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Universal periodic review

## Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\*

### Eritrea

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\* 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 Eritrea was held at the 12th meeting, on 6 May 2024. The delegation of Eritrea was headed by the First Secretary and Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Habtom Zerai Ghirmai. At its 17th meeting, held on 10 May 2024, the Working Group adopted the report on Eritrea.

2. On 10 January 2024, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Eritrea: Kuwait, Malawi and Romania.

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 Eritrea:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);<sup>1</sup>

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);<sup>2</sup>

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).<sup>3</sup>

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, Germany, Liechtenstein, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Eritrea 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 delegation stated that Eritrea firmly believed in the universality, indivisibility, interdependence, interrelatedness and mutually reinforcing nature of human rights. The third Health Sector Strategic Development Plan, 2022–2026, had been prepared and government programmes and policies were aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals to achieve universal health coverage. Substantial investments had been made in the public health sector, which had narrowed the health protection gaps. Improvements had been made in areas relating to maternal and newborn health. Maternity waiting homes had been constructed in health facilities for pregnant women who resided far from such facilities. Tremendous efforts had been made to ensure routine childhood vaccinations.

6. With an increase in health infrastructure and an elaborate network of all-weather rural roads, 70 per cent of the population currently lived within 5 kilometres of a functioning health facility. Health services were heavily subsidized, with most patients paying a nominal fee. They were free for the needy.

7. Infection prevention and control measures had been rolled out nationally, with therapeutic committees established in each hospital. The national disease burden had shifted from communicable diseases to non-communicable diseases. Cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and cancer had become the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in Eritrea. A major non-communicable diseases five year strategic plan and policy had been introduced in 2019.

<sup>1</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/46/ERI/1](#).

<sup>2</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/46/ERI/2](#).

<sup>3</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/46/ERI/3](#).

8. Education in Eritrea was free, from kindergarten to tertiary level, with primary education being compulsory. The literacy rate currently stood at 85 per cent, which had been achieved through the construction of new schools, revised curricula and enhancing the capacity of teachers. Complementary elementary education and nomadic education had been introduced, as had school feeding programmes in remote and disadvantaged areas to attract out-of-school children.
9. The National Union of Eritrean Women played a vital role in empowering women and ensuring the enforcement of national laws and policies that affected women. National mechanisms had been implemented to promote women's empowerment and facilitate their eligibility for decision-making roles.
10. Discrimination, abduction for marriage and female genital mutilation/cutting were prohibited in various national codes and proclamations. The national strategic plan to ensure children's and women's rights and abandon female genital mutilation/cutting and underage marriage, 2020–2024, provided for actions to eradicate harmful practices such as female genital mutilation/cutting and underage marriage.
11. Agriculture was the primary livelihood for around 65 per cent of the rural population. The Government had taken several initiatives to enhance food and nutrition security, including the construction of dams.
12. In 2021, the National Social Protection Policy and Strategic Plan for 2022–2026 had been adopted, providing a road map to address socioeconomic vulnerabilities and insecurity. A comprehensive national mechanism to safeguard the rights and welfare of children had been implemented and included the establishment of 1,047 committees to report and address violations of children's rights and the conducting of training programmes on child-friendly justice. Significant steps had been taken to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, including revising the comprehensive National Policy for Persons with Disabilities in 2021, raising awareness of the Policy and ensuring its effective implementation across all sectors.
13. Besides being a signatory to many conventions, in 2015 Eritrea had promulgated Proclamation No. 177/2015 to protect its national cultural and natural heritage. That legislative milestone had emphasized the importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and recognized its potential contribution to sustainable development.
14. Article 3 of Proclamation No. 73/1995 recognized that members of religions and religious institutions had the right to practise their spiritual activities. However, those spiritual activities must not disturb the peace, security and unity of the State and its citizens.
15. Several measures had been implemented to improve citizens' access to information, including through various media outlets and radio programmes. New satellite technology called Medium Earth Orbit provided faster Internet speeds and lower latency.
16. Juveniles in custody were held separately from adults. If found guilty, juveniles were subject to special disciplinary measures, such as admission to a rehabilitation institution and supervised education. In addition, the probation service provided counselling and supported the juveniles' integration into schools and communities. Several initiatives were under way to introduce a restorative justice model for juveniles.
17. Efforts had been made to safeguard the rights of detainees. Police stations and detention facilities were regularly inspected. Major prison facilities had their own health services, which were equipped with basic laboratories and staffed by nurses to address basic health-care needs. In addition, seven detention centres had dedicated health facilities. For more severe health issues, detainees were referred to national health-care facilities and hospitals. All prisons provided regular education programmes. Inmates were free to exercise their religious beliefs in accordance with the prison management regulations.
18. National legislation was based on core principles that prioritized human dignity and protected fundamental rights. Eritrea was committed to creating a society that was just and equal.
19. Eritrea pursued a mixed economic model in which both the State and the private sector contributed to national development. Priority was given to short and medium-term

development plans, such as the five-year Indicative National Development Plan, and executed through comprehensive sectoral plans and annual plans.

20. Eritrea was a member of the International Organization for Migration and had ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Trafficking was criminalized under the Transitional Penal Code and the Government had actively participated in international and national anti-trafficking initiatives. A steering committee continued to work closely under the auspices of the Better Migration Management Programme to assist migrants, trafficking victims and vulnerable groups.

21. Eritrea had submitted its sixth periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, its combined second and third periodic reports on the implementation of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, and its combined second and third periodic reports on the implementation of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. Eritrea had also signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for 2022–2026 and had submitted voluntary national reports.

22. Efforts to establish stability in the Horn of Africa and promote peace, security and cooperation had made progress in the past two decades, despite ongoing challenges. Eritrea had activated its membership in the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and had resumed its contributions to and participation in the Authority's work.

23. As a least developed country, Eritrea had faced multiple challenges, such as recurrent drought caused by the continuous effects of climate change, which had had an impact on the availability of a reliable and secure food supply, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the recurrent inter-State and intra-State conflicts occurring in the Horn of Africa. For almost a decade, Eritrea had sustained United Nations Security Council sanctions and unilateral coercive measures, which had affected its development trajectories. Owing to those challenges, 19 of the recommendations from the previous review had not been implemented.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

24. During the interactive dialogue, 98 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

25. Lesotho acknowledged the steps Eritrea had taken to achieve the highest attainable standard of health and to enhance access to education, particularly for vulnerable groups.

26. Liechtenstein made recommendations.

27. Lithuania expressed concern at the practices of indefinite national service and the conscription of children, noting that they led to other human rights violations.

28. Luxembourg welcomed the delegation of Eritrea and made recommendations.

29. Madagascar commended Eritrea for its accession to international instruments and progress achieved at the regional level, notably within the framework of Agenda 2063 of the African Union.

30. Malawi noted the efforts made to implement recommendations from the previous review, improvement in access to education and the development of social protection policies.

31. Malaysia stated that the continued attention of Eritrea to the full implementation of recommendations from the previous review and the resolution of human rights challenges remained vital.

32. Maldives welcomed the Government's strategies to enhance access to education, including by expanding existing schools.

33. Mali welcomed measures taken to improve access to schools for children with disabilities and to empower women through job creation.

34. Malta expressed concern at reports of intimidation, attacks and arbitrary detention amounting to enforced disappearance of journalists, political dissidents and members of religious communities.
35. Mauritania welcomed the measures taken to improve the quality of and expand access to education, and in the area of development.
36. Mexico noted efforts aimed at improving access to education, health and other basic services.
37. Montenegro called for additional efforts to eliminate harmful practices such as female genital mutilation and reiterated its call from the previous review to prevent the recruitment of children into the military.
38. Nepal appreciated the implementation of Indicative National Development Plan and efforts made to increase access to education and health care.
39. The Kingdom of the Netherlands expressed alarm at the continuation of indefinite and involuntary conscription for national service.
40. Nigeria encouraged continued efforts to ensure the full realization of human rights and noted commendable initiatives in the areas of health care, education and infrastructure development.
41. Norway expressed deep concern about the human rights situation in Eritrea.
42. Oman welcomed the efforts made by Eritrea to promote peace in the Horn of Africa.
43. Panama appreciated the presentation by Eritrea of its national report.
44. Paraguay appreciated the efforts made in the area of health care and the development of the National Social Protection Policy.
45. The Philippines acknowledged the efforts of Eritrea to improve public health services and enhance access to education.
46. Poland noted the efforts made by Eritrea to implement supported recommendations from the previous review and encouraged further action to improve the human rights situation.
47. Portugal thanked Eritrea for the presentation of its national report.
48. The Russian Federation noted efforts to ensure equal access to education and medical services and welcomed the restriction on the use of the death penalty.
49. Saudi Arabia noted the efforts made by Eritrea to promote human rights, including efforts to ensure access to inclusive education for children with disabilities.
50. Senegal welcomed the efforts made to establish an inclusive educational system.
51. Sierra Leone commended Eritrea for providing free education and welcomed the efforts to build schools in rural areas.
52. Singapore noted commendable progress in improving access to basic health-care services and welcomed the updated national policy for persons with disabilities.
53. Slovakia noted little change in the human rights situation in Eritrea and expressed concern about the indefinite and mandatory nature of national service.
54. Slovenia remained concerned by reports of torture, overcrowded and unsanitary detention conditions, human rights violations related to national service, and restrictions on journalists and human rights defenders.
55. Somalia thanked Eritrea for its comprehensive national report.
56. South Africa acknowledged the efforts made to align the health policy with the Sustainable Development Goals, as reflected in the review of Health Sector Strategic Development Plan.
57. Spain expressed concern about the lack of substantial progress in the protection of human rights in Eritrea.

58. In response to questions submitted in advance of the review, the delegation of Eritrea stated that the allegations of crimes and human rights abuses committed by the Eritrean Defence Forces in the northern part of Ethiopia were baseless.

59. A detailed study within the national context would be undertaken to assess the feasibility of ratifying additional international human rights conventions. Mere ratification of the conventions would not guarantee the realization of their intended objectives, and robust domestic legislation, institutional mechanisms and adequate resource were required to fulfil reporting obligations and other compliance measures. While international conventions served as important guiding principles, Eritrea emphasized the primacy of its national laws and policies in safeguarding the rights and well-being of its citizens. The Government remained committed to upholding human rights standards and continued to strengthen its domestic legal and institutional framework to address the specific needs and circumstances of the country.

60. Eritrea was opposed to country-specific mandates that did not enjoy the support of the country concerned. Eritrea viewed such mandates as politically motivated and serving narrow interests. The reports of the defunct commission of inquiry on human rights in Eritrea and those of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea were based on unverified allegations and lacked impartiality and objectivity. They also placed disproportionate emphasis on civil and political rights while neglecting economic, social and cultural rights. Eritrea was concerned that those mandates contributed to the politicization of human rights.

61. The death penalty remained applicable for serious crimes and the Transitional Penal Code outlined strict criteria for its application. No death sentences had been handed down since November 2011 and the death sentence had not been carried out since May 1999.

62. Eritrea had embarked on a comprehensive legal reform process with the aim of creating a legal framework that promoted sustainable development and benefited all sectors of society. Proclamation No. 184/2023 had been issued to that end, repealing all previous proclamations on the hierarchy and jurisdiction of the courts and establishing a new specialized bench.

63. National service was an important pillar of the nation-building process. The national service programme was not limited to the military sector, but was integrated across all sectors, and therefore could not be described as conscription. The objective was to raise awareness, promote social integration and strengthen national unity.

64. Sri Lanka noted the positive impact of the investment made in the public health system.

65. The Sudan welcomed the adoption of the National Social Protection Policy, the third Health Sector Strategic Development Plan and the strategy to enhance access to justice.

66. Sweden expressed concern about the human rights situation in Eritrea and the lack of cooperation with the wider United Nations human rights system.

67. Switzerland thanked the delegation of Eritrea for the presentation of its national report.

68. The Syrian Arab Republic noted the progress made in strengthening the institutional and legislative framework for human rights and for development.

69. Togo welcomed the integration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into the national health policy, which emphasized universal health coverage.

70. Tunisia noted the measures taken to enhance access to education, health care and care for persons with disabilities.

71. Uganda commended Eritrea for achieving milestones in the implementation of recommendations from the previous review.

72. Ukraine expressed concern about the human rights record in Eritrea and the State's close cooperation with other States that engaged in systemic human rights violations.

73. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland stated that meaningful change was urgently needed to fully protect human rights and stood ready to assist Eritrea in that regard.
74. The United Republic of Tanzania noted the progress made in harmonizing legislation with ratified instruments and in strengthening governance at the grass-roots level.
75. The United States of America reiterated its call for accountability for crimes committed in Ethiopia by members of the Eritrean Defence Forces.
76. Uruguay wished Eritrea success in the fourth cycle of the universal periodic review.
77. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the financial investment made by Eritrea in the health system and the increased access to education.
78. Viet Nam noted efforts to restore peace and stability and promote socioeconomic development, which created the basis for human rights protection.
79. Yemen appreciated the efforts made by Eritrea to enhance health care, improve access to education across regions and provide social care for vulnerable groups.
80. Zambia noted the ratification of international instruments, including the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).
81. Algeria noted the efforts made to promote the rights to health, education, food security and social protection, despite the challenges faced by Eritrea.
82. Argentina thanked the delegation of Eritrea for the presentation of its national report.
83. Armenia recognized the development of the National Policy on Gender and Action Plan and the willingness to engage with human rights mechanisms.
84. Australia expressed concern about reports of human rights violations. It called for an official moratorium on the death penalty.
85. Austria expressed concern about the lack of progress in ensuring civic space and the rule of law.
86. Azerbaijan welcomed measures taken to address the gender disparity in education by creating equal educational opportunities in rural and remote areas.
87. Belarus noted the efforts made to increase access to health care, protect vulnerable groups and ensure socioeconomic development, despite the imposition of unilateral coercive measures.
88. Belgium called on Eritrea to engage with all United Nations human rights mechanisms, especially as it was a member of the Human Rights Council.
89. Botswana urged Eritrea to reconsider the position taken on the recommendations it had made during the previous review and welcomed the mechanisms promoting the empowerment of women.
90. Brazil noted the improvements in ensuring access to health care and encouraged Eritrea to cooperate with international human rights mechanisms.
91. Bulgaria noted the efforts made to ensure access to education. It was alarmed by the restrictions on fundamental freedoms and the suppression of civil society.
92. Burkina Faso welcomed the national strategic plan to guarantee women's and children's rights and various workshops on the elimination of harmful practices.
93. Burundi noted the improvements made in the judicial system, in the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and of children and in combating trafficking in persons.
94. Cameroon was encouraged by the efforts to protect human rights, particularly in the areas of economic, social and cultural rights.
95. Canada noted that deep concerns persisted over broad restrictions on human rights, including the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

96. Chile noted the efforts made to empower women and protect the safety of children through the national reporting and advisory mechanisms.
97. China welcomed the efforts made to increase access to health care and education, and to promote economic and social rights.
98. Colombia welcomed the progress achieved in the field of human rights since the previous review cycle.
99. Costa Rica noted the progress made in ensuring access to universal health coverage.
100. Côte d'Ivoire appreciated the efforts made to improve access to education for girls and encouraged Eritrea to pursue its efforts to guarantee the rule of law.
101. Cuba noted the efforts made to protect human rights and the achievements in the areas of health care and education.
102. Czechia appreciated the efforts made to guarantee the right to education. It expressed regret that the recommendations it had made in the previous review had not been implemented.
103. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea noted the strengthening of the legislative and institutional frameworks and increased access to health care and education.
104. The Democratic Republic of the Congo noted the ratification of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).
105. Denmark expressed regret at the lack of implementation of the recommendations from United Nations human rights mechanisms and urged Eritrea to cooperate fully with those mechanisms.
106. The Dominican Republic noted the progress made in enhancing access to education and in strengthening the health-care system.
107. Egypt noted the efforts made by Eritrea to improve the protection of human rights, including in the areas of health, education, women's and children's rights and judiciary reform.
108. Equatorial Guinea noted the progress made in the areas of education, health care, support for persons with disabilities and persons living with HIV/AIDS, and women's empowerment.
109. Estonia urged Eritrea to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on Eritrea and with other human rights mechanisms.
110. Ethiopia noted the efforts made to implement recommendations from the previous review and to promote human rights in an inclusive manner.
111. France noted the progress made in enhancing access to health care and protecting women's rights, including efforts to end female genital mutilation and early marriage.
112. Gabon noted the tangible progress made in the area of public health and in addressing gender disparities in access to education.
113. The Gambia noted the efforts made to foster an inclusive and accessible education system through compulsory free primary education and the nomadic education programme.
114. Georgia expressed concern at the unimplemented recommendations from the previous review, the limited cooperation of Eritrea with United Nations human rights mechanisms and the high rate of gender-based violence.
115. Germany noted the lack of improvement in the human rights situation, especially in relation to civil and political freedoms, national service and detention.
116. Ghana noted the efforts made to improve access to health care and ensure food security, including through sustainable agricultural programmes.
117. Iceland welcomed the delegation of Eritrea and noted the presentation of its national report.



118. India noted the measures taken to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, improve health-care facilities and empower women.
119. Indonesia noted the improvements in key public sectors, particularly health care, and the positive impact of socioeconomic policies on vulnerable sectors of society.
120. The Islamic Republic of Iran noted the achievements of Eritrea in protecting human rights, despite the imposition of unilateral coercive measures on the country.
121. Iraq welcomed the plan and strategies introduced to promote human rights in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals.
122. Ireland expressed concern about the obligatory indefinite national service and about restrictions on the freedoms of assembly and association.
123. Italy noted the commitment of Eritrea to combating female genital mutilation and other forms of gender-based violence.
124. Japan noted the efforts made to submit the periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
125. Kyrgyzstan appreciated the engagement of Eritrea with the universal periodical review mechanism.
126. The Lao People's Democratic Republic noted the progress made by Eritrea in the implementation of the recommendations from the previous review.
127. Latvia welcomed the delegation of Eritrea to the Working Group on the Universal Periodical Review.
128. Pakistan noted the institutional arrangements in place to implement supported recommendations and the commendable progress made in health care, education and agricultural modernization.
129. The delegation of Eritrea stated that the National Coordination Body was led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and composed of various government ministries and institutions. Its role was to facilitate reporting and follow-up with all regional and international human rights mechanisms. It functioned as a de facto national mechanism for reporting and follow-up.
130. Older persons were held in high esteem in Eritrean society. Institutional care facilities for older persons were not widely supported as they conflicted with the traditional belief in the family's role in caring for older persons.
131. Eritrea remained committed to multilateralism and, contrary to assertions made, it remained committed to dignified engagement and international cooperation based on genuine partnership.

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

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

- 132.1 **Ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Lesotho);**
- 132.2 **Consider ratifying the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Senegal);**
- 132.3 **Finalize the ratification of the Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960) (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**
- 132.4 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in its 2010 version (Liechtenstein);**
- 132.5 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (France) (Luxembourg);**

- 132.6 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Liechtenstein);
- 132.7 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Madagascar);
- 132.8 Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Togo);
- 132.9 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Brazil);
- 132.10 Invite the United Nations Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment for a country visit, ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and establish an independent national preventive mechanism (Czechia);
- 132.11 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark);
- 132.12 Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ghana);
- 132.13 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Malawi) (Maldives) (Malta);
- 132.14 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Mexico);
- 132.15 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Panama);
- 132.16 Ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Colombia);
- 132.17 Finalize the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- 132.18 Consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Gabon) (Japan);
- 132.19 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Malawi);
- 132.20 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Malta);
- 132.21 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as well as the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (France);
- 132.22 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Poland);
- 132.23 Withdraw the reservations made to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and consider acceding to its Optional Protocol (Italy);

132.24 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Paraguay);**

132.25 **Implement measures to respect the provisions established in the Convention against Torture and consider acceding to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay);**

132.26 **Continue to implement measures to uphold its obligations under the international human rights treaties to which it is a State party (Japan);**

132.27 **Ratify key human rights treaties such as the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Gambia);**

132.28 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia) (Germany);**

132.29 **Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);**

132.30 **Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Nepal);**

132.31 **Ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, as previously recommended (Armenia);**

132.32 **Ratify all human rights treaties to which Eritrea is not yet a party, in particular the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Argentina);**

132.33 **Fully implement the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and improve the conditions of persons in detention (Germany);**

132.34 **Ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Togo);**

132.35 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Chile);**

132.36 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of death penalty, and take appropriate legislative measures to abolish the death penalty (Ukraine);**

132.37 **Consider the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Togo);**

132.38 **Fully cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and give access to the United Nations special procedure mandate holders to verify, report and advise on the human rights situation (Norway);**

132.39 **Actively build dialogue and cooperate with United Nations bodies and mechanisms (Kyrgyzstan);**

132.40 **Issue a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);**

132.41 **Engage and cooperate with all the United Nations special procedure mandate holders, including by granting them free, full and unhindered access (Lithuania);**

- 132.42 Extend standing invitations to the mandate holders and special procedures of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Lesotho);
- 132.43 Extend a standing invitation to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea and to all special procedures, and cooperate fully with OHCHR (Germany);
- 132.44 Engage constructively with the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea as well as with human rights mechanisms and organizations and implement recommendations made by these mandates (Liechtenstein);
- 132.45 Constructively engage with the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea as well as with other human rights mechanisms and organizations (Montenegro);
- 132.46 Engage constructively with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea as well as other human rights mechanisms and organizations and grant them unhindered access (Austria);
- 132.47 Constructively engage with the Special Rapporteur on Eritrea and other human rights mechanisms and organizations (Georgia);
- 132.48 Allow the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea full access to the country, and fully cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Portugal);
- 132.49 Cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea through enabling access to the country and to information and accepting offers of support (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 132.50 Grant access to and cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea (Bulgaria);
- 132.51 Grant access to and cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea (Estonia);
- 132.52 Constructively engage with international human rights mechanisms, including United Nations special procedures, and grant them access to the country (Poland);
- 132.53 Allow access to the special procedures, particularly the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea (Ireland);
- 132.54 Cooperate with international human rights mechanisms, including by allowing visits from, and engaging in dialogue with, United Nations special procedure mandate holders (Sweden);
- 132.55 Cooperate with all Human Rights Council mechanisms, in particular by inviting special procedure mandate holders for country visits (Switzerland);
- 132.56 Allow country visits by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea and cooperate with international human rights mechanisms (United States of America);
- 132.57 Allow a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea (Colombia);
- 132.58 Accept requests for visits to the country from the United Nations Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, as well as from the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (Uruguay);
- 132.59 Collaborate with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council and with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, allowing visits and technical reports (Argentina);

- 132.60 **Maintain full cooperation with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, demonstrating commitment to upholding human rights standards and fulfilling international obligations (Sierra Leone);**
- 132.61 **Continue to strengthen the cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Somalia);**
- 132.62 **Continue to bolster its cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (South Africa);**
- 132.63 **Ensure the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea has unhindered access to Eritrea, and develop a strategy to address areas of concern that reflect recommendations made by special procedure mandate holders (Canada);**
- 132.64 **Cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea (Latvia);**
- 132.65 **Continue reforming its national legal framework for ensuring its compliance with the provisions of the international and regional human rights instruments (United Republic of Tanzania);**
- 132.66 **Continue to reform its constitutional and legislative framework to ensure compliance with international and regional human rights instruments (Viet Nam);**
- 132.67 **Accelerate reforms of its national legal framework to enhance its compliance with the provisions of international and regional human rights instruments (Ghana);**
- 132.68 **Continue to build a national legal system that is aligned with its international human rights obligations (Philippines);**
- 132.69 **Continue efforts to strengthen the institutional human rights structure (Egypt);**
- 132.70 **Continue efforts to strengthen the legal and institutional frameworks for the promotion and protection of human rights in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Nepal);**
- 132.71 **Pursue its efforts to guarantee wider the rights of certain categories of people like women, children, migrants and persons with disabilities (Burkina Faso);**
- 132.72 **Conduct investigations into respect for human rights within the framework of military periods of national service of indefinite duration (France);**
- 132.73 **Promote human rights infrastructure and its national institutions (Somalia);**
- 132.74 **Establish an independent national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Zambia);**
- 132.75 **Redouble efforts to create a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 132.76 **Set up a national human rights institution to promote and protect human rights in line with the Paris Principles (Gambia);**
- 132.77 **Establish an independent national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Georgia);**
- 132.78 **Set up a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Cameroon);**
- 132.79 **Bolster efforts to ensure effective engagement with the treaty bodies by preparing State party reports on the human rights treaties ratified by the Government (Lesotho);**

- 132.80 Establish a transparent mechanism to ensure the implementation of the recommendations accepted by Eritrea during this universal periodic review, as well as those from previous cycles, for example with the technical support of OHCHR (Switzerland);
- 132.81 Introduce a specific legal definition of “discrimination against women” based on international standards in all appropriate legislation (Malta);
- 132.82 Adopt an extensive definition of discrimination against women and repeal all discriminatory provisions of laws against certain religions, and end the practices of female genital mutilation and child marriage (Costa Rica);
- 132.83 Redouble efforts to promote gender equality, women’s empowerment and the elimination of discrimination and of all forms of violence against women and girls (Philippines);
- 132.84 Continue its efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against children, particularly girls, ethnic minorities and nomadic communities (Cameroon);
- 132.85 Take steps to establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing it (Liechtenstein);
- 132.86 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing it (Lithuania);
- 132.87 Establish an official moratorium on the death penalty with the aim of abolishing it in the future (Chile);
- 132.88 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Luxembourg);
- 132.89 Declare an official moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Madagascar);
- 132.90 Introduce legislation to permanently abolish the death penalty (Malta);
- 132.91 Adopt legislative measures to abolish the death penalty and declare a moratorium on executions (Paraguay);
- 132.92 Abolish the death penalty (Portugal);
- 132.93 Advance in the legal abolition of the death penalty (Spain);
- 132.94 Formalize a moratorium on the application of the death penalty, as a key step towards the subsequent abolition of the death penalty (Switzerland);
- 132.95 Implement measures to 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);
- 132.96 Promote the abolition of the death penalty in the country (Colombia);
- 132.97 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 (France);
- 132.98 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);
- 132.99 Investigate all allegations of torture, including through the establishment of an independent mechanism and, where appropriate, prosecute and punish perpetrators, and take effective measures to prevent torture (Liechtenstein);

132.100 Ensure that all security and paramilitary forces in the country are held accountable for their actions, and promptly investigate all allegations of ill-treatment, torture and disappearance (Malta);

132.101 End the practices of arbitrary arrest, indefinite detention, torture and ill-treatment of detainees and release human rights defenders and political prisoners, including journalists and members of religious groups held on account of their beliefs or affiliations (Norway);

132.102 Put an end to the practice of torture and ill-treatment (Ukraine);

132.103 Release or bring before a court all persons detained without a charge and ensure the full respect of international standards in the treatment of detainees (Sweden);

132.104 Release or bring before a court all persons detained without a charge, respect international standards in the treatment of detainees and ensure there are no arbitrary arrests or incommunicado detention (Belgium);

132.105 End arbitrary arrests and prolonged detention without charge and trial (France);

132.106 Immediately end the practice of arbitrary arrest, detention and imprisonment, including indefinite incommunicado deprivation of liberty, and ensure compliance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) (Ireland);

132.107 Release individuals who are arbitrarily detained, including those detained indefinitely, for exercising freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly, or religion or belief, including the inability to conscientiously object to Eritrea's compulsory, indefinite national service (United States of America);

132.108 Stop the arrest or arbitrary detention of Eritreans for their real or perceived opposition to the Government and immediately and unconditionally release all those unlawfully and arbitrarily detained (Austria);

132.109 Limit the length of mandatory military and national service to a maximum period of 18 months, in accordance with international standards (Slovakia);

132.110 Continue to work actively to improve the functioning of the penitentiary system, including prison conditions, as well as to improve national legal remedies (Russian Federation);

132.111 Continue to strengthen measures to improve the conditions of prisoners, in accordance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) (South Africa);

132.112 Maintain and strengthen efforts to promote regional peace and security, with a particular focus on the Horn of Africa (Sierra Leone);

132.113 Restrict the use of force by the police against demonstrators and guarantee the right to participate in public and political life (Colombia);

132.114 Put an end to the practice of enforced disappearance and investigate all cases of enforced disappearance of women and children (Costa Rica);

132.115 Investigate the findings made by the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia regarding international crimes committed by Eritrean forces on the territory of Ethiopia, including in Tigray (Luxembourg);

132.116 Collaborate with Ethiopia in the analysis of human rights violations committed during the war, assume responsibility for the crimes committed and compensate the victims (Spain);

- 132.117 Investigate allegations of human rights violations and violations of international humanitarian law committed by the Eritrean armed forces in the context of the conflict with Ethiopia (Costa Rica);
- 132.118 Immediately withdraw its troops from northern Ethiopia to end human rights violations committed by the Eritrean Defence Forces accountable for human rights violations in Tigray, including conflict-related sexual violence (Canada);
- 132.119 Adopt measures to prevent and combat terrorism, and ensure that these measures are fully compatible with its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Ghana);
- 132.120 Implement the Constitution proposed by President Isaias over a decade ago, involving the participation of an elected legislature, independent media and a free and open civil society (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 132.121 Resume the process of revising the 1997 Constitution (Colombia);
- 132.122 Cooperate fully with the Human Rights Council's Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea and work with the United Nations to reform the administration of justice (Luxembourg);
- 132.123 Implement a transitional justice process to investigate allegations of human rights violations such as torture, enforced disappearances and sexual violence and compensate victims and their families (Luxembourg);
- 132.124 Implement and strengthen comprehensive legal reforms to improve access to justice for all citizens and ensure the fairness and efficiency of the system (Nigeria);
- 132.125 Explore the establishment of a public defender's office to provide pro bono legal services, particularly to juveniles and persons who cannot afford legal representation (Sierra Leone);
- 132.126 Intensify efforts to investigate all credible allegations of crimes and human rights violations committed by the Eritrean armed forces in the context of the conflict in Ethiopia and take concrete measures to ensure access to justice for all victims and accountability for all perpetrators (Ukraine);
- 132.127 Ensure the full independence and impartiality of the judiciary and that the jurisdiction of military courts is limited to military personnel (Zambia);
- 132.128 Tackle impunity for past and ongoing human rights violations and abuses and ensure access to independent and qualified justice and due process rights to all (Belgium);
- 132.129 Strengthen institutions that promote the rule of law and ensure that justice administrators are independent, professional and qualified and guarantee that military courts only try military personnel, not civilians (Costa Rica);
- 132.130 Guarantee the independence of the judiciary and ensure the right to a fair trial for all individuals to maintain public trust in the judicial system (Gambia);
- 132.131 Put an end to all forms of reprisals against civil society inside and outside the country (Luxembourg);
- 132.132 Protect the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Norway);
- 132.133 Allow journalists, human rights defenders and civil society organizations to exercise their fundamental rights without threat or harassment and investigate and punish all cases of attacks against them (Slovenia);
- 132.134 Take concrete measures to ensure full respect for the rights to freedom of expression and opinion (Sweden);



132.135 Allow independent civil society organizations to operate, starting with youth, women's, persons with disabilities, and sports organizations (United States of America);

132.136 Protect freedom of expression, lift media censorship, release imprisoned journalists and protect journalists from arbitrary detention (Czechia);

132.137 Repeal provisions restricting the freedom of the press, including the Press Proclamation, No. 90/1996, and establish mechanisms to protect journalists who are attacked in connection with their work (Mexico);

132.138 Unconditionally release all journalists, such as Dawit Isaak, and human rights defenders who have been arbitrarily detained, including incommunicado, for expressing opinions that are not in line with the Government's views and ensure that they can exercise their rights to freedom of expression, opinion and association (Kingdom of the Netherlands);

132.139 Ensure that journalists and human rights defenders can exercise their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly without intimidation, threats, violence or discrimination (Belgium);

132.140 Fully guarantee to its citizens the exercise of the rights to freedom of expression, the press, peaceful assembly, association and religious freedom, which are severely restricted, and ensure a safe and conducive environment for the legitimate activity of journalists, human rights defenders and opposition members (Spain);

132.141 Take the necessary measures to ensure a safe and enabling environment for civil society to play a role in political, economic and social life through, inter alia, the repeal of the 2005 Proclamation to Determine the Administration of Non-governmental Organizations (Mexico);

132.142 Repeal Proclamation No. 145/2005, which directly hinders the operations of non-governmental organizations, to ensure full compliance with its international human rights obligations, including articles 19 and 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Denmark);

132.143 Review and amend the legislation on freedom of opinion and expression to ensure it is in compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia);

132.144 End the practice of unlimited national service and establish provisions for conscientious objection to military service (Germany);

132.145 Release persons detained for political reasons and refrain from restricting the freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association, as well as the freedom of religion or belief (Germany);

132.146 Take measures to protect the rights of journalists and human rights defenders, release those detained for exercising their rights, and cease the use of enforced disappearances, torture, and arbitrary and indefinite detention (Canada);

132.147 Ensure the full enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief and guarantee the freedoms of opinion and expression (Italy);

132.148 Recognize the right of conscientious objection to military service and establish an alternative service of civilian nature for conscientious objectors (Panama);

132.149 Organize periodic and genuine multiparty elections in accordance with international democratic standards and invite international organizations to observe the elections (Czechia);

132.150 Redouble efforts to combat the prevalence of child marriage and establish a ban on corporal punishment of children (Paraguay);

- 132.151 Ensure the effective implementation of articles 581 and 607 of its Transitional Civil Code and continue to address the root causes of child marriage (South Africa);
- 132.152 Strengthen the legal framework and policies to guarantee the equal rights of men and women in marriage (Uganda);
- 132.153 Take steps to abolish the registration of marriages at the end of national service (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 132.154 Redouble its efforts to combat trafficking in persons (Gabon);
- 132.155 Continue its efforts to combat trafficking in persons (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 132.156 Continue to implement measures, including in collaboration with international partners, with a view to combating trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants (Belarus);
- 132.157 Limit military service in accordance with international standards and strictly adhere to the minimum recruitment age of 18 years (Luxembourg);
- 132.158 Limit the duration of compulsory national service to 18 months, in accordance with international standards, and ensure strict compliance with the minimum age of 18 years old for recruitment (Italy);
- 132.159 Reform the system of compulsory national service by prohibiting the recruitment of minors and establishing an alternative civilian service (Madagascar);
- 132.160 End indefinite national service (Estonia);
- 132.161 Amend the legislation in force governing mandatory military service to introduce limitations in its duration and for it not to be of indefinite term (Malta);
- 132.162 End the practice of national service beyond the statutory 18 months and begin a phased demobilization (Kingdom of the Netherlands);
- 132.163 Improve the conditions pertaining to national service, especially for women (Slovakia);
- 132.164 Investigate the social impact of national service, including developing schemes that promote access to employment following the completion of the mandated national service (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 132.165 Abolish the compulsory indefinite national service and ensure that the rights of those serving in the programme are protected (Austria);
- 132.166 Adhere transparently and credibly to the rules of its national military service, especially its maximum length of 18 months (Czechia)
- 132.167 Introduce legislation to prohibit the use of forced labour after national service (Australia);
- 132.168 Improve the employability of women in the formal sector and ensure the establishment of a social security system for vulnerable women (Sri Lanka);
- 132.169 Continue to enhance efforts aimed at sustainable socioeconomic progress for its people (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 132.170 Strengthen the social protection system with a comprehensive approach that articulates existing plans, programmes and strategies in a systemic manner to ensure an adequate standard of living for all (Paraguay);
- 132.171 Pursue national efforts for the implementation of the National Social Protection Policy and the National Social Protection Strategic Plan with the

**objective of protecting the most vulnerable and at-risk sectors of the population (Cuba);**

**132.172 Intensify efforts to eradicate poverty (Iraq);**

**132.173 Adopt poverty reduction programmes specifically for women that will allow them access to basic services in the areas of health, education, water and electricity (Maldives);**

**132.174 Continue to promote sustainable, economic and social development, and reduce the poverty rate (China);**

**132.175 Continue efforts to combat poverty and ensure that everyone enjoys an adequate standard of living (Egypt);**

**132.176 Continue with efforts to adopt a development policy to combat poverty and malnutrition among children and achieve food security (Yemen);**

**132.177 Develop and implement targeted poverty reduction programmes that ensure women's access to essential services, including health care, education, clean water and electricity (Gambia);**

**132.178 Continue efforts to reduce regional disparities in access to water, food and health services (China);**

**132.179 Adopt social development programmes to combat poverty (Dominican Republic);**

**132.180 Continue to prioritize actions for the eradication of poverty and child malnutrition, and for achieving food security (Syrian Arab Republic);**

**132.181 Continue giving priority to actions for the eradication of poverty and child malnutrition, and for achieving food security (United Republic of Tanzania);**

**132.182 Continue to prioritize its successful actions to eradicate poverty and child malnutrition, and to achieve food security (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

**132.183 Continue efforts to reduce disparities between regions in terms of access to food, water and health services (Saudi Arabia);**

**132.184 Strengthen efforts to ensure food and nutrition security and access to food and to secure the growth of agriculture to cope with climate change (Sri Lanka);**

**132.185 Strengthen initiatives to ensure the availability of food products at affordable prices for all and continue to implement the National Social Protection Strategic Plan (Algeria);**

**132.186 Continue enhancement of agriculture and ensuring the availability of affordable and nutritious food (Ethiopia);**

**132.187 Strengthen efforts to improve health-care infrastructure, particularly in rural areas (Malaysia);**

**132.188 Continue to strengthen its health-care system (Singapore);**

**132.189 Continue to invest in the public health system and strengthen disease prevention and treatment programmes (Algeria);**

**132.190 Continue to create an enabling environment for the improvement of the public health system through national policies and funding (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**

**132.191 Continue to raise awareness of the benefits of healthy lifestyles and the risks of tobacco and alcohol consumption (Pakistan);**

**132.192 Continue investments in the public health system (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

- 132.193 **Implement practical measures to improve access to health services, including in disadvantaged rural areas (Australia);**
- 132.194 **Sustain efforts to guarantee access to basic health services in rural areas of the country (Cuba);**
- 132.195 **Continue strengthening efforts to achieve sustainable development by expanding access to health care and education (Ethiopia);**
- 132.196 **Strengthen access to adequate health services for pregnant women and girls in rural areas (Mali);**
- 132.197 **Promote women's and girls' access to sexual and reproductive health services (Tunisia);**
- 132.198 **Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD25) to zero preventable maternal deaths and maternal morbidities by integrating a comprehensive package of sexual and reproductive health interventions into national universal health coverage strategies and programmes, including access to safe abortion to the full extent of the law, measures for preventing and avoiding unsafe abortions, and provision of post-abortion care (Iceland);**
- 132.199 **Recruit a sufficient number of qualified health professionals in the management of childbirth (Mali);**
- 132.200 **Continue to provide quality health care and to strengthen efforts to promote and protect the rights of children, including through the introduction of an effective juvenile justice system (United Republic of Tanzania);**
- 132.201 **Continue efforts to improve access to quality health care for all (India);**
- 132.202 **Support programmes aimed at ensuring the rights of children in the context of education and health care, especially children belonging to vulnerable groups (Kyrgyzstan);**
- 132.203 **Adopt additional measures to combat malnutrition and infant mortality (Burundi);**
- 132.204 **Continue to invest in the development of its public health system to increase medical coverage in rural areas (Kyrgyzstan);**
- 132.205 **Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 to guarantee access for all adolescents and young people, especially girls, to comprehensive, quality and timely age-appropriate information, education and services to adequately protect themselves from unintended pregnancies, all forms of sexual and gender violence and harmful practices, as well as from sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS (Panama);**
- 132.206 **End the practice of conscription of school-age children and ensure that they can receive education at civilian high schools (Lithuania);**
- 132.207 **Take measures to prevent the removal of school-age children from schools and their recruitment into the armed forces (Bulgaria);**
- 132.208 **Abolish indefinite compulsory military service, which has a devastating effect on the right to education and is a source of serious human rights violations (Spain);**
- 132.209 **Promote the realization of the right to education by ensuring that school-age children are not conscripted into the military (Zambia);**
- 132.210 **Continue efforts to enhance the quality of the educational system and infrastructure for all, especially children with disabilities and those living in remote and rural areas (Malaysia);**

- 132.211 Redouble efforts to ensure children's access to education, particularly girls' enrolment and retention (Nepal);
- 132.212 Continue to improve access to quality education for all, especially for vulnerable groups and people living in remote areas (Saudi Arabia);
- 132.213 Continue to enhance the quality of education for all school-age children, including upgrading the professional competency of teachers and school administrators (Sri Lanka);
- 132.214 Continue efforts to provide children with free education, especially in rural and remote areas, and improve the quality of education (Tunisia);
- 132.215 Continue efforts to guarantee free and compulsory primary education and ensure access to schools and quality education (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 132.216 Enhance policies and measures to promote access to education, reduce school dropout, particularly in rural and underdeveloped areas and for girls and young women (Viet Nam);
- 132.217 Continue efforts to improve access to quality education for all, especially for people in vulnerable situations (Algeria);
- 132.218 Continue efforts to improve the right to education, especially strengthening access to education for girls and persons living in remote areas (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 132.219 Continue efforts to improve access to education, especially in rural and remote areas, and to continue implementation of measures to enhance the quality of education (Azerbaijan);
- 132.220 Continue to ensure accessible and high-quality education for all (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 132.221 Continue strengthening the development of its educational and public health system to expand coverage in rural areas (Dominican Republic);
- 132.222 Continue to expand access to education, including the construction of new schools and education for the nomadic community, and reduce the number of school dropouts (Equatorial Guinea);
- 132.223 Continue efforts to remove gender disparity in education and promote gender equality (Germany);
- 132.224 Further strengthen efforts to expand access to education in local and remote areas, especially for vulnerable groups, girls and women (Indonesia);
- 132.225 Continue to take effective measures to enhance the quality of education for all school-age children (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 132.226 Increase the school enrolment rate for girls and the participation of women in political and public life (Burundi);
- 132.227 Continue to build on the existing efforts to expand access to education, in particular for people in vulnerable situations to access quality education (China);
- 132.228 Maintain the focus on increasing education opportunities for residents of rural areas, especially women and girls, members of nomadic communities and persons with disabilities (Pakistan);
- 132.229 Continue to use all effective techniques and programmes for water harvesting and land reclamation in order to combat the effects of drought and the lack of water resources (Oman);
- 132.230 Continue its national policies and programmes aimed at protecting the environment and combating the effects and impact of climate change (Sudan);

- 132.231 Further develop monitoring mechanisms for early warning of and response to dangerous pests, particularly locust invasions (Pakistan);
- 132.232 Intensify efforts to mobilize resources and seek the necessary international support to improve the socioeconomic development of its people (Nigeria);
- 132.233 Continue its national policies and programmes aimed at implementing the sustainable development agenda (Sudan);
- 132.234 Continue with efforts and activities to advance dialogue between the warring parties in the Sudan (Oman);
- 132.235 Intensify its engagement with neighbouring countries to promote peace and stability in the Horn of Africa (United Republic of Tanzania);
- 132.236 Continue to implement measures to protect and promote the rights of women and girls (India);
- 132.237 Exert efforts to establish a legal framework for the comprehensive protection of women's rights, with a focus on addressing discrimination against women (Bulgaria);
- 132.238 Continue efforts to improve the protection of women's rights, including through capacity-building and support to the National Union of Eritrean Women (Belarus);
- 132.239 Consider establishing a specific legal framework to improve women's rights (Senegal);
- 132.240 Work towards the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and girls by repealing in particular all discriminatory provisions of customary and religious law (Luxembourg);
- 132.241 Continue with the necessary measures to empower women and combat all forms of discrimination against them (Mauritania);
- 132.242 Adopt a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women in line with article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and repeal all discriminatory provisions of customary and religious laws (Estonia);
- 132.243 Strengthen measures to promote women's participation in political and economic spheres by removing systemic barriers and providing targeted support for women's leadership development (Malaysia);
- 132.244 Continue efforts ensuring women's empowerment and gender equality (Ethiopia);
- 132.245 Further promote the empowerment of women (Azerbaijan);
- 132.246 Continue to promote measures for the empowerment of women and facilitate their access to the public and political life of the country (Cuba);
- 132.247 Continue the efforts to eradicate female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage (Italy);
- 132.248 Establish programmes of action to reduce female genital mutilation and establish support and rehabilitation programmes for victims (Paraguay);
- 132.249 Take concrete measures to eliminate gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation and marital rape, and to fully ensure women's human rights to health and education, including by addressing the problems of high maternal mortality and of girls' high school dropout rates (Portugal);
- 132.250 Step up efforts to eradicate the practice of female genital mutilation and cutting and effectively criminalize and prosecute all forms of violence against women (Austria);

- 132.251 Intensify efforts to combat female genital mutilation (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 132.252 Continue efforts to eliminate female genital mutilation and early marriage (France);
- 132.253 Consider the development of a specific regulatory framework addressing the rights of women and the adoption of a comprehensive strategy to eliminate discriminatory stereotypes and harmful practices against women and girls (South Africa);
- 132.254 Strengthen measures to eliminate stereotypes and harmful practices, including through the adoption of a comprehensive strategy to achieve gender equality (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 132.255 Adopt comprehensive policies and laws which address discrimination against women (Botswana);
- 132.256 Eradicate child marriage through a law establishing an appropriate minimum age for marriage, in line with international standards (Chile);
- 132.257 Strengthen the implementation of national mechanisms to promote women's rights and the empowerment of women (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 132.258 Adopt legislation criminalizing all forms of physical, psychological, economic and sexual violence against women (Liechtenstein);
- 132.259 Adopt legislation criminalizing all forms of physical, psychological, economic and sexual violence against women (Montenegro);
- 132.260 Adopt legislation criminalizing all forms of violence against women (Georgia);
- 132.261 Adopt legislation criminalizing all forms of physical, psychological, economic and sexual violence against women, including marital rape, and define rape based on lack of consent (Iceland);
- 132.262 Take concrete measures to fight sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls, including female genital mutilation and child marriage (Norway);
- 132.263 Continue efforts to eliminate the practices of female genital mutilation and underage marriage (Tunisia);
- 132.264 Continue to put in place measures to eliminate early and child marriages and protect girls from sexual and gender-based violence (Uganda);
- 132.265 Take steps to adopt a legislative framework on sexual harassment and ensure that victims have access to effective complaints procedures and remedies (Sri Lanka);
- 132.266 Exert efforts to eliminate gender-based violence, strengthen support services for survivors of such violence and ensure their effective access to justice (Armenia);
- 132.267 Ensure the protection of women and girls from all forms of gender-based violence, including women and girls serving in the military, by enacting the appropriate legislation and policies (Indonesia);
- 132.268 Continue to prioritize combating female genital mutilation and provide for readaptation programmes for the victims of this scourge (Burkina Faso);
- 132.269 Consider setting up an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Burundi);
- 132.270 Enact legislation prohibiting female genital mutilation, accompanied by awareness-raising and support programmes for affected communities (Chile);

- 132.271 Take further measures to prevent violence against women and girls (Japan);
- 132.272 Take further measures to prevent violence against women (Kyrgyzstan);
- 132.273 Implement public policies towards protecting the rights of women and girls, combating gender-based violence, ending female genital mutilation and expanding access to education to women and girls at all levels of schooling (Brazil);
- 132.274 Adopt legislation criminalizing all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including marital rape (Denmark);
- 132.275 Adopt legislation criminalizing all forms of physical, psychological, economic and sexual violence against women, including marital rape (Estonia);
- 132.276 Strengthen efforts to combat sexual and gender-based violence, especially within the armed forces (Germany);
- 132.277 Strengthen efforts and measures to address violence against children (Mauritania);
- 132.278 Strengthen legislation aimed at protecting children from all forms of abuse and violence (Dominican Republic);
- 132.279 Take appropriate measures to ensure the promotion and protection of children's rights, including the right to health and education, as well as to cease and prevent the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict (Argentina);
- 132.280 Continue to strengthen mechanisms to effectively protect the rights of the child, including against female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage (Philippines);
- 132.281 Put in place measures to protect children and women from recruitment into armed groups and militia (Uganda);
- 132.282 Guarantee that persons with disabilities have equal access to food and water, as well as to health-care services and education (Lithuania);
- 132.283 Continue to enhance its measures to ensure the welfare of persons with disabilities (Singapore);
- 132.284 Continue its work to protect the rights of persons with disabilities within the framework of national programme documents (Belarus);
- 132.285 Promote the human rights of persons with disabilities (Iraq);
- 132.286 Continue with efforts and measures to enhance awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities (Mauritania);
- 132.287 Address intersecting forms of discrimination against women and girls with disabilities and ensure their inclusion and enjoyment of all rights under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Malawi);
- 132.288 Prevent all acts of violence, including arbitrary detention, based on the grounds of religion or belief (Lithuania);
- 132.289 Redouble efforts to safeguard the freedom of religion, including by protecting the safety of all religious believers (Indonesia);
- 132.290 Eliminate all forms of discrimination against ethnic minorities and promote fair and equal treatment in the society and the law (Somalia);
- 132.291 Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex, guarantee non-discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and combat violence against them (Spain);
- 132.292 Decriminalize same-sex conduct between consenting adults (Iceland);



132.293 Undertake structural and legislative reforms so that Eritreans can return to their country with dignity and without them or any of their family members being penalized for having left Eritrea (Switzerland).

133. 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 Eritrea was headed by First Secretary Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Mr. Habtom Zerai Ghirmai, and composed of the following members:

- Ambassador Tesfamicael Gerahtu, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Member of delegation;
  - Mr. Mehretab Fessehaye, Director General of the Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare Member of Delegation;
  - Mr. Ibrahim Abdu, Legal Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Member of Delegation;
  - Mrs. Senajit Mehari, Director General of Socio-Economic Services, NUEW, Member of Delegation;
  - Ms. Nadja Michael, Senior Human Rights Officer, Permanent Mission of the State of Eritrea to the United Nations, Member of Delegation.
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