden;
FI	Franciscans International*, in collaboration with Svenska Franciskushjälpen, Geneva, Switzerland;
FS	Forum Syd, Stockholm, Sweden;
ICJ	International Commission of Jurists, Geneva, Switzerland*;
IKFF	Swedish Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Stockholm, Sweden;
IRRP	Institute on Religion and Public Policy, Washington, D.C., USA;
ODVV	Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran;*;
RFSU/RFSL	Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU); Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights (RFSL); Stockholm, Sweden, joint submission;
SC	Saami Council, Ohcejohka, Finland;*;
SC-Sweden	Save the Children-Sweden, Stockholm, Sweden;
STP	Society for Threatened People, Göttingen, Germany;*;
UNA-Sweden	United Nations Association of Sweden, a coalition of 105 national organizations, <i>supported by</i> the Swedish CEDAW Network, the Swedish Foundation for Human Rights, the Swedish Disability Federation, the Swedish Organization for Individual Relief, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Moroccan Women's Association, Swedish Organizations of Disabled Persons International Aid Association, the Cooperation Group for Ethnical Associations, the Swedish Iran Committee, the National Federation of International Women's Organisations, the Swedish Red Cross, Swedish Union of Soroptomists International, the Swedish Association of the Visually Impaired, UNICEF Sweden, UNIFEM Sweden; Stockholm, Sweden.

##### *National human rights institution*

OCO	The Office of the Children's Ombudsman, Stockholm, Sweden.
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##### *Regional intergovernmental organization*

CoE	Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of national Minorities, Second Opinion on Sweden, adopted on 8 November 2007, ACFC/OP/II(2007)006;</li> <li>• Resolution CM/ResCMN(2008)4 on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities by Sweden, Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 11 June 2008 at the 1029th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies;</li> </ul>
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- European Committee of Social Rights Conclusions 2008 (Sweden), Articles 1, 9, 10, 15, 18, 20 and 25 of the Revised Charter, November 2008;
- Memorandum to the Swedish Government - Assessment of the progress made in implementing the 2004 recommendations of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights - For the attention of the Committee of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly, 16 May 2007, CommDH(2007)10;
- Preliminary observations made by the delegation of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) which visited Sweden from 9 to 18 June 2009, CPT /Inf (2009) 23.

- <sup>2</sup> UNA-Sweden, p. 8; SC, p. 3.
- <sup>3</sup> SC, p. 3.
- <sup>4</sup> UNA-Sweden, p. 6, CoE Commissioner, para. 47
- <sup>5</sup> CRD, paras. 1-3.
- <sup>6</sup> CRD, p. 2.
- <sup>7</sup> UNA-Sweden, p. 9.
- <sup>8</sup> UNA-Sweden, p. 9.
- <sup>9</sup> FS, paras. 19-21.
- <sup>10</sup> UNA-Sweden, p. 10.
- <sup>11</sup> IKFF, p. 5.
- <sup>12</sup> IKFF, pp. 1-4.
- <sup>13</sup> IKFF; p. 5.
- <sup>14</sup> SC-Sweden, pp. 3-4.
- <sup>15</sup> SC-Sweden, p.3.
- <sup>16</sup> UNA-Sweden, pp. 4-5.
- <sup>17</sup> UNA-Sweden, p. 5.
- <sup>18</sup> IRPP, paras. 16-20.
- <sup>19</sup> IRPP, para. 21; see also UNA-Sweden, p. 9
- <sup>20</sup> RFSU/RFSL, p. 1.
- <sup>21</sup> RFSU/RFSL, p. 2.
- <sup>22</sup> RFU/RFSL, pp. 2-3.
- <sup>23</sup> CoE CPT, p. 4.
- <sup>24</sup> CoE CPT, p. 3.
- <sup>25</sup> CoE Commissioner, paras. 14-15.
- <sup>26</sup> CoE Commissioner, paras. 16-18.
- <sup>27</sup> CoE CPT, p. 5; see also CoE Commissioner, paras. 10-13
- <sup>28</sup> OCO, pp. 1-3.
- <sup>29</sup> CoE CPT, p. 4.
- <sup>30</sup> UNA-Sweden, pp. 5-6, see also CoE Commissioner, paras. 67-74.
- <sup>31</sup> UNA-Sweden, p. 6.
- <sup>32</sup> IKFF, p. 4.
- <sup>33</sup> FI, para. 10.
- <sup>34</sup> CoE Commissioner, para. 47.
- <sup>35</sup> UNA-Sweden, p. 9.
- <sup>36</sup> CRD, paras. 16-30.
- <sup>37</sup> ICJ, pp. 3-4.
- <sup>38</sup> ICJ, pp. 4-5.
- <sup>39</sup> IRPP, para. 3.
- <sup>40</sup> IRPP, para. 4.
- <sup>41</sup> IRPP, para. 5.
- <sup>42</sup> IRPP, paras. 8-9.
- <sup>43</sup> IRPP, para. 15.
- <sup>44</sup> IRPP, paras. 10-11.

- 45 UNA-Sweden, p. 6; see also IKFF, p. 4.
- 46 CoE ECSR, pp. 23-24.
- 47 CoE ESCR, p. 24.
- 48 FI, para. 11.
- 49 RFSU/RFSL, pp. 3-4.
- 50 SC-Sweden, pp. 5-6.
- 51 SC-Sweden, p. 6.
- 52 CoE ECSR, p. 11.
- 53 SC-Sweden, p. 3.
- 54 CoE ACFC, paras. 187 and 195, see also Resolution CM/ResCMN(2008)4.
- 55 STP, p. 1, see also CoE Commissioner, para. 59.
- 56 CoE ACFC, paras. 19-20 and 191, see also Resolution CM/ResCMN(2008)4.
- 57 UNA-Sweden, p. 8.
- 58 STP, p. 4.
- 59 UNA-Sweden, p. 8; see also STP, pp. 1-4; CoE ACFC, paras. 63-68.
- 60 STP, pp. 2-3.
- 61 SC, p. 2.
- 62 SC, p. 3, see also CoE Commissioner, para. 60.
- 63 SC, p. 2.
- 64 STP, p. 4.
- 65 SC, p. 3.
- 66 SC, p. 3.
- 67 UNA-Sweden, p. 8.
- 68 CoE ACFC, paras. 41 and 192, see also Resolution CM/ResCMN(2008)4, CoE Commissioner, paras. 63-66.
- 69 UNA-Sweden, p. 8.
- 70 CoE ACFC, para. 192, see also Resolution CM/ResCMN(2008)4.
- 71 CoE Commissioner, paras. 19-24.
- 72 ODVV, pp. 2-3.
- 73 CRD, paras. 7-15.
- 74 ICJ, p. 5.
- 75 ICJ, p. 6; see also CoE CPT, p. 7.
- 76 FI, para. 7.
- 77 CoE Commissioner, para. 39.
- 78 UNA-Sweden, pp. 3-4.
- 79 UNA-Sweden, p. 4.
- 80 SC-Sweden, p. 7.
- 81 SC-Sweden, p. 7.
- 82 UNA-Sweden, p. 4, see also CoE Commissioner, para. 40.
- 83 FI, paras. 3-7.
- 84 UNA-Sweden, pp. 3-4.
- 85 UNA-Sweden, p. 4.
- 86 FI, para. 12.
- 87 UNA-Sweden, p. 3.
- 88 SC-Sweden, p. 5.
- 89 SC-Sweden, p. 2.
- 90 RFSU/RFSL, p. 5; see also UNA-Sweden, pp. 2-3.
- 91 RFSU/RFSL, pp. 4-5.
- 92 ICJ, pp. 1-2.
- 93 ICJ, p. 3.
- 94 CoE Commissioner, paras. 34-36.
- 95 CoE Commissioner, para. 25.
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