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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Afghanistan

* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.



Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its forty-sixth session from 29 April to 10 May 2024. The review of Afghanistan was held at the 2nd meeting, on 29 April 2024. The delegation of Afghanistan was headed by the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Nasir Ahmad Andisha. At its 10th meeting, held on 3 May 2024, the Working Group adopted the report on Afghanistan.
2. On 10 January 2024, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Afghanistan: Burundi, India and Netherlands (Kingdom of the).
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Afghanistan:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);¹
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);²
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).³
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, Liechtenstein, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Afghanistan through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation affirmed that Afghanistan, as a pioneering and active member of the United Nations system since 1946, had ratified most of the core international human rights treaties and had incorporated them into domestic law and enforced them. Following the decision by the Bureau of the Human Rights Council, in response to the request of Afghanistan for postponement, to proceed with the review under the fourth cycle, 34 organizations and individuals had contributed to the process. The drafting process and methodology were explained in the report.
6. He also affirmed the importance of the universal periodic review mechanism, while emphasizing that it served as a crucial platform for constructive dialogue, reflection and collective action towards advancing human rights in Afghanistan. The universal periodic review also provided an opportunity for constructive and candid engagement among Member States to enhance the protection and promotion of human rights worldwide.
7. He highlighted the current dire state of the human rights landscape in Afghanistan due to the military takeover by the Taliban and how, despite formidable obstacles, Afghanistan remained resolute in its commitment to building a society founded upon the principles of justice, equality and respect for human rights.
8. The Human Rights Support Unit had been established in the Ministry of Justice of Afghanistan to uphold its commitment to implementing the endorsed recommendations. It had collaborated with various governmental bodies and civil society organizations to devise

¹ [A/HRC/WG.6/46/AFG/1](#).

² [A/HRC/WG.6/46/AFG/2](#).

³ [A/HRC/WG.6/46/AFG/3](#).

an action plan in 2019. That collaborative effort had involved key stakeholders. The action plan delineated specific governmental entities responsible for executing each recommendation. Several entities had commenced the implementation process. However, progress had subsequently halted and ultimately been discontinued since the military takeover by the Taliban in August 2021.

9. Afghanistan, under the Taliban, remained the most repressive country in the world, in particular for women and girls, who continued to experience deep inequality and the effects of persistent armed conflict.

10. Afghanistan had been committed to instituting reforms to advance women's rights and achieve gender equality throughout the country before the takeover. That commitment was reflected in initiatives such as implementing a national action plan for women, reflecting the country's various international commitments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the women and peace and security agenda, that were designed to strengthen and promote women's rights across all provinces of Afghanistan. Constitutional provisions, notably article 22 of the Constitution, explicitly prohibited discrimination against women, while articles 218 and 409 of the Penal Code reinforced that prohibition within the realm of administration.

11. Civil and political rights in Afghanistan had undergone significant shifts in recent times. Efforts had been under way to strengthen and protect those rights, as enshrined in the various legal frameworks. However, the current situation presented grave concerns regarding the preservation of those rights, given the restrictions imposed by the Taliban. It was imperative for the international community to closely monitor and address any violations of civil and political rights, ensuring that all individuals in Afghanistan could exercise their rights freely and without fear of persecution or discrimination.

12. Women had been active participants in the 2002 constitutive assembly and, between 2004 and 2019, had accounted for more than 30 per cent of voters. Before August 2021, women had comprised 27 per cent of members in the lower house of parliament, 22 per cent in the upper house and 30 per cent in the civil service. They had held key roles in the Government, independent commissions and the judiciary.

13. Afghanistan had implemented various initiatives to address human rights violations and combat torture, including the passing of the law on the prohibition of torture and the establishment of a monitoring commission. The 2018 Penal Code had incorporated provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol. However, all legislative and procedural measures aimed at combating and preventing torture had been rescinded by the Taliban.

14. Access to education and health care had improved notably before the military takeover. Afghanistan had embarked on a comprehensive review of national education curricula to ensure that human rights values were being taught to children in schools. The last national education strategic plan, for the period 2017–2021, had contained new indicators to monitor progress in the development of the education system.

15. However, amid the dark landscape, the fortitude and resilience of the people of Afghanistan, in particular its women, shone through as a beacon of hope. Despite facing immense challenges and enduring unimaginable hardships, they stood unwavering in their resolve to uphold their dignity and rights. Their resilience was a testament not merely to their strength, but also to the enduring spirit of humanity in the face of adversity.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

16. During the interactive dialogue, 70 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

17. Indonesia expressed concern about the curtailment of the rights of women and girls and stated that it would continue constructive engagement with Afghanistan, notably in the humanitarian and education fields.

18. Ireland condemned human rights abuses, particularly against women, girls and minorities, and stated that it was appalled by the use of death penalty for adultery and homosexuality.
19. Italy expressed appreciation for the collaboration of Afghanistan with civil society and human rights defenders in preparing the national report.
20. Japan acknowledged signs of improvement in the economy and security in Afghanistan; however, little progress had been made in addressing the human rights situation, particularly with regard to women and girls. Japan reiterated the importance of combating terrorism in Afghanistan.
21. Kuwait commended Afghanistan for preparing its national report and urged it to take concrete steps to implement previous recommendations and to improve human rights for the most vulnerable.
22. Kyrgyzstan expressed appreciation for the engagement of Afghanistan in the universal periodic review process, which was aimed at supporting it to uphold the principles of democracy and respect for human rights through the engagement of all the stakeholders involved.
23. Libya commended Afghanistan for cooperating with the universal periodic review process and presented its recommendations.
24. Liechtenstein expressed concern about the humanitarian and human rights situations, particularly the targeting of former government officials and human rights defenders and the increased violence against women and girls.
25. Lithuania thanked Afghanistan for its national report and reiterated the recommendations made to it during the previous review cycle.
26. Luxembourg thanked the delegation of Afghanistan for the presentation of its national report.
27. Malawi thanked the delegation for the comprehensive presentation and wished Afghanistan success in implementing the recommendations.
28. Malaysia urged the international community to intensify efforts to provide humanitarian assistance, human capital development and financial support to the people of Afghanistan.
29. Malta expressed concern about the deterioration of the human rights situation, highlighting that the obligations of Afghanistan under international covenants remained, irrespective of the composition of the Government.
30. Mexico expressed concern about the serious deterioration of the human rights situation in Afghanistan since its previous universal periodic review.
31. Mongolia called for the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women and girls in all aspects of public life in Afghanistan.
32. Montenegro expressed alarm about the egregious human rights abuses and violations by the Taliban, the dismantling of institutional and judicial protection for human rights, the erosion of the rule of law and the systemic discrimination against and oppression of girls and women.
33. Morocco highlighted the dire human rights situation in Afghanistan, especially for women and children, following the Taliban's takeover. While supporting peace efforts, Morocco advocated for an inclusive Government to stabilize Afghanistan.
34. The Kingdom of the Netherlands condemned the unparalleled human rights violations against vulnerable groups and the aggravation of the systematic exclusion of women, who had no access to education, work, political participation or judicial protection.
35. New Zealand expressed deep concern about the dire situation in Afghanistan, particularly about the systematic deterioration of women's and girls' rights.

36. Norway welcomed the improved security situation in Afghanistan but expressed deep concern about discriminatory practices that significantly impeded gender equality, civic space and access to justice.
37. Panama thanked Afghanistan for presenting its national report and presented recommendations.
38. Paraguay thanked the delegation for the information provided and expressed concern about the human rights situation since the de facto authorities had taken power.
39. Portugal expressed concern about the deteriorating human rights situation, particularly the curtailing of the human rights of women and girls.
40. Qatar noted the need for humanitarian assistance, welcomed the assessment report of the Secretary-General and expressed its belief that the recommendations therein could provide a clear road map.
41. The Republic of Korea expressed deep concern about the Taliban's ongoing restrictions of a broad spectrum of rights, particularly the systematic deprivation of the rights of women and girls.
42. The delegation emphasized that, in Afghanistan, girls were now deprived of education beyond the primary level; it was the sole country with such a restriction. Moreover, Afghanistan stood alone globally in its prohibition of women from working with international organizations, including the United Nations, and in various sectors outside the home. That prohibition significantly hampered the capacity of the United Nations and other entities to deliver essential services to a population grappling with persistent poverty. Furthermore, the exclusion of women from public roles further impeded their visibility and participation in decision-making on processes that directly shaped their lives.
43. In addition, strict dress codes were enforced, restricting women's attire to the mandatory hijab and chadari, with bright colours prohibited. Travel restrictions required women to be accompanied by male guardians (mahrams), severely limiting their freedom of movement. Other prohibitions included bans on women's participation in sports, the arts, the media and decision-making processes.
44. The 2004 Constitution had established Afghanistan as a sovereign, independent Islamic republic. It had been aimed at creating a democratic order reflecting the will of the people and building a society without oppression or discrimination, committed to the rule of law, social justice, human rights and fundamental freedoms. However, since August 2021, those fundamental pillars of society had been undone.
45. The human rights units established within the executive and legislative and judicial structures for the promotion and protection of human rights had been dismantled. The Taliban had also put an end to the electoral system, disbanding both houses of the National Assembly and undoing all the progress made in the previous two decades.
46. Despite feigning assurance of respecting human rights, particularly of women, children and minorities, in order to garner legitimacy, the Taliban had reverted Afghanistan to the dark ages, reminiscent of its rule from 1996 to 2001. The Taliban had strategically dismantled all independent human rights oversight and monitoring mechanisms at the national and provincial levels to obstruct information collection and verification and circumvent any accountability efforts.
47. Efforts and progress in combating terrorism had been thwarted following the forced takeover by the Taliban. The Taliban had fostered an environment ripe for the proliferation of terrorist groups such as Al-Qaida, Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan, Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant-Khorasan, Jamaat Ansarullah, the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan and the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement. As indicated in the report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team, the link between the Taliban and terrorist entities such as Al-Qaida and other terrorist groups was both strong and symbiotic, providing those groups with greater operational freedom within Afghanistan. The Taliban had largely failed to adhere to counter-terrorism commitments. Terrorist attacks persisted across the country, targeting innocent civilians in schools and places of worship, with no transparent investigations undertaken by the Taliban.

48. The claims of counter-terrorism and counter-narcotics were a paradox and self-contradiction by the Taliban. Senior Taliban leaders were involved in the narcotics trade and the production, manufacture and smuggling of drugs, including opium, heroin and methamphetamine, had become a significant part of the illicit exports of Afghanistan under Taliban rule.

49. The Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, established in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) under the 2004 Constitution, had played a vital role in protecting and promoting human rights in Afghanistan. Its mandate had included monitoring and verifying human rights violations. The dissolution of the Commission by the Taliban had left Afghanistan without a national human rights institution, depriving victims of human rights abuses of effective legal remedies and recourse. Given the gravity and scale of the ongoing human rights crisis in Afghanistan, the establishment of an independent investigative mechanism complementary to existing human rights mechanisms remained critical.

50. The delegation defied the Taliban's claims of respecting the international human rights treaties ratified by Afghanistan, as evidenced by the issuance of over 200 edicts, decrees and directives curtailing the rights of citizens.

51. Romania expressed grave concern about the widespread violations and abuses in Afghanistan and the annihilation of the institutional protection of rights, especially for women and girls.

52. The Russian Federation said that the Government of Afghanistan lacked the resources to normalize the social and economic situation due to the withholding of Afghan assets by Western countries.

53. Senegal commended Afghanistan for its efforts to submit its national report, noting the challenges raised therein.

54. Sierra Leone expressed deep concern about the state of human rights in Afghanistan, particularly following the dissolution of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and the Human Rights Support Unit.

55. Slovenia expressed concern about the human rights situation in Afghanistan, especially for women and girls, and condemned capital punishment and public executions.

56. Spain urged Afghanistan to collaborate with OHCHR and United Nations monitoring instruments, mechanisms and treaty bodies for conventions to which Afghanistan was a party.

57. The State of Palestine acknowledged the efforts of Afghanistan despite the various challenges and welcomed progress on refugee resettlement issues.

58. Sweden noted that the human rights situation in Afghanistan had deteriorated since the Taliban's 2021 takeover, especially concerning women's and girls' rights.

59. Switzerland acknowledged the special circumstances of Afghanistan and expressed hope for constructive engagement with the Taliban on its recommendations during an upcoming visit by a delegation of Switzerland to Kabul.

60. Togo commended the delegation of Afghanistan for presenting its national report and wished Afghanistan success in implementing the recommendations.

61. Türkiye expressed concern about the humanitarian, human rights and economic situations, urging continued international support to address humanitarian, human rights and economic issues.

62. Ukraine expressed grave regret for the Taliban's reversal of progress and the dissolution of human rights bodies, bringing the human rights situation to the brink of disaster.

63. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland expressed shock at the deterioration of the human rights situation since the 2019 review, with the Taliban denying women and girls access to education, public and political spaces and many employment opportunities.

64. The United States of America expressed deep concern about the deteriorating human rights situation in Afghanistan.
65. Uruguay welcomed the delegation and encouraged Afghanistan to continue to strengthen its engagement with the universal human rights system.
66. Yemen expressed appreciation for the delegation's presentation of the report and for its highlighting of challenges and called for more pressure to be placed on the Taliban to respect the rights of Afghan citizens.
67. Albania expressed concern over the deteriorating and intolerable situation of women and girls since 2021, urging the international community to take urgent measures to protect their rights.
68. Algeria commended Afghanistan for preparing its national report and highlighted the challenges that Afghanistan continued to face, as more than two thirds of its population remained in need of humanitarian assistance.
69. Argentina expressed deep concern about the serious human rights situation and thanked Afghanistan for the presentation of its national report.
70. Australia noted a severe regression in human rights under Taliban rule, condemned gender-based discrimination and persecution, including towards minorities, and urged compliance with international law.
71. Belgium deplored the terrible human rights situation in Afghanistan and urged the de facto authorities to implement the recommendations.
72. Brazil expressed concern over reports of summary executions, arbitrary detentions, torture, gender discrimination and violence in Afghanistan.
73. Bulgaria expressed deep concern about widespread human rights violations in Afghanistan, including restrictions on assembly, expression, the press and women's, girls' and children's rights.
74. The delegation reported that recent, severe restrictions on freedom of speech and expression, freedom of association, the protection of journalists and the independence of a pluralistic mass media had further limited access to information and the monitoring efforts undertaken by civil society organizations, often at the risk of their lives. The Taliban had escalated its targeting of human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, civil society activists and journalists, who were working under conditions of constant threat, insecurity and desperation. The Taliban, through its efforts to muzzle civic space, hoped to curb the documentation and reporting of the atrocities unfolding in the country, including the widespread and systematic human rights violations and abuses.
75. The Taliban actively monitored and surveyed social media activities to identify and target journalists, activists or any dissenter who spoke out against the Taliban. In particular, the group targeted women activists and activists from minority communities and their families. Human rights defenders, women human rights defenders and activists had been actively holding peaceful demonstrations, often at the risk of their lives, to protest against the rule of the Taliban. In order to suppress those demonstrations, the Taliban often resorted to excessive use of force, enforced disappearances, harassment, ill-treatment, arbitrary detention and the arrest of women demonstrators. Many women detainees had accused the Taliban of torturing them during detention. A significant number of human rights defenders, including women, remained in arbitrary detention, suffering in detention centres and prisons and lacking access to medical care and legal support. Facing retribution for their advocacy work, many human rights defenders and their families had been forced to leave Afghanistan and seek asylum in neighbouring countries. Human rights defenders in third countries faced immense challenges and threats and were in dire need of financial support. However, the forced repatriation of nationals from Afghanistan put their lives at risk.
76. The rich tapestry of ethnic and religious communities in Afghanistan had previously enjoyed certain protections under national laws that had facilitated their participation in public and political life. Since the takeover by the Taliban, those protections had been dismantled, leading to increased persecution and exclusion. Targeted attacks against

minorities had escalated; for instance, the Hazara community had suffered significantly, with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan documenting 345 casualties (95 killed, 250 wounded) of attacks within a year. Since the military takeover, persons with disabilities faced increased vulnerability. The systematic exclusion and targeting of those groups highlighted a grave disregard for the diversity and rights of the minority populations of Afghanistan.

77. Afghanistan had formulated a national action plan on support for and integration of returnees and internally displaced persons, including unimpeded access to health care and education, regardless of identity documentation. Moreover, initiatives had been in place to build townships for internally displaced persons and returnees, equipped with necessary amenities such as schools and hospitals, to foster an environment conducive to their resettlement. However, since August 2021, the Taliban's discriminatory actions against minorities and marginalized communities had heightened concerns for the rights of those groups. Neighbouring countries had sheltered 7.7 million nationals of Afghanistan for over two decades. The context had changed dramatically in 2021, when approximately 1.6 million people had been repatriated from neighbouring countries, despite the non-return advisories of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The introduction of the Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan had led to the deportation of over 500,000 individuals since the end of 2023.

78. Since the military takeover, the Taliban had barred women and girls from all forms of education beyond grade 6, hindering not only their personal development but also the country's progress, sustainable development and lasting peace. The Taliban had also banned non-governmental organizations from providing educational programmes; that ban affected rural children in particular. More than 2 million young girls and women remained out of school. At the same time, activists standing for the universal right to education were targeted by the Taliban. The disruption in education, compounded by economic instability, had made young girls more vulnerable to falling prey to exploitation and forced marriage.

79. The Taliban was closing off public schools and was using education funds to convert those schools into madrasas across Afghanistan. The proliferation of madrasas, which had been known to promote and incentivize violence and terrorism, not only affected the quality of education but also risked the spreading of indoctrination and radicalization, which posed a real threat to regional and global stability.

80. Burundi stressed that the information provided by the delegation highlighted the need for the Afghan authorities to promote and protect the rights of its citizens without discrimination.

81. Canada noted that the de facto authorities had suspended the Constitution of Afghanistan and had replaced the judiciary with repressive decrees. It condemned the arrests of women and girls based on dress restrictions and the widespread use of arbitrary detention.

82. Chile called upon the de facto regime to guarantee the full protection of the human rights of all people, especially women.

83. Colombia made recommendations.

84. Costa Rica expressed concern about the interruption of the rule of law and the continued and systematic human rights violations, including gender apartheid and generalized violence against women and girls.

85. Croatia condemned the systematic human rights violations, especially against women, minorities, human rights defenders, journalists and politicians, and denounced gender discrimination and public executions.

86. Cyprus made recommendations.

87. Czechia noted the regression of human rights in Afghanistan since the previous review, in particular concerning the rights of women.

88. Denmark condemned the dismantling of institutional protections for human rights and expressed concern about the persecution of women and girls and their removal from public life.

89. The Dominican Republic commended Afghanistan for organizing working groups to examine the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Afghan people.
90. Ecuador expressed concern about the dismantling of institutional human rights protections. It urged the adoption of measures to promote women's participation in public life and protect them from gender-based violence.
91. Egypt welcomed the presentation of the national report and presented recommendations.
92. Estonia expressed concern about directives violating human rights and targeting women and girls and urged the compliance of any law review with international human rights law.
93. Finland noted with deep concern the developments in Afghanistan since the previous review.
94. France expressed cognizance of the particular situation experienced by the Afghan people, notably that they were forced to obey de facto authorities that disregarded international norms.
95. The Gambia expressed appreciation for the constructive engagement of Afghanistan during the review and made recommendations.
96. Georgia expressed concern about the reports of human rights violations disproportionately affecting women, children and ethnic and religious communities and acknowledged the urgency of responding to the crisis.
97. Germany condemned the human rights violations committed by the de facto authorities and expressed concern about the systematic gender-based discrimination and violence against women and girls.
98. Ghana urged Afghanistan to reverse the discriminatory policies imposed on women and minorities and appealed to the international community for support in addressing the suffering of the Afghan people.
99. The Holy See emphasized the importance of promoting a culture that respected and protected the dignity of every person.
100. Iceland welcomed the national report and made recommendations.
101. The Republic of Moldova commended Afghanistan for taking initial steps to implement previous recommendations but expressed deep concern about the human rights situation in the country, which had deteriorated since 2021.
102. The delegation pointed out that the economic and humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan had become much more severe since the Taliban had seized power. A significant proportion of the population lived in poverty, contending with profound food and water insecurity, which had been further intensified due to calamities caused by climate change.
103. Despite the critical humanitarian situation that affected more than 29.2 million individuals, the Taliban had allocated significant financial resources to military and security affairs.
104. Afghanistan was one of the 10 most climate-vulnerable countries, a situation worsened by the current regime's disregard for environmental policy and international collaboration. Since the Taliban's takeover, their inadequate governance and incapacities had led to the freezing of millions of dollars in aid previously earmarked for climate change response.
105. Previously, women had engaged in various sectors of society, supported by constitutional protections. Unfortunately, those protections had been significantly restricted; an estimated 60,000 enterprises owned by women had ceased operations and women had been systematically marginalized from the labour force, including non-governmental organizations and the United Nations. That had had an enormously detrimental effect on their capacity to offer and engage in critical services.

106. Access to essential medical care had been severely restricted due to prohibitions and restrictions on the employment of women in the health-care sector. That had further exacerbated the mental health crisis that was prevalent among women and girls, as indicated by the increasing rates of suicide and widespread psychological distress. Data from local non-governmental organizations indicated a surge in mental health issues, with some clinics reporting a 50 per cent increase in the number of patients, especially women and children, seeking mental health services.

107. The necessity for an autonomous investigative body to confront human rights violations in Afghanistan was more pressing than ever in the light of the prevailing circumstances. A mechanism of that nature would provide an essential forum for victims to seek redress and justice, thereby shedding light on the possibility of restoring peace and justice in Afghanistan.

108. In his closing remarks, the head of delegation, while thanking the Human Rights Council, its member States and the international community for their continued support to push for prevention and accountability, emphasized that no country should have to prepare their national report under the circumstances faced by Afghanistan. He affirmed that the people of Afghanistan were witnessing the systematic dismantling of their inherent and inalienable human rights and women were witnessing their erasure. However, no amount of repression and oppression could erase the resilience of the people of Afghanistan, especially the women and girls. They had lived long before the Taliban had existed and they would continue their national struggle of seeing Afghanistan free from the illegitimate military control of the Taliban.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

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

109.1 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Croatia);**

109.2 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Estonia);**

109.3 **Ratify the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Mongolia);**

109.4 **Ratify the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Dominican Republic);**

109.5 **Comply with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by preventing violence and eliminating discrimination against women and girls, including with regard to the rights to education, work and freedom of movement (Republic of Korea);**

109.6 **Uphold the human rights obligations stemming from the international treaties to which Afghanistan is a State party, including the rights to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, to peaceful assembly and to education, and ensure that any law review complies with such obligations (Holy See);**

109.7 **Ensure the compliance of Afghanistan with international human rights obligations, codified in treaties, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Slovenia);**

109.8 **Fulfil its treaty obligations, particularly in the field of human rights (Qatar);**

- 109.9 **Comply fully with all international human rights instruments to which Afghanistan is a State party (Croatia);**
- 109.10 **Adhere to international human rights treaties that have not yet been ratified, particularly those referring to the fight against trafficking in persons, cases of statelessness, migrant workers and their families and protection against forced disappearances and against discrimination against women (Paraguay);**
- 109.11 **Fully comply with and respect its obligations under international human rights law as a State party to United Nations treaties such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Portugal);**
- 109.12 **Ensure full respect for the principles and obligations established by the Charter of the United Nations and all the other international treaties on human rights ratified by Afghanistan, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Italy);**
- 109.13 **Uphold the obligations stemming from treaties to which it is a party (Liechtenstein);**
- 109.14 **Actively build dialogue and cooperate with United Nations bodies and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council (Kyrgyzstan);**
- 109.15 **Cooperate with and provide information to universal and regional mechanisms for the protection of human rights, especially the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee against Torture and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Paraguay);**
- 109.16 **The de facto authorities should grant the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and the Human Rights Section of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan unfettered access to investigate, report and document human rights violations (Sierra Leone);**
- 109.17 **Engage constructively with and facilitate visits to Afghanistan by human rights organizations and special procedures, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan (Sweden);**
- 109.18 **Continue to cooperate with regional and international human rights mechanisms (Egypt);**
- 109.19 **Cooperate fully with all United Nations entities, including the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, as well as humanitarian and non-governmental organizations, both national and international, including by facilitating the necessary access for their respective missions (Luxembourg);**
- 109.20 **Establish an independent investigative mechanism within the Human Rights Council to ensure thorough investigations and accountability for human rights violations in Afghanistan (Sierra Leone);**
- 109.21 **Cooperate with the Human Rights Council to establish an independent mechanism to investigate all alleged violations and abuses of human rights, violations of international humanitarian law and international crimes to identify those responsible, with a view to ensuring that they are held accountable, and provide access to justice and remedies for victims and survivors (Ukraine);**
- 109.22 **Continue to work with human rights mechanisms to enhance cooperation, especially through capacity-building initiatives aimed at strengthening the national human rights framework (Algeria);**
- 109.23 **It is recommended that the international community provide technical and financial assistance to the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva to effectively fulfil its obligations towards the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms (Sierra Leone);**

- 109.24 **Resume cooperation with the International Criminal Court on the basis of the 2018 law for cooperating with the International Criminal Court (Croatia);**
- 109.25 **Effectively implement Security Council resolution 1325 on women and peace and security (Lithuania);**
- 109.26 **Reverse fully decrees implemented by the Taliban that infringe on the human rights of Afghans, including restrictions on women's and girls' rights to education, employment, legal remedies, health and freedom of movement and restrictions targeted at the LGBTIQI+ community and ethnic and religious minorities (Ireland);**
- 109.27 **Rescind discriminatory edicts and decrees issued since August 2021 by the Taliban which curtail the fundamental rights and freedoms of women and girls and people of ethnic, religious and other minority groups (New Zealand);**
- 109.28 **Take steps to facilitate the establishment of an inclusive and representative Government, including for all ethnic, religious and gender minorities, ensuring the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and youth in decision-making (Ukraine);**
- 109.29 **Ensure that any review of legislation is consistent with its obligations under international human rights law (Colombia);**
- 109.30 **Take immediate steps to ensure the institutional protection of human rights and full compliance with its obligations under international human rights law (Denmark);**
- 109.31 **Work to ensure that national laws comply with international human rights obligations, promote accountability and combat impunity (Egypt);**
- 109.32 **Ensure accountability for human rights violations, including by ensuring that all forms of gender-based violence are criminalized (Finland);**
- 109.33 **Continue to work on improving national legislation with regard to respect for human rights and freedoms (Russian Federation);**
- 109.34 **Establish a clear institutional and regulatory framework, including transparent judicial procedures, with equal rights and access for both men and women (Italy);**
- 109.35 **Reinstate a credible and independent national human rights complaint mechanism that is compatible with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea);**
- 109.36 **Reinstate a credible and independent national human rights institution (Liechtenstein);**
- 109.37 **Reinstate the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (Burundi);**
- 109.38 **Reinstate a credible and independent national human rights complaint mechanism, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Holy See);**
- 109.39 **Immediately re-establish the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and allow it to operate independently and safely (Luxembourg);**
- 109.40 **Re-establish the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission in order to continue promoting gender equality and the protection of women and girls from violence and discrimination (Dominican Republic);**
- 109.41 **Reactivate the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and respect the rights of Afghan citizens, especially women and girls (Yemen);**
- 109.42 **Strengthen the national human rights institution to bring it into line with the Paris Principles (Morocco);**
- 109.43 **Re-establish the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Chile);**

- 109.44 **Re-establish national institutions that promote and defend human rights such as the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (Spain);**
- 109.45 **Ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of all Afghans, including women and girls and persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, in all spheres of life (Croatia);**
- 109.46 **Eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination based on ethnicity, gender identity or sexual orientation (France);**
- 109.47 **Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Iceland);**
- 109.48 **Establish a moratorium on executions, with a view to legislatively abolishing the death penalty, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Republic of Moldova);**
- 109.49 **Abolish the death penalty and consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Uruguay);**
- 109.50 **Abolish the death penalty (Luxembourg);**
- 109.51 **Abolish the death penalty and put an end to corporal punishment, in particular the stoning of women (France);**
- 109.52 **Abolish the death penalty and prohibit all forms of corporal punishment (Portugal);**
- 109.53 **End executions and return to a moratorium on the death penalty, as a preliminary step to its abolition (Spain);**
- 109.54 **Establish a moratorium on executions (Estonia);**
- 109.55 **Declare a moratorium on executions with a view to prohibiting the death penalty in law and in practice (Ireland);**
- 109.56 **Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Liechtenstein);**
- 109.57 **Establish a moratorium on executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty, and commute existing sentences of capital punishment (Romania);**
- 109.58 **Declare a moratorium on executions with a view to prohibiting the use of the death penalty (Togo);**
- 109.59 **Reinstate a moratorium on executions and abolish the death penalty (Australia);**
- 109.60 **Impose an immediate moratorium on any further executions and take steps towards the abolition of the death penalty (Holy See);**
- 109.61 **Consider adopting a moratorium on the death penalty and provide official figures regarding death sentences and executions (Italy);**
- 109.62 **Adopt measures to abolish the death penalty and evaluate the possibility of introducing a moratorium on new executions (Paraguay);**
- 109.63 **Reduce the number of crimes carrying capital punishment and re-establish a moratorium on the death penalty (Lithuania);**
- 109.64 **Uphold international human rights standards by replacing the death penalty with alternative forms of punishment that respect human dignity and promote rehabilitation and reintegration (Cyprus);**
- 109.65 **End the use of floggings and other State-sanctioned cruel punishment and abolish the death penalty (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

- 109.66 Exert immediate efforts to end human rights violations and abuses in Afghanistan and to restore the rule of law (Bulgaria);
- 109.67 End extrajudicial executions, arbitrary detentions, intimidation and threats against the population, in particular against human rights defenders and journalists (Republic of Korea);
- 109.68 Stop the horrendous practices of summary or extrajudicial executions, arbitrary detention, forced displacement and collective punishment (Czechia);
- 109.69 Cease extrajudicial executions, arbitrary arrests and detentions, torture, ill-treatment and other inhuman, cruel and degrading treatment (Luxembourg);
- 109.70 Take prompt action to halt extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, torture, ill-treatment and arbitrary arrests and detentions, while ensuring equitable access to justice for everyone (Holy See);
- 109.71 Take all measures to end torture and other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment (Malawi);
- 109.72 Release immediately and unconditionally all individuals who have been arrested for exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Montenegro);
- 109.73 Release all activists detained for exercising their freedom of expression, including by expressing criticism, and for engaging in peaceful protest (United States of America);
- 109.74 Cease arbitrary detentions and the torture and mistreatment of detainees, including corporal punishment and public executions, ensure access to justice for all and reinstate recognized standards of due process and the rule of law (Canada);
- 109.75 Prohibit the use of corporal punishment in both public and private spaces and put an end to all arbitrary deprivation of liberty, particularly of women and girls, on the basis of their dress (Mexico);
- 109.76 Cease the arbitrary arrest and detention of journalists and release those already detained (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 109.77 Release all persons arbitrarily detained and combat ill-treatment in detention (France);
- 109.78 Release arbitrarily detained journalists and media workers, human rights defenders and other civil society actors (Lithuania);
- 109.79 Release and cease immediately the arbitrary arrest and detention of civil society members, including human rights defenders and journalists, and enable them to work freely (Kingdom of the Netherlands);
- 109.80 Enhance the protection of civilians, especially children, by adopting a proactive and comprehensive strategy to prevent casualties caused by landmines and other explosive remnants of war through increased clearance programmes, awareness-raising activities and community safety measures (Panama);
- 109.81 Launch demining operations across the country (Togo);
- 109.82 End indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks against the civilian population, ensuring full compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and allow and ensure unrestricted access to humanitarian aid, including essential health services and medical supplies (Argentina);
- 109.83 Take effective measures against the persisting threat of terrorism in Afghanistan, in accordance with relevant international law, especially international human rights law (Japan);

- 109.84 Engage in dialogue and cooperate with the countries in the region and the international community to counter terrorism (Kyrgyzstan);
- 109.85 Step up efforts to ensure a more inclusive system of governance, with equal representation of all Afghan society (Indonesia);
- 109.86 Facilitate the establishment of an inclusive and representative Government by ensuring the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and youth in decision-making positions, including those related to the promotion and protection of human rights (Colombia);
- 109.87 Facilitate inclusive and non-discriminatory measures, as well as political processes, that enable all Afghans, including those from ethnic and religious minority backgrounds, to participate in public and political life (Japan);
- 109.88 Ensure the equal representation and meaningful participation of women and girls from all religious and ethnic groups in all decision-making processes affecting their lives (Kyrgyzstan);
- 109.89 Hold free and fair elections to allow for the establishment of a participatory and inclusive Government, ensuring the equal participation of women and young people in decision-making processes (Costa Rica);
- 109.90 Constitute a participatory, inclusive and representative Government, including the resumption of the Ministry of Women's Affairs (Czechia);
- 109.91 Commence the constructive engagement of the present administration in international forums and debates regarding the human rights situation (Czechia);
- 109.92 Ensure that any dialogue or engagement with the Taliban is contingent upon and centred around respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the people of Afghanistan (Ukraine);
- 109.93 Intensify efforts to achieve comprehensive national reconciliation and peaceful coexistence among all components of the Afghan people (Qatar);
- 109.94 Establish an independent judicial system that ensures compliance with international standards and norms regarding fair and impartial trials (Costa Rica);
- 109.95 Ensure access to justice for all Afghans by allowing judges and lawyers to work unhindered (Norway);
- 109.96 Ensure compliance with international standards on the right to a fair trial in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including by providing access to lawyers of the defendant's choice (Malta);
- 109.97 Respect the rights to life and a fair trial and prohibit torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Czechia);
- 109.98 Adopt legal, policy and practical measures to prevent human rights violations, in particular extrajudicial executions, arbitrary arrests and detention and torture and ill-treatment, and ensure accountability (Colombia);
- 109.99 Disallow coerced confessions in Afghan courts (United States of America);
- 109.100 Ensure accountability, in accordance with international standards, for officials who perpetrate human rights violations, including against women and girls (Sweden);
- 109.101 Investigate, prosecute and hold perpetrators accountable for violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, including those targeting civilians, journalists, human rights defenders and minority groups (Cyprus);

- 109.102 Carry out prompt and thorough investigations into all allegations of torture and other ill-treatment of detainees, enforced disappearances and summary executions, and appropriately prosecute all those responsible for having committed, ordered or assumed superior responsibility for these crimes (Switzerland);
- 109.103 Investigate all allegations of torture regarding persons deprived of their liberty, enforced disappearances and summary executions and prosecute any person responsible for committing or ordering such offences (Costa Rica);
- 109.104 Respect fundamental rights fully (Türkiye);
- 109.105 Eliminate the severe restrictions imposed on the exercise of religious freedom and protect the country's religious minorities from violence and discrimination (Italy);
- 109.106 Respect the right to freedom of expression, movement and peaceful assembly and ensure that journalists, human rights defenders and civil society can work without risk of reprisals (Norway);
- 109.107 Enact legislation that enshrines and ensures respect for the fundamental freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly and release all those detained solely for the exercise of those rights (Republic of Moldova);
- 109.108 Review and amend laws that unduly restrict freedom of expression and ensure full respect for journalists' rights to report freely and without censorship (Cyprus);
- 109.109 Cease restrictions on press freedom and violence and harassment of journalists and media workers and investigate all such attacks and intimidation thoroughly and impartially (United States of America);
- 109.110 Restore and protect the right to freedom of opinion and expression and, in particular, investigate cases of intimidation and attacks against journalists, human rights defenders and civil society (Germany);
- 109.111 Permit the media and journalists to operate and work freely without fear of reprisals, in particular by disseminating critical information (Switzerland);
- 109.112 Immediately repeal all edicts, policies and directives that curtail human rights, in particular those limiting press freedom (Belgium);
- 109.113 Create an enabling environment for the media and civil society actors, stop restricting freedom of expression and liberty of movement and investigate cases of intimidation of and attacks against members of civil society (Czechia);
- 109.114 Guarantee access by the population to information and to all spheres of public life (France);
- 109.115 Redouble efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and protect and assist victims (Libya);
- 109.116 Allocate an appropriate share of the national budget, in the light of the reduction in international aid, to provide the Afghan people with critical services in sectors such as livelihoods, health, water and protection (Italy);
- 109.117 Ensure access to water, sanitation, food and public services such as health care, education and employment for the entire population, without hindrance or discrimination (Luxembourg);
- 109.118 Take measures to ensure that social security and humanitarian aid are provided to the Afghan people (Kuwait);
- 109.119 Ensure that all women and members of minority communities are guaranteed access to assistance, including humanitarian assistance (Malta);

- 109.120 Facilitate the provision of humanitarian aid to those in need, particularly by delivering assistance to women and female-headed households (Romania);
- 109.121 Provide further funding to the Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (State of Palestine);
- 109.122 Permit women and girls to access secondary and tertiary education and work, including work for the United Nations, international non-governmental organizations and the civil service (New Zealand);
- 109.123 Lift the draconian restrictions on education and employment for women and girls (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 109.124 Take appropriate measures to reduce poverty and child malnutrition and improve access to drinking water and quality health services (Burundi);
- 109.125 Develop a comprehensive national health-care plan that would ensure women's and girls' access to health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health-care services (Slovenia);
- 109.126 Strengthen measures to improve access to health services, bearing in mind the special needs of women and girls (Senegal);
- 109.127 Support efforts made to promote and protect children's rights, especially those related to education and health (Libya);
- 109.128 Ensure that, wherever possible, without delay, there is equal access to education, health-care services and basic necessities, particularly for the most vulnerable groups within the country, including those in the most rural areas (Malaysia);
- 109.129 Continue working with the United Nations machinery, international organizations and other Member States in providing access to all sectors of education for women and girls (Malaysia);
- 109.130 Reverse immediately all discriminatory edicts, particularly those that prohibit women's and girls' access to education and employment and ban their presence in public spaces (United States of America);
- 109.131 Repeal all laws and policies that prohibit girls and women from enjoying secondary and higher education (Indonesia);
- 109.132 Repeal legislation at the national and local levels that impede women's and girls' right to an education (Malta);
- 109.133 Revoke all discriminatory restrictions on girls' schooling and ensure equal and equitable access to quality education (Norway);
- 109.134 Lift the restrictions on girls' education (Türkiye);
- 109.135 Take all measures to ensure girls' access to education (Malawi);
- 109.136 Guarantee access to education for all children, without discrimination, by making the learning environment more favourable and reducing the dangers associated with the school journey (Morocco);
- 109.137 Ensure that all children and youth, boys and girls, can access quality education at all levels and that schools are free from violence, threats, closures and attacks (Belgium);
- 109.138 Improve access to education, particularly for women and girls (Senegal);
- 109.139 Ensure that women and girls have equal and full access to all levels of education, including secondary and tertiary (Switzerland);

- 109.140 Ensure equal access to education for women and girls and combat harmful practices such as early and forced marriage (Uruguay);
- 109.141 Expand access to education for all children, focusing on rebuilding schools and reducing barriers in rural areas (Gambia);
- 109.142 Ensure equal, inclusive and equitable access to education without discrimination and in line with international standards (Iceland);
- 109.143 Take effective steps to overcome the social, economic and cultural obstacles that girls are exposed to in obtaining and continuing education (Kuwait);
- 109.144 Respect, protect and fulfil the right to education of women and girls (Portugal);
- 109.145 Ensure the participation of girls and women in the fields of education and employment (Burundi);
- 109.146 Re-establish equal, inclusive and equitable access to education for women and girls at all levels, in line with standards of accessibility, acceptability and adaptability (Chile);
- 109.147 Ensure equal access to quality education for all children, including access to education for girls at all levels in all regions of the country (Estonia);
- 109.148 Re-establish equal, inclusive and equitable access to education without discrimination and in line with international standards (Germany);
- 109.149 Work to integrate human rights into the educational process in order to promote a culture of human rights (Morocco);
- 109.150 Reinstate the literacy programme for the entire Afghan population (Morocco);
- 109.151 Guarantee equal access for women and girls to studies at all levels and disciplines, as well as to all sources of employment (Mexico);
- 109.152 Restore equal access to quality education for girls and women at all levels, allow schools and universities to accept female students on all courses and reinstate female teachers (Colombia);
- 109.153 Reinstate the literacy programmes for Afghans and reinstate equal access to quality education for girls and women at all levels of education (Dominican Republic);
- 109.154 Ensure the participation of women and girls in education, vocational training and employment in both the public and the private sectors (Mongolia);
- 109.155 Ensure the participation of women in education, vocational training and employment, in both the public and the private sectors (Colombia);
- 109.156 Strengthen efforts to promote economic and social development by creating economic opportunities, providing basic necessities and increasing participation in capacity-building programmes offered by individual Member States and the regional and international community (Malaysia);
- 109.157 Cease all forms of institutionalized discrimination against women and girls and eliminate all prohibitions, discriminatory practices and unequal treatment, in accordance with international human rights law (Chile);
- 109.158 End all discrimination and restrictions on the rights of women and girls (Albania);
- 109.159 End institutionalized and systematic oppression and discrimination against women and girls (Iceland);
- 109.160 End all forms of discrimination and other violations of the human rights of women and girls (Sweden);

- 109.161 **Take measures to restore respect for the rights of women and girls in Afghanistan and to combat and eradicate all forms of oppression (Bulgaria);**
- 109.162 **Remove all discriminatory restrictions on and barriers to the rights of women and girls (Estonia);**
- 109.163 **Bring to an end, without delay, all violations against women and girls and most fundamental rights and freedoms and rescind all discriminatory edicts and instructions issued since August 2021 that specifically target women and girls (Brazil);**
- 109.164 **Repeal all legislation that violates international standards and guarantee women and girls their human rights (Malta);**
- 109.165 **Rescind all discriminatory edicts and instructions that are specifically directed towards women and girls (Holy See);**
- 109.166 **Reverse all decrees and edicts that violate the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls (Iceland);**
- 109.167 **Rescind all bans, discriminatory edicts and harmful practices introduced since August 2021 that specifically target women and girls (Montenegro);**
- 109.168 **Reverse immediately all restrictions on the human rights of women and girls (Australia);**
- 109.169 **Reverse laws, policies and practices that violate women's and girls' rights, including all forms of violence (Finland);**
- 109.170 **Reverse laws and policies on the unacceptable repression of women's and girls' rights and take steps to enable their full, equal, meaningful and safe participation in all spheres of public life (Slovenia);**
- 109.171 **Take back all decrees limiting the fundamental rights and freedoms of women and girls guaranteed by the international conventions to which Afghanistan is a party (Germany);**
- 109.172 **Eliminate restrictions on and promote women's full, equal and meaningful participation in all aspects of social, political, economic, legal and public life, including by reopening secondary and university education for women and girls (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**
- 109.173 **Cease the persecution of women and girls and immediately remove restrictions on the rights of women and girls to access secondary and higher education, to work in the employment of their choice, including for aid organizations, and to freedom of movement and access to public spaces and services (Canada);**
- 109.174 **Take steps to ensure women's and girls' access to quality education and active participation in all aspects of public life and desist from committing threats or acts of violence, including arbitrary detention, sexual abuse and any form of torture, ill-treatment or punishment, against women and girls (Denmark);**
- 109.175 **Ensure women's active participation in all aspects of public and political life and desist from threatening or committing acts of violence, including arbitrary detention, sexual abuse and any form of torture, ill-treatment or punishment, against women and girls for allegedly violating the edicts or for protesting peacefully (Belgium);**
- 109.176 **Take concrete steps to protect and ensure women's participation in economic, social and political life in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Norway);**
- 109.177 **Develop and implement policies that guarantee the rights and non-discrimination of women and girls, including access to justice and education**

and meaningful participation in all aspects of life, stop harmful processes against women and girls and combat gender-based violence (Republic of Moldova);

109.178 Promote women's rights and gender equality, including through re-establishing access to education, and eliminate all forms of violence (Georgia);

109.179 Implement legal protections to enhance women's rights in the education, employment and political arenas (Gambia);

109.180 Support efforts to enhance the participation of Afghan women in peacemaking and peacebuilding processes (Qatar);

109.181 Cease all forms of violence against women and girls and end the policy of segregation towards them while respecting their fundamental rights and freedoms, including their rights to work and education, freedom of movement and freedom of expression, and access to all spheres of public life (France);

109.182 Restore full rights to Afghan women and girls, especially the right to education and access to health, protect them from gender violence and reintegrate women into the social and work life of the country, respecting the rights contained in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to which Afghanistan is a State party (Spain);

109.183 Maintain the basic human rights of the population, especially for women, such as education, representation, access to health care and freedom of movement (State of Palestine);

109.184 Consider adopting concrete measures to address violence and discrimination against women and girls in Afghanistan. This should include ensuring access to education, health care, legal protection and social services for all individuals (Algeria);

109.185 Immediately withdraw all measures that restrict the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by Afghan women and girls, including access to education and employment, and freedom of expression (Japan);

109.186 Remove misogynist restrictions and edicts and eliminate all barriers, restrictions and discriminatory practices that are based on gender and deny women and girls the exercise of their fundamental rights to education, employment, freedom of movement, peaceful assembly, freedom of expression, participation in public life and enjoyment of public spaces, culture and protection against domestic violence (Costa Rica);

109.187 End the prohibition on women working for the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and other entities, including public offices, as a first step towards ending prohibitions on all other forms of work (Switzerland);

109.188 Repeal the ban prohibiting Afghan women from studying with and working for non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies operating in Afghanistan (France);

109.189 Put an immediate end to violations and abuses of the human rights of women and girls, repeal discriminatory provisions against them in national legislation and respect their right to participate actively and on equal terms in all aspects of civic, economic, political and public life, including in particular in relation to their right to education (Argentina);

109.190 Continue to promote, support and protect women's rights through the implementation of effective policies and strategies to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women (Egypt);

109.191 Establish legislative frameworks that safeguard the rights of women and girls, including access to education, health care and economic opportunities, and implement policies aimed at combating gender-based violence and promoting gender equality (Cyprus);

109.192 Acknowledge that Afghan women and minorities are legitimate stakeholders of the country. They must be accorded every protection to enhance their effective participation in the country's reconstruction, future growth and development (Ghana);

109.193 Stop gender-based discrimination by putting an end to all discriminatory restrictions targeting women's and girls' rights, both in law and in practice, in line with Afghanistan's obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Romania);

109.194 Remove any barriers preventing women's and girls' freedom of movement and participation in society, including leaving home unattended, playing sports and visiting public areas (New Zealand);

109.195 Ensure compliance with its international human rights obligations, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, by revoking all discriminatory edicts and decrees issued since August 2021 that specifically target women and girls (Panama);

109.196 Restore the rights of women to employment and meaningful participation in the public and private sectors (Indonesia);

109.197 Lift the restrictions on women's right to work and right to participate in public and political affairs (Türkiye);

109.198 Guarantee women's right to work across all sectors, respecting their autonomy and the right to economic independence (Iceland);

109.199 Uphold the rights of women and girls, including full and equal access to education and work opportunities, lifting the bans currently in place (Italy);

109.200 End direct and indirect discrimination against women and girls and gender-based violence. Ensure equality before the law and access to justice for women and girls (Luxembourg);

109.201 Take all measures necessary to promote and protect the rights of women and girls (Malawi);

109.202 Introduce effective measures to eradicate all forms of violence and discriminatory restrictions against women and girls (Lithuania);

109.203 Take effective steps to prevent femicides, acts of violence, including arbitrary detention, sexual abuse and any form of torture, ill-treatment or punishment of women and girls, and to ensure the strengthening of gender equality through the removal of all bans and discriminatory practices (Liechtenstein);

109.204 End harmful practices against women and girls, including child marriage and forced marriage, and address and take further measures to prevent and end all forms of violence against women and girls (Mongolia);

109.205 Abolish national legislation that promotes practices and acts of gender violence and discrimination against women and girls (Paraguay);

109.206 Refrain from all forms of discrimination against women and girls and all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including sexual slavery and early and forced marriage (Czechia);

109.207 Accelerate progress regarding fighting gender-based violence, including domestic violence against women and girls (Estonia);

109.208 Criminalize all forms of gender-based violence (Portugal);

109.209 Ensure the prompt, independent and credible investigation and, as appropriate, prosecution of gender-based violence and cease detentions for so-called moral crimes (United States of America);

- 109.210 Increase efforts to effectively combat impunity related to acts of violence against women and prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish acts of discrimination perpetrated against women (Uruguay);
- 109.211 Investigate and appropriately prosecute all cases of violence against women and girls (New Zealand);
- 109.212 Take measures to prevent and investigate cases of violence against women and girls, protect female victims and hold perpetrators to account (Germany);
- 109.213 End all harmful practices against women and girls, including honour killings, public flogging and stoning, and child, early and forced marriage (Iceland);
- 109.214 Prevent early marriage and child marriage (Burundi);
- 109.215 Protect the rights of children and take all necessary measures to end and prevent grave violations against them (Italy);
- 109.216 Prohibit all forms of discrimination and violence against children, especially girls, including by reinstating the law on protection of child rights and ensuring its full implementation (Slovenia);
- 109.217 Adopt concrete measures to end and prevent all grave violations against children, in particular the recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming of children, attacks on schools and hospitals and the denial of humanitarian access to children (Belgium);
- 109.218 End the illicit recruitment and use of children by armed forces and armed groups and stop and prevent all types of serious violations of their fundamental rights (Argentina);
- 109.219 Take measurable steps to prevent and end the recruitment of children by armed forces and ensure accountability for all perpetrators (Lithuania);
- 109.220 Take all necessary measures to combat all forms of violence against children, in particular recruitment and use of children in armed conflict (Georgia);
- 109.221 Adopt robust measures to protect children from harmful practices, including recruitment and use, forced labour, trafficking in persons, child marriage and *bacha bazi* (Panama);
- 109.222 Establish concrete measures to protect the human rights of boys and girls, including universal access to education and the prohibition of the practice of recruiting child soldiers (Paraguay);
- 109.223 Ensure the protection of the rights of the child by preventing sexual violence and harmful practices against children and child recruitment, as well as granting equal access to education for all (Romania);
- 109.224 Uphold the rights of the child, including protecting children from the impacts of the economic and humanitarian crises and working towards meeting their basic needs (Türkiye);
- 109.225 Exert efforts to ensure the effective protection of the rights of the child, notably the right to education of girls (Bulgaria);
- 109.226 Respect Security Council resolution 2593 (2021), in particular its provisions concerning the rights of women and children and the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the quest for an inclusive political solution (France);
- 109.227 Prohibit all forms of discrimination on the grounds of disability and guarantee equal and effective legal protection for the rights of persons with disabilities, especially women and girls (Finland);

- 109.228 **Provide education with a specific focus on children with disabilities (Dominican Republic);**
- 109.229 **Promote and protect the human rights of minorities (Australia);**
- 109.230 **Protect ethnic and religious minorities and reverse laws, policies and practices that discriminate against them (Finland);**
- 109.231 **Protect ethnic and religious minority communities and individuals and promote inclusion and non-discrimination in relation to them (Togo);**
- 109.232 **Recognize, respect and fulfil Afghanistan's international obligations under international human rights law, particularly towards women and girls, as well as persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, including Hazaras, Shias, Sufis and Sikhs (Luxembourg);**
- 109.233 **Expand significantly and enhance programmes and measures of protection for religious and ethnic minorities, ensuring their safe access to places of worship, as well as to educational institutions and basic health care, without fear of violence or discrimination (Holy See);**
- 109.234 **Allow and promote the political participation of all national or ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities, aimed at the integration of an inclusive and representative Government and moving towards national reconciliation (Mexico);**
- 109.235 **Take steps towards inclusive governance and promote social cohesion and the participation of all communities and minorities in public and political affairs (Türkiye);**
- 109.236 **Safeguard the rights of religious minorities in the country so that their members can be allowed to practise their faith freely and peacefully, and prevent any form of harassment, persecution or imprisonment (Brazil);**
- 109.237 **Investigate, identify and prosecute those responsible for human rights violations, including against ethnic and religious minorities (Albania);**
- 109.238 **Investigate and bring to justice those responsible for violence against minority communities (Germany);**
- 109.239 **Adopt the necessary measures to combat discrimination and violence motivated by sexual orientation and gender identity and expression (Mexico);**
- 109.240 **Adopt concrete measures to end discrimination and violence against people based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, sexual characteristics or gender expression, ensuring that incitement to hatred and attacks against these people are properly investigated (Chile);**
- 109.241 **End all forms of inhumane treatment of LGBTIQI+ persons, promptly investigate alleged abuses of their rights and hold perpetrators accountable (United States of America);**
- 109.242 **Cease discrimination against LGBTI people, ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities, including Hazaras, Sikhs and Ahmadis, and other marginalized groups (Canada);**
- 109.243 **Strengthen support for internally displaced persons by collaborating with international organizations and developing resettlement strategies (Gambia).**
110. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Afghanistan was headed by Dr. Nasir Ahmad ANDISHA, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Wahidullah WAISSI, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to Australia;
 - Mr. Naseer Ahmad FAIQ, Chargé d’Affaires at the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the UN in New York;
 - Ms. Shahgul REZAYEE, Former Member of Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan;
 - Ms. Anarkali HONARYAR, Former Senator in the Upper House of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan;
 - Mr. Mohibullah TAIB, Human Rights Counselor at the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in Geneva;
 - Dr. Aliya YILMAZ, Former Commissioner for Public Service of Afghanistan;
 - Ms. Nazifa HAQPAL, Activist and Academic;
 - Mrs. Nabila MOSLEH, Former Vice Minister of Afghan Women’s Affairs;
 - Dr. ALEMA, Former Deputy Minister of Refugees and Repatriation of Afghanistan;
 - Mr. Abdullah Ahmadi, Human Rights Defender and Representative of Civil Society;
 - Ms. Suraya AZIZI, Third Secretary at the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in Geneva.
-