



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
24 December 2024

Original: English

---

**Human Rights Council**  
**Fifty-eighth session**  
24 February–4 April 2025  
Agenda item 6  
**Universal periodic review**

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

### **Costa Rica**

---

\* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the languages 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-seventh session from 4 to 15 November 2024. The review of Costa Rica was held at the 11th meeting, on 8 November 2024. The delegation of Costa Rica was headed by the Vice-Minister of Multilateral Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Alejandro Solano Ortiz. At its 16th meeting, held on 13 November 2024, the Working Group adopted the report on Costa Rica.

2. On 10 January 2024, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Costa Rica: Argentina, Montenegro and Qatar.

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 Costa Rica:

(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 Angola, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Panama, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Costa Rica 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 of Costa Rica, comprised of representatives from the three branches of government, emphasized that the universal periodic review had enabled the country to reflect on the challenges and opportunities to improve human rights, resulting in the improvement of the country's institutional and policy framework. Those improvements included the creation of the Inter-Institutional Commission for the Monitoring and Implementation of International Human Rights Obligations, an advisory body to the executive branch in charge of coordinating the national implementation of international human rights obligations, and the formulation of the National Policy for a Society Free from Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Other Related Forms of Intolerance.

6. The Inter-Institutional Commission coordinated the preparation of the national report with the participation of civil society and other actors. During that process, a key need identified was the establishment of a national system to link international human rights recommendations with the Sustainable Development Goals, national development priorities and budget planning. Costa Rica, with the support of OHCHR, had begun to develop such a system. Moreover, as the National Policy for a Society Free from Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Other Related Forms of Intolerance would end in 2025, the Inter-Institutional Commission was leading the drafting of a post-2025 strategy.

7. Over several decades, Costa Rica had built up a robust human rights legislative and institutional framework. Respect and protection of human rights were also a pillar of the country's foreign policy. Costa Rica was active in all international initiatives seeking to raise

---

<sup>1</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/47/CRI/1](#).

<sup>2</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/47/CRI/2](#).

<sup>3</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/47/CRI/3](#).

human rights standards and respect for international humanitarian law, and the country maintained a standing invitation to all international human rights mechanisms.

8. Costa Rica faced several challenges, some stemming from its status as an upper-middle-income country, others being more long term, such as the persistence of poverty and inequality and the presence of violence, including gender-based violence, or emergent, such as ensuring the equitable distribution of the benefits of new technologies and mitigating the dangers associated with them. To address those challenges, Costa Rica prioritized innovative strategies to ensure focused attention on vulnerable groups, such as children, women, Indigenous Peoples, people of African descent, migrants and refugees.

9. In the area of child protection, Costa Rica had enacted Law No. 10476 on Prevention, Early Detection and the Response to Violence against Children and Adolescents and had reformed the Criminal Code to establish a legislative framework to combat sexual crimes committed through electronic means. Several other legislative initiatives were being discussed, including a law establishing an inter-institutional framework to prevent the participation of young people in organized crime.

10. The judiciary represented one of the pillars of the Costa Rican democratic system. In accordance with the Brasilia Regulations Regarding Access to Justice for Vulnerable People, the judicial branch promoted policies to address the situation of different groups, including a policy of access to justice for Indigenous Peoples. Within that context, an historic meeting had recently taken place between the judiciary and more than 100 Indigenous leaders to promote intercultural trust and jointly build the policy on access to justice for Indigenous Peoples.

11. Since 2019, Costa Rica had been able to rely on the General Mechanism for Consultation with Indigenous Peoples, which, in addition to outlining procedures for consultations on projects or administrative measures affecting Indigenous Peoples, had established an institutional architecture for their protection, including the Inter-Institutional Technical Committee for Indigenous Affairs and the Technical Unit for Indigenous Consultation. Costa Rica was also developing a public policy for Indigenous Peoples, respecting their right to prior, free and informed consent.

12. In 2022, Costa Rica had enacted the Act on Affirmative Action in Favour of People of African Descent, establishing employment quotas in public institutions and stimulating the study of their contributions to Costa Rican society. In addition, Executive Decree No. 43532 of 5 May 2022 promoted the self-identification of the Costa Rican population of African descent as a tribal people in accordance with their cultural identity, language and historical traditions.

13. Between 2021 and 2022, Costa Rica had recorded 530,000 persons in transit, resulting in a declaration of a state of emergency in 2023. Costa Rica was also third in the world for the highest number of applications for asylum, with more than 200,000 cases being processed in 2023. In line with its human rights tradition, Costa Rica implemented a human rights-based approach to human mobility, including initiatives such as the Labour Migration Traceability System and a project to ensure health coverage and access to employment for migrants.

14. In 2022, Costa Rica had criminalized hate crimes based on factors such as nationality, ethnicity, gender identity and, for the first time, sexual orientation and, in 2024, had adopted a national strategy to combat hate speech and discrimination. National institutions implemented awareness-raising activities and provided technical inputs for bills under legislative review. Among those, the Legislative Assembly was deliberating a bill aimed at prohibiting and punishing membership of hate organizations.

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

15. During the interactive dialogue, 97 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

16. Viet Nam commended the commitment of Costa Rica to advancing human rights and appreciated the updates to its legal framework.

17. Zambia applauded Costa Rica for the progress that it had made since the last review, including achieving equal representation in the Legislative Assembly.
18. Albania recognized the efforts of Costa Rica to improve its human rights framework but noted the need for additional measures, including on gender equality and the rights of Indigenous Peoples and migrants.
19. Algeria thanked Costa Rica for presenting its national report.
20. Armenia acknowledged the progress made by Costa Rica against contemporary forms of slavery and commended its efforts to adopt policies addressing multiple forms of discrimination.
21. Australia welcomed the response of Costa Rica to irregular migration through the provision of emergency healthcare and schooling to migrants.
22. Austria commended the efforts made by Costa Rica since the last universal periodic review but noticed gaps in some areas.
23. Azerbaijan thanked Costa Rica for presenting its national report
24. Bahrain noted the progress made by Costa Rica on human rights.
25. Bangladesh applauded the efforts made by Costa Rica to implement recommendations from the previous review, including on protecting the right to a clean and healthy environment.
26. Belgium congratulated Costa Rica for its efforts to develop a protocol for investigating human rights violations against human rights defenders.
27. Bhutan welcomed the initiatives of Costa Rica on environmental protection and the constitutional recognition of the right to a clean and healthy environment.
28. The Plurinational State of Bolivia welcomed the plans developed by Costa Rica to protect the human rights of vulnerable populations.
29. Botswana welcomed the development by Costa Rica of the national strategy for the prevention of hate speech but noted reports of xenophobic attacks against immigrants and refugees.
30. Brazil commended Costa Rica for taking initiatives to advance the rights of LGBTQIA+ persons, including in relation to the recognition of marriage equality.
31. Bulgaria commended Costa Rica for adopting the Road Map to Make Costa Rica a Country Free of Child Labour and its Worst Forms 2022–2025.
32. Burkina Faso welcomed the adoption of the National Strategy for Healthy Ageing based on the Life Course 2022–2026.
33. Burundi welcomed the efforts of Costa Rica to promote the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples.
34. Cabo Verde welcomed the progress made by Costa Rica in combating contemporary forms of slavery.
35. Canada welcomed the measures taken by Costa Rica against gender-based violence, including legislation on femicide, harassment and stalking.
36. Chile welcomed the reaccreditation of the Office of the Ombudsperson as the national human rights institution with A status.
37. China welcomed the achievements of Costa Rica by developing health and education and combating trafficking in persons and gender-based violence.
38. Colombia celebrated the progress made by Costa Rica since the last review.
39. Côte d'Ivoire welcomed the development by Costa Rica of human rights plans and laws and its commitment to eliminate discriminatory wage gaps in domestic work.
40. Cuba recognized the efforts made by Costa Rica to promote and protect human rights.

41. Cyprus commended Costa Rica for taking legislative measures to address femicide, protect children's rights and develop labour protection policies for persons with disabilities.
42. Czechia welcomed the policies adopted by Costa Rica to protect the environment, promote gender equality in politics and prevent gender-based violence.
43. Denmark welcomed the implementation of the Act on Access to Justice for Indigenous Peoples but noted that more could be done in guaranteeing their right to self-determination.
44. Djibouti welcomed the measures adopted by Costa Rica to combat trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants.
45. The Dominican Republic congratulated Costa Rica for its efforts to protect oceans and the seabed and to impose a moratorium on oil and gas exploration and exploitation.
46. Ecuador applauded the launch by Costa Rica of the National Strategy against Hate Speech and Discrimination in 2024.
47. In replying to the issues raised, the delegation of Costa Rica acknowledged having significant tasks ahead in combating poverty, particularly in rural areas, and highlighted the measures taken to address that challenge. Those included the National Strategy for Employability and Human Talent, which had contributed to the most significant reduction in poverty and extreme poverty since 2010. By July 2024, the percentage of households living in poverty had dropped to 18 per cent, the lowest level since 2010. The delegation also reported reductions in extreme and multidimensional poverty and inequality, along with an improvement in its human development index.
48. The Legislative Assembly was responsible for passing legislation that protected and promoted human rights and exercising political oversight over any initiative that could weaken them. Given the numerous challenges faced by the country, particularly in relation to social issues, citizen security and violence against women, it was essential to strengthen the national legal framework for human rights protection to build a more prosperous and inclusive society.
49. Human rights defenders in Costa Rica were guaranteed protections under the existing legal framework. While there was no specific legislation protecting them, current legislation and the rulings by the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court provided a framework that allowed them to carry out activities freely, ensuring protection against threats and attacks, and supporting investigations into such incidents. Provisional measures were implemented to protect defenders of Indigenous Peoples' rights, particularly regarding land. Moreover, a bill for the protection of human rights and environmental activists was under consideration.
50. Egypt noted the steps taken by Costa Rica to implement the recommendations accepted in the last review.
51. Estonia commended the efforts by Costa Rica to eradicate gender-based violence, legalize same-sex marriage and prohibit early marriage, but was concerned about violations of freedom of expression.
52. France congratulated Costa Rica for the legalization of same-sex marriage and the increase in women's participation in political life.
53. The Gambia welcomed the adoption of the institutional policy and action plan for access to justice for people of African descent.
54. Georgia noted the reactivation of the National Commission to Combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents and the legislative steps to address violence against women.
55. Germany welcomed the efforts of Costa Rica to address the challenges associated with migrants and refugees and to improve relations with Indigenous communities.
56. Greece noted the adoption by Costa Rica of the Act against Violence and Racism in Sport.

57. Honduras recognized the progress made by Costa Rica in the field of human rights and its commitment to international human rights mechanisms.
58. Iceland welcomed the presentation by Costa Rica of its national report.
59. India appreciated the efforts of Costa Rica to implement the recommendations from the previous cycle.
60. Indonesia noted the development of policies and legislation aimed at strengthening the economy.
61. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed concerns about human rights violations in Costa Rica and the Government's approach of deflecting attention away from those violations.
62. Iraq appreciated the efforts of Costa Rica in preparing the national report.
63. Ireland welcomed the adoption of legislation on same-sex marriage, among others, and encouraged the strengthening of policies to protect the rights of asylum-seekers and refugees.
64. Israel noted the commitment of Costa Rica to provide free access to health and education for all.
65. Italy noted the increased efforts of Costa Rica to combat trafficking in persons and violence against women.
66. Jordan appreciated the steps taken by Costa Rica to promote civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights.
67. Kazakhstan positively noted the policies adopted by Costa Rica to combat violence against women and prohibit child labour, among others.
68. Lebanon commended Costa Rica for its climate policy, particularly on preservation of biodiversity.
69. Libya thanked Costa Rica for the presentation of its national report.
70. Liechtenstein thanked Costa Rica for its commitment to human rights and a rules-based international order.
71. Lithuania commended Costa Rica for making progress since the previous review, including the amendment of the Constitution in relation to persons with disabilities.
72. Luxembourg thanked Costa Rica for its efforts to implement the recommendations from its previous review.
73. Malawi commended Costa Rica for taking significant steps in the promotion and protection of human rights.
74. Malaysia thanked Costa Rica for the presentation of its national report.
75. Maldives commended Costa Rica for ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.
76. The Marshall Islands praised Costa Rica for pursuing sustainable development and commended its leadership in environmental protection.
77. Mauritius congratulated Costa Rica for its efforts in the promotion of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.
78. Mexico acknowledged the legal reforms to protect the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities, and the legalization of same-sex marriage.
79. Mongolia commended Costa Rica for taking measures to protect children and vulnerable groups, including a road map to eliminate child labour.
80. Montenegro praised Costa Rica for addressing multiple and interrelated forms of discrimination and efforts to combat gender-based violence.

81. Morocco welcomed the adoption by Costa Rica of the National Development and Public Investment Plan 2023–2026.
82. Namibia commended Costa Rica for adopting the Act on Affirmative Action in Favour of People of African Descent.
83. Nepal welcomed the efforts of Costa Rica to achieve gender equality and eradicate violence against women.
84. The Kingdom of the Netherlands praised the commitment of Costa Rica to human rights and democracy.
85. The Niger congratulated Costa Rica on its reporting to human rights bodies, including to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee against Torture.
86. Norway appreciated the constructive multilateral engagement of Costa Rica and expressed concern about women’s rights, equality and shrinking civic space.
87. Panama thanked Costa Rica for the presentation of its national report.
88. Paraguay praised the progress of Costa Rica on the rights of Indigenous Peoples.
89. Peru welcomed the National Action Plan on Gender Equality in Climate Action and the adoption of the law against violence against women in politics.
90. The Philippines acknowledged the adoption of the National Action Plan on Gender Equality in Climate Action and the National Risk Management Plan.
91. Poland welcomed the launch by Costa Rica of the National Strategy against Hate Speech and Discrimination.
92. Portugal commended Costa Rica for establishing the National Care and Support System for Older Persons in Situations of Dependency.
93. Qatar noted the launch of the National Development and Public Investment Plan and the national strategy on cultural rights.
94. The Republic of Korea appreciated the progress of Costa Rica in strengthening the protection the rights of marginalized groups.
95. The Republic of Moldova welcomed the reaccreditation of the Office of the Ombudsperson with A status and the launch of a national strategy against hate speech.
96. Romania encouraged Costa Rica to formulate a plan of action to follow up on its universal periodic review.
97. The Russian Federation noted insufficient efforts by Costa Rica to address issues such as gender inequality, domestic violence, police brutality and xenophobia.
98. Samoa commended Costa Rica for adopting its National Strategic Plan and regularly reporting to treaty bodies.
99. Sierra Leone commended Costa Rica for engaging with human rights mechanisms.
100. Slovenia expressed concerns about school enrolment gaps, particularly for migrant and vulnerable children in rural and coastal areas.
101. Spain congratulated Costa Rica for its progress in the fight against discrimination and its national anti-hate speech strategy.
102. Switzerland thanked Costa Rica for its presentation.
103. The Syrian Arab Republic thanked Costa Rica for its presentation.
104. Thailand commended Costa Rica for implementing a national strategy against hate speech on social networks, the first Latin American country to do so.
105. Timor-Leste appreciated the progress made by Costa Rica in achieving gender parity in politics and its commitment to environmental protection.
106. Togo positively noted the launch, in 2022, of the System of Registration, Communication and Comprehensive Care for Victims of Institutional Violence in Prisons.

107. Trinidad and Tobago acknowledged the expansion by Costa Rica of its policy framework in areas such as equality, non-discrimination and women's protection.
108. Ukraine commended Costa Rica for implementing policies addressing multiple and interrelated forms of discrimination.
109. The United Kingdom urged Costa Rica to address discrimination against women, children and the LGBTQ+ community.
110. The United Republic of Tanzania commended Costa Rica for making efforts to combat poverty, safeguard digital rights and prevent trafficking.
111. The United States commended Costa Rica for committing to promote human rights, particularly in managing migration challenges.
112. Uzbekistan appreciated the constructive cooperation of Costa Rica with United Nations treaty bodies and special procedures.
113. Vanuatu welcomed the National Policy for Addressing and Preventing Violence against Women of All Ages 2017–2032.
114. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed concern about the precarious situation of Indigenous communities and extrajudicial executions of Indigenous leaders.
115. Pakistan thanked Costa Rica for its national report.
116. In its concluding remarks, the delegation of Costa Rica highlighted that the Legislative Assembly, with 28 women deputies out of 57, was leading an agenda to advance women's political rights and equality. In 2022, it had approved the Act to Prevent, Address, Punish and Eradicate Violence against Women in Politics and, in 2023, had reformed the Municipal Code to ensure gender parity. As a result, the number of women mayors had increased by 27 per cent in the last municipal election, along with significant growth in the number of deputy mayors and other officials. Costa Rica was also working to implement Act No. 8901, promoting parity on the boards of social organizations, including trade unions.
117. The Legislative Assembly was also promoting 10 bills focused on three key areas: women's security, prevention of violence and economic empowerment. Costa Rica had criminalized femicide and developed a strategy to facilitate access to comprehensive care services for women affected by violence living in remote and Indigenous communities. Public policies and action plans aimed at achieving gender equality and eradicating all forms of violence against women were also in place.
118. The delegation of Costa Rica concluded by thanking all the States for the constructive dialogue. It highlighted that the participation of Costa Rica in the review with an inter-institutional delegation, including representatives from the judiciary, legislature and executive, ensured that, despite political differences, the country had a shared vision to uphold human dignity for all citizens and residents of Costa Rica. It reiterated the importance of the universal periodic review and reaffirmed its political will to continue fostering a dynamic of peer accountability enabling all States, on equal terms, to build fairer and more inclusive societies.

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

119. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Costa Rica and enjoy the support of Costa Rica:**
- 119.1 **Strengthen the national human rights institution by ensuring its independence and providing adequate funding (Estonia);**
- 119.2 **Continue strengthening the inter-institutional commission on human rights (Georgia);**
- 119.3 **Continue strengthening its national implementation, reporting and follow-up mechanism to implement the recommendations from the universal periodic review (Paraguay);**



- 119.4 Consider strengthening national legislation to combat racism, discrimination and xenophobia, and ensure combating all forms of discrimination against people of African descent, especially women (Egypt);
- 119.5 Continue strengthening its regulations to prevent and punish all forms of discrimination, racism and intolerance (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 119.6 Expediently update the Action Plan for a Society Free from Racism, Racial Discrimination and Xenophobia (Gambia);
- 119.7 Update the Action Plan for a Society Free from Racism, Racial Discrimination and Xenophobia to combat structural racism and support the implementation of the National Strategy against Hate Speech and Discrimination (Djibouti);
- 119.8 Strengthen actions to advance the construction of a society free of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia (Peru);
- 119.9 Continue efforts to combat racism, racial discrimination and all forms of discrimination (Cuba);
- 119.10 Take all necessary measures to tackle hate speech, xenophobia and discrimination (Libya);
- 119.11 Step up its efforts in implementing the national strategy, launched in 2024, against hate speech and discrimination, aiming particularly at addressing hate speech disseminated on social networks (Greece);
- 119.12 Take effective measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination, racism, intolerance and xenophobia, and prevent detention without trial (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 119.13 Adhere to international human rights obligations relating to equality and non-discrimination (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 119.14 Take measures to protect migrants, people of African descent and other minorities from discrimination (Algeria);
- 119.15 Enhance measures to protect Indigenous groups, people of African descent and other minority groups against discrimination, including against xenophobia and violence towards migrants (India);
- 119.16 Strengthen measures to protect Indigenous groups, people of African descent and other minority groups from discrimination (Burundi);
- 119.17 Strengthen efforts to combat hate speech, racial discrimination and xenophobia (Bahrain);
- 119.18 Strengthen measures aimed at eradicating xenophobic attacks and other hate crimes against immigrants, asylum-seekers and refugees (Zambia);
- 119.19 Combat stigmatizing, discriminatory, xenophobic and violent discourse against the migrant population (Mexico);
- 119.20 Redouble efforts to prevent situations of discrimination against migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees (Ecuador);
- 119.21 Incorporate an absolute prohibition of enforced disappearance into national law and ensure that it is defined as a separate offence (Montenegro);
- 119.22 Enshrine enforced disappearance as a criminal offence in national legislation, and ensure that all allegations of enforced disappearance are investigated and those responsible are brought to justice (Switzerland);
- 119.23 Take the necessary steps to incorporate the absolute prohibition of enforced disappearance into national law, and ensure that the offence of enforced disappearance is defined as a separate offence and as a crime against humanity (Armenia);

- 119.24 **Ensure the prohibition of all forms of torture, cruel treatment and violence, and follow up on this through effective investigations (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 119.25 **Take effective measures to address inadequate conditions in prisons and detention centres (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 119.26 **Make further efforts to address overcrowding of its detention facilities, taking into account relevant international standards (Republic of Korea);**
- 119.27 **Continue ongoing efforts to improve the infrastructure and conditions of those in juvenile detention centres, as well as to ensure their effective reintegration into society (Peru);**
- 119.28 **Continue efforts to strengthen public security through capacity-building programmes for law enforcement agencies to combat organized crimes and violence (Malaysia);**
- 119.29 **Take all measures deemed necessary to prevent violence against children committed by gangs and drug traffickers (Cabo Verde);**
- 119.30 **Strengthen measures to prevent and combat gang violence, ensuring that such programmes respect children's right (Kazakhstan);**
- 119.31 **Continue efforts to ensure legal assistance for women without sufficient means and strengthen access to justice for Indigenous women, women of African descent, migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and women with disabilities (Kazakhstan);**
- 119.32 **Strengthen its programmes for legal assistance to women, particularly those in vulnerable situations and in rural areas (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**
- 119.33 **Consider developing mechanisms to strengthen free legal aid to women without sufficient means, particularly those in vulnerable situations (Peru);**
- 119.34 **Take necessary measures to remove all barriers to access to justice for persons with disabilities (Mongolia);**
- 119.35 **Guarantee access to justice for Indigenous Peoples by concluding the process initiated in 2018 and ensuring processes of free, prior and informed consent (Mexico);**
- 119.36 **Strengthen efforts to safeguard freedom of the press through the implementation of additional protections for journalists and human rights defenders (Australia);**
- 119.37 **Ensure freedom of expression and press freedom to prevent an increase in attacks against journalists and media outlets (Azerbaijan);**
- 119.38 **Continue efforts to guarantee press freedom and the safety of journalists (France);**
- 119.39 **Enhance further efforts to ensure secure working conditions for journalists and media workers (Lithuania);**
- 119.40 **Ensure freedom of expression and press freedom, both online and offline, with particular attention to protecting women, journalists and human rights defenders (Indonesia);**
- 119.41 **Strengthen the safety and protection of journalists, online and offline, to exercise their profession freely and without threats (Norway);**
- 119.42 **Ensure the right to freedom of expression and the safety of journalists by strengthening the fight against online harassment, as well as against hate speech, discrimination and mistrust of the media (Switzerland);**
- 119.43 **Further strengthen the protection of human rights defenders, in particular women environmental human rights defenders, as well as media and journalists from threats, hate speech and violent messages (Liechtenstein);**

- 119.44 **Take appropriate steps to stop violations of freedom of expression and disinformation campaigns on social networks, online attacks against women, especially Indigenous political activists, women in politics and journalists (India);**
- 119.45 **Continue and enhance the efforts to protect the right to freedom of opinion and expression (Israel);**
- 119.46 **Address online abuse by continuing to implement measures that promote safe digital spaces (United Republic of Tanzania);**
- 119.47 **Strengthen efforts to ensure the protection of women's environmental human rights defenders (Timor-Leste);**
- 119.48 **Step up efforts to close the digital divide by increasing Internet coverage in other parts of the country that do not have access (United Republic of Tanzania);**
- 119.49 **Continue to actively engage with and include civil society organizations in decision-making processes, especially those representing persons in marginalized or vulnerable situations, and human rights defenders, including the most critical voices (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**
- 119.50 **Continue taking actions to fully implement its Act on Prevention, Care, Punishment and Elimination of Violence against Women in Politics (Ecuador);**
- 119.51 **Continue efforts to address the digital divide (Trinidad and Tobago);**
- 119.52 **Enhance access to digital technologies and infrastructure in areas inhabited by communities of African descent (Pakistan);**
- 119.53 **Redouble efforts to ensure the protection of women defenders of environmental human rights, particularly in Indigenous communities (Peru);**
- 119.54 **Protect and support the family as the basic unit of the society (Egypt);**
- 119.55 **Strengthen policies aimed at supporting and protecting the family as the fundamental unit of society (Qatar);**
- 119.56 **Continue efforts aimed at protecting victims of human trafficking (Bulgaria);**
- 119.57 **Strengthen measures to investigate and prosecute offences related to trafficking in persons and improve mechanisms for victim protection (Uzbekistan);**
- 119.58 **Redouble efforts to combat trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation through capacity-building with regard to law enforcement and building on best practices (Bahrain);**
- 119.59 **Strengthen programmes to prevent, combat and punish trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation, and intensify awareness-raising and sensitization measures, as well as access to justice and support services for victims (Paraguay);**
- 119.60 **Further strengthen the mechanisms and institutions responsible for combating trafficking in persons, by placing greater emphasis on prevention and protection of victims, and allocate human and financial resources to the implementation of the National Policy against Trafficking in Persons (2020–2030) (Djibouti);**
- 119.61 **Continue efforts to strengthen the functioning of the National Coalition against the Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons and strengthen institutional capacities for State intervention in the care and protection of victims, based on the recommendations accepted in the third cycle (Honduras);**

- 119.62 Continue to take practical measures to combat human trafficking and actively participate in international cooperation in this area (China);
- 119.63 Combat all contemporary forms of slavery, in particular preventing and addressing human trafficking and sexual exploitation (Italy);
- 119.64 Enhance protections for children against sexual exploitation and human trafficking by ensuring traffickers face justice, with thorough investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases (Indonesia);
- 119.65 Strengthen efforts in the fight against smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, problems that affect all countries and, in particular, the region, ensuring the referral of trafficked women and girls to appropriate services (Peru);
- 119.66 Strengthen its action in the area of protection of victims of trafficking in persons and, in particular, the exploitation of women for prostitution (Burundi);
- 119.67 Protect victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation (Pakistan);
- 119.68 Incorporate a gender, youth and social inclusion perspective in the development of the National Employment Policy and continue to improve labour market programmes and employment services (Panama);
- 119.69 Take measures to increase youth employment opportunities and to ensure non-discriminatory and adequate conditions to access the labour market by all those in search of a job (Romania);
- 119.70 Take further actions to improve working conditions, promote decent work and eliminate the wage gap (Nepal);
- 119.71 Adopt and implement a comprehensive policy to address unemployment, particularly targeting affected groups, such as youth and people of African descent (Indonesia);
- 119.72 Continue efforts to strengthen the national employment policy and improve labour market programmes, and advance efforts to protect people with disabilities and to integrate them into the public and private sectors (Iraq);
- 119.73 Continue efforts towards the employment of persons with disabilities in the public and private sector (Bulgaria);
- 119.74 Continue efforts to strengthen the social protection system (Vanuatu);
- 119.75 Strengthen efforts towards poverty reduction and take further measures to support vulnerable groups (Uzbekistan);
- 119.76 Continue to promote economic and social development, balance urban and rural development, and reduce the incidence of poverty (China);
- 119.77 Continue promoting national policies and programmes to reduce poverty and inequality (Cuba);
- 119.78 Formulate and implement a strategy to address poverty, inequality and exclusion and other factors related to climate change (Sierra Leone);
- 119.79 Continue efforts in alleviating poverty, reducing inequalities and combating all forms of discrimination (Bangladesh);
- 119.80 Enhance existing national strategies and programmes to combat poverty, especially among children and other vulnerable groups, to ensure an adequate standard of living for all (Maldives);
- 119.81 Increase efforts to reduce child poverty and poverty among vulnerable groups through current social programmes (Honduras);

- 119.82 **Continue efforts to achieve a social development that guarantees citizens' access to all basic services without discrimination and to reduce poverty among Indigenous Peoples and people of African descent within the framework of the National Development and Public Investment Plan 2023–2026 (Djibouti);**
- 119.83 **Step up efforts to reverse the trend of growing income and multidimensional poverty, as well as income inequality (Lebanon);**
- 119.84 **Expand initiatives to reduce poverty and inequality through targeted social programmes (Viet Nam);**
- 119.85 **Continue providing benefits in order to meet the needs of the socially and financially vulnerable segments of the population (Georgia);**
- 119.86 **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 persons without distinction (Paraguay);**
- 119.87 **Strengthen initiatives to reduce teenage pregnancy rates and support adolescent health (Sierra Leone);**
- 119.88 **Adopt additional measures to address inequality in education to decrease the educational institutions' dropout rate (Israel);**
- 119.89 **Make further efforts to provide quality education for children, especially children with disabilities (Qatar);**
- 119.90 **Adopt a strategic framework for the implementation of an inclusive education system (Armenia);**
- 119.91 **Advance the national action plan on inclusive education to ensure equal educational opportunities for all members of society (Ukraine);**
- 119.92 **Strengthen its measures to address gaps in school enrolment of children in rural and coastal areas, Indigenous children, children of African descent, children with disabilities and migrant children, and to lower school dropout rates (Azerbaijan);**
- 119.93 **Strengthen measures to address the gaps in school enrolment in rural and coastal areas (Timor-Leste);**
- 119.94 **Further enhance access to quality education of children in rural areas and Indigenous communities, as well as those with disabilities and from migrant backgrounds (Philippines);**
- 119.95 **Enhance outreach and support to increase the participation of adolescents in education, especially in poorer households (Slovenia);**
- 119.96 **Prevent, address and monitor discrimination and violence, including bullying, in schools (Morocco);**
- 119.97 **Work to address existing gaps in school enrolment rates for children in rural and coastal areas, as well as children with disabilities, with the aim of reducing school dropout rates (Jordan);**
- 119.98 **Take measures to reduce school dropout rates (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 119.99 **Implement a comprehensive policy to address school dropout rates in rural areas and among boys through community-based interventions or educational campaigns (Malaysia);**
- 119.100 **Improve digital learning, and access to education for children living in remote and rural areas and children with disabilities (Samoa);**
- 119.101 **Promote the participation of women and girls in non-traditional fields of study and career paths, especially in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, information and communications technology, as well as in environmental sciences (Chile);**

- 119.102 Pursue its efforts in promoting the participation of women and girls in the field of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, as recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Mauritius);
- 119.103 Promote traditional knowledge and culture by incorporating Indigenous history, culture and languages in the national education curriculum (Marshall Islands);
- 119.104 Strengthen efforts to protect the environment and enforce conservation laws, and support sustainable practices (Bahrain);
- 119.105 Strengthen measures to safeguard the vulnerable communities affected by climate change (Nepal);
- 119.106 Continue to spread awareness and enhance understanding on the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Samoa);
- 119.107 Enforce measures to prevent pollution, particularly in Indigenous territories, and promote sustainable practices that preserve natural resources (Ukraine);
- 119.108 Continue efforts to conserve and protect natural resources and integrate social considerations and human rights into environmental issues (Vanuatu);
- 119.109 Enhance strategies to address the impacts of climate change, including by integrating the unique vulnerabilities and needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities in climate change strategies (Malaysia);
- 119.110 Promote actions for economic autonomy, capacity-building, risk management and incorporation of the gender-based approach in climate action to ensure the implementation of the National Action Plan on Gender Equality in Climate Action (Cuba);
- 119.111 Continue strengthening the national legal frameworks for the protection and promotion of women's rights, promote equality between men and women, and ensure equal opportunities for women's representation in various public functions and leadership positions (Egypt);
- 119.112 Reinforce the measures to eliminate discriminatory gender stereotypes and continue the implementation of the Action Plan of the National Policy for Effective Equality between Women and Men (Republic of Moldova);
- 119.113 Pursue its efforts for greater representation of women in the country's economic and political life (Albania);
- 119.114 Continue to promote gender equality and women's representation at all levels of private, public and economic life (Uzbekistan);
- 119.115 Continue efforts towards ensuring equal participation of women in all spheres of life (Nepal);
- 119.116 Continue its efforts in the implementation of the National Policy for Addressing and Preventing Violence against Women (Mauritius);
- 119.117 Further strengthen preventive measures and support services for victims of gender-based violence against women, especially in remote areas, and accomplish the Action Plan of the National Policy for Addressing and Preventing Violence against Women (Republic of Moldova);
- 119.118 Take concrete steps to combat gender-based violence, particularly against women and girls, to ensure their safety and protection (Sierra Leone);
- 119.119 Take stronger measures to adopt an inclusive policy against violence against women, including domestic violence (Bahrain);

- 119.120 Continue to implement measures aimed at reducing the current rates of domestic violence and femicide (Italy);
- 119.121 Enhance measures to prevent and address all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, particularly in remote areas (Viet Nam);
- 119.122 Strengthen legal protection for women and girls in situations of gender-based violence and enhance the effectiveness of preventive measures and victim support services, in particular in rural and remote areas (Mongolia);
- 119.123 Continue efforts to implement policies to prevent and address gender-based violence by strengthening support programmes for women victims of violence (Honduras);
- 119.124 Strengthen mechanisms to address violence in all its forms and manifestations, including that arising from crime and other social, economic and institutional challenges (Cuba);
- 119.125 Further enhance the strict enforcement of laws against femicide and street sexual harassment (Philippines);
- 119.126 Enhance efforts to address gender-based violence against women and girls (Timor-Leste);
- 119.127 Continue efforts in addressing gender-based violence through preventive measures and victim support services (Bhutan);
- 119.128 Strengthen preventive measures and victim support services for women facing gender-based violence in remote rural and border areas (Maldives);
- 119.129 Take additional steps to implement Act No. 9406, to enhance legal protection for girls and adolescent women associated with abusive relationships and to help tackle the recent surge in domestic violence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 119.130 Intensify measures, including human rights education and training, to combat domestic violence (Philippines);
- 119.131 Continue its efforts to tackle violence against women, especially by strengthening victim support services, in particular in remote rural and border areas (Poland);
- 119.132 Take measures to ensure the effective implementation of legislation to prevent violence against women, including by developing a strategy against gender-based violence online (Austria);
- 119.133 Implement a strategy to ensure that all children born in its territory are immediately registered and provided with identity documents (Albania);
- 119.134 Implement a strategy to ensure that all Indigenous children, children of African descent, migrant children and children with disabilities are registered at birth (Namibia);
- 119.135 Take urgent measures to prevent and address sexual exploitation of children and strengthen the National Commission to Combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents (Morocco);
- 119.136 Implement the necessary measures to banish from society the predominant practice of corporal punishment of children (Cabo Verde);
- 119.137 Strengthen measures to promote safe digital spaces to protect children from inappropriate content and other online risks (Estonia);
- 119.138 Promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities to ensure their full integration and participation in society (Egypt);
- 119.139 Strengthen policies and support systems that promote the inclusion and rights of persons with disabilities (Viet Nam);

- 119.140 Strengthen the mechanisms and follow up on the implementation of the laws on equal opportunities for persons with disabilities (Bahrain);
- 119.141 Continue efforts towards fully integrating persons with disabilities by improving the accessibility of public spaces, including public transport (Lithuania);
- 119.142 Implement immediate and effective measures to end illegal occupation of Indigenous territories and support the protection of Indigenous human rights (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 119.143 Guarantee the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including by strengthening the protection and safety of Indigenous leaders against threats and attacks and by respecting Indigenous land rights (Norway);
- 119.144 Continue efforts to guarantee respect for the human rights of Indigenous communities and to prevent and eliminate violence against Indigenous leaders (Italy);
- 119.145 Continue its efforts to improve the functioning of the Comprehensive Mechanism for Consultations with Indigenous Peoples (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 119.146 Continue to ensure that Indigenous Peoples are meaningfully engaged in the development of legislation, national policies and programmes on climate change and environmental protection (Marshall Islands);
- 119.147 Ensure meaningful and inclusive consultations with communities, civil society and Indigenous Peoples on development efforts affecting the environment (Samoa);
- 119.148 Effectively implement strategies to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including addressing poverty, combating violence and providing access to a quality healthcare system (Malaysia);
- 119.149 Take appropriate steps to improve accessibility of Indigenous Peoples to education, healthcare, electricity, drinking water and employment (India);
- 119.150 Initiate a training, capacity-building and awareness-raising programme for public officials regarding the rights and needs of Indigenous communities (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 119.151 Address persistent violations of the rights of minority groups, including discrimination and hate speech, especially on social networks, targeting Indigenous groups and people of African descent (Azerbaijan);
- 119.152 Accelerate efforts to adopt implementing regulations for the affirmative action law for people of African descent (Gambia);
- 119.153 Redouble efforts to protect the human rights and safety of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers, including by preventing stigmatization, discrimination, xenophobia and violence against these populations (Indonesia);
- 119.154 Continue and expand efforts to protect the rights of migrants, refugees and persons belonging to Indigenous communities (Germany);
- 119.155 Increase efforts to improve the situation of socially vulnerable groups, especially migrants, including their protection from discrimination (Russian Federation);
- 119.156 Analyse the normative and policy framework to guarantee the human rights of migrants, including access to health, education, decent work, basic services and social protection (Paraguay);
- 119.157 Adopt and implement national guidelines ensuring the provision of non-discriminatory services to all migrants, regardless of their immigration status, with a focus on women, adolescents and persons aged over 60 (Burkina Faso);



119.158 Take measures to promptly deal with asylum applications and reduce delays in the refugee status determination and appeal procedures (Colombia);

119.159 Continue improving access to asylum protections, including by modernizing the asylum system and adding additional personnel to reduce the backlog for refugee status determinations (United States of America);

119.160 Take additional measures to protect the rights of migrants and refugees, including by aligning national laws and policies with the principle of non-refoulement and combating all forms of discrimination, especially those motivated by hate speech and xenophobia (Brazil);

119.161 Guarantee the principle of non-refoulement in the processing of asylum and refugee applications (Colombia).

120. The following recommendations will be examined by Costa Rica, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fifty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council:

120.1 Ratify the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190), of the International Labour Organization (Albania);

120.2 Consider signing and ratifying the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190), of the International Labour Organization on eliminating violence and harassment in the world of work (Republic of Moldova);

120.3 Continue efforts to combat violence against women and domestic violence by ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (France);

120.4 Expedite the adoption of the draft framework law to prevent and punish all forms of discrimination, racism and intolerance (Botswana);

120.5 Expedite the adoption of the draft framework law to prevent and punish all forms of discrimination, racism and intolerance, incorporating disability as a prohibited ground in the definition of discrimination and references to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination (Malawi);

120.6 Take targeted steps at the legislative level to adequately ensure equality between men and women (Russian Federation);

120.7 Adopt the draft framework law to prevent and punish all forms of discrimination, racism and intolerance, incorporating disability as a prohibited ground in the definition of discrimination and references to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination (Azerbaijan);

120.8 Pass comprehensive legislation to protect persons of diverse sexual orientation or gender identities and expressions or sexual characteristics from discrimination (Iceland);

120.9 Investigate all reported cases of xenophobic attacks and other hate crimes and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice (Botswana);

120.10 Establish complaint and support centres and adapted policies for all victims of violence, discrimination, hate speech and xenophobia, including for migrants and other persons in vulnerable situations, especially in digital spaces and social networks (Romania);

120.11 Ensure independent investigations into cases of enforced disappearances and determine responsibility for them (Syrian Arab Republic);

120.12 Reduce prison overcrowding and take into account all allegations of ill-treatment (Libya);

120.13 Allocate adequate resources to Costa Rica's penitentiary system to ease overcrowding, particularly in pretrial detention facilities, thus fully comply with international human rights standards (Czechia);

- 120.14 **Reduce prison overcrowding and improve prison conditions by building new accessible facilities, renovating existing facilities and evaluating policy measures to reduce the prison population (United States of America);**
- 120.15 **Allocate the necessary resources for the functioning of the system for recording and reporting institutional violence in prisons (Togo);**
- 120.16 **Improve the infrastructure and detention conditions in juvenile detention centres and ensure the effective reintegration of children into their communities (Togo);**
- 120.17 **Improve the situation in all prisons and introduce a system for effectively filing and investigating complaints of acts of torture and ill-treatment (Poland);**
- 120.18 **Take effective measures, including at the legislative level, to combat human rights violations committed by law enforcement officials, and ensure that accountability for such unlawful acts is inevitable in order to prevent their recurrence (Russian Federation);**
- 120.19 **Reduce the rate of violent crime, including murder (Pakistan);**
- 120.20 **Adopt stronger preventive and legal measures to combat crimes, murders and attacks (Algeria);**
- 120.21 **Address the adverse impact and threat organized crime has on youth and their trust in democratic institutions, and invest in education, especially in the field of human rights and democracy (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**
- 120.22 **Effectively eradicate violence against children related to activities of gangs and drug traffickers, and strengthen measures to prevent gang violence (Poland);**
- 120.23 **Combat arbitrary detention and strengthen the judiciary to end impunity (Algeria);**
- 120.24 **Secure the independence of the judiciary, including by establishing a permanent framework for the selection and appointment of judges in accordance with international standards (Norway);**
- 120.25 **Adopt laws setting out explicit criteria and procedures in the selection of judges (Republic of Korea);**
- 120.26 **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility and ensure the full application of juvenile justice standards (Liechtenstein);**
- 120.27 **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility from 12 years to 14 years and ensure the full application of juvenile justice standards (Belgium);**
- 120.28 **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility and ensure the full application of juvenile justice standards (Montenegro);**
- 120.29 **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility and ensure full implementation of juvenile justice standards (Mexico);**
- 120.30 **Consider raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility and ensure the full application of juvenile justice (Malawi);**
- 120.31 **Strengthen the protection of children's rights by raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility and expanding the use of non-custodial measures to ensure that detention of children is a measure of last resort (Brazil);**
- 120.32 **Guarantee access to justice and amend criminal law to ensure the right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Algeria);**
- 120.33 **Take measures to ensure a safe environment for journalists and media workers to exercise their right to freedom of expression, including by taking measures to prevent and punish defamation of journalists, effectively investigate**

**harassment and attacks against journalists and improve public access to information (Austria);**

**120.34 Reinforce protection of journalists and media outlets by implementing policies that hold public officials accountable for harassment or intimidation of these (Czechia);**

**120.35 Ensure that government representatives refrain from verbal intimidation of media representatives and individual journalists (Germany);**

**120.36 Continue to strengthen legal protections to protect the rights of freedom of expression and freedom of the press, combating disinformation and ensuring accountability for attacks on journalists and media outlets (Portugal);**

**120.37 Guarantee freedom of the press, redoubling efforts to prevent, investigate and punish threats and violence against journalists and the media (Spain);**

**120.38 Ensure the protection of media freedom by strengthening legal protection guarantees for journalists, the media and civil society (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

**120.39 Develop a national policy to combat violence, intimidation, hate speech, including by political leaders, and discrimination, in particular facilitated by technology, in order to guarantee freedom of expression for all, including women, journalists and human rights defenders (Luxembourg);**

**120.40 Ensure prompt and independent investigations into all reports of human rights violations against human rights defenders, including the killing of environmental and Indigenous human rights defenders (Belgium);**

**120.41 Adopt a comprehensive policy for the protection of environmental and human rights defenders with strategies to prevent and investigate attacks against them (Marshall Islands);**

**120.42 Ensure the protection of environmental human rights defenders (Poland);**

**120.43 Guarantee the protection and human rights of human rights defenders, particularly within Indigenous communities (Togo);**

**120.44 Guarantee the protection and human rights of human rights defenders, especially of Indigenous communities (Chile);**

**120.45 Guarantee the protection of human rights defenders of the environment and territory (Colombia);**

**120.46 Adopt legislation and policies to improve children's access to the digital environment, including children with disabilities and those living in rural and coastal areas (Estonia);**

**120.47 Ensure that sufficient resources are allocated to the implementation of the national policy against human trafficking (2020–2030), as well as to the National Fund against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants (Greece);**

**120.48 Allocate sufficient resources to the implementation of the national policy against human trafficking and strengthen early identification and referral of women and girls who were victims of trafficking to appropriate services (Liechtenstein);**

**120.49 Allocate sufficient resources for the implementation of the national policy against human trafficking and adopt legislation to stop child sex tourism (Romania);**

**120.50 Redouble efforts to combat trafficking in persons, especially of women and girls, through a law aimed at combating child sex tourism and the provision of resources and training to the police in this regard (Colombia);**

- 120.51 **Adopt legislation to stop child sex tourism throughout the country (Cyprus);**
- 120.52 **Prosecute those engaged in trafficking women and exploiting them in prostitution (Pakistan);**
- 120.53 **Continue its efforts to improve women's access to formal employment and extend social protection schemes to women employed in the informal sector of the economy (Burkina Faso);**
- 120.54 **Promote women's access to formal employment and extend social protection schemes to women employed in the informal economy (Malawi);**
- 120.55 **Implement measures to address and mitigate food insecurity (Sierra Leone);**
- 120.56 **Promote a general law on food security and a new national food security and nutrition policy (Morocco);**
- 120.57 **Ensure women's and girls' access to health services, including sexual and reproductive health services (France);**
- 120.58 **Strengthen measures to ensure that women and adolescent girls have affordable access to sexual and reproductive health services, in rural areas in particular (Bhutan);**
- 120.59 **Ensure universal access to health services, in particular to sexual and reproductive health services and modern contraceptives, including in rural and coastal areas (Estonia);**
- 120.60 **Strengthen policies for the protection of sexual and reproductive rights, including legislative measures that facilitate access to emergency contraception (Spain);**
- 120.61 **Legally protect the right to access all forms of emergency contraception, as recommended by the World Health Organization, without restriction (Canada);**
- 120.62 **Expand access to healthcare services, with particular focus on mental health and reproductive health rights, ensuring that essential health services are accessible to all (Ukraine);**
- 120.63 **Strengthen access to, and education about, sexual and reproductive health and rights for women and girls (Australia);**
- 120.64 **Strengthen the work and coverage of interdisciplinary mental health teams working at the local level, and allocate human, technical and financial resources to reach children and adolescents, identifying situations of risk (Panama);**
- 120.65 **Adopt a strategy focused on suicide prevention (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 120.66 **Protect access to therapeutic abortion by fully implementing national technical standards, while taking steps to decriminalize abortion (Canada);**
- 120.67 **Decriminalize abortion in cases of rape, incest, pregnancy in minors or malformations incompatible with extrauterine life, and enshrine access to emergency contraception in legislation (Luxembourg);**
- 120.68 **Take steps towards the decriminalization of the voluntary interruption of pregnancy in cases of rape, incest, severe fetal impairments and when the pregnant person is a child (Portugal);**
- 120.69 **Decriminalize abortion in all cases and provide accessible information to all on contraception and sexual and reproductive health and rights (Ireland);**
- 120.70 **Develop a strategy to address inequality in education aimed at increasing funding and improving public education to meet the education needs of vulnerable populations, particularly in rural and remote areas (Austria);**

- 120.71 Continue investing in education, especially in programmes benefiting vulnerable children and teenagers, committing more resources to education (Germany);
- 120.72 Implement a targeted financing plan to improve access to equal and inclusive quality education and to reduce dropout rates among migrant, rural and financially disadvantaged students, particularly in remote areas (Portugal);
- 120.73 Conduct campaigns aimed at students and parents to raise awareness of the importance of educational continuity (Cyprus);
- 120.74 Increase financial and human resources to address school dropout and gaps in school enrolment (Lebanon);
- 120.75 Strengthen its efforts to reduce school dropout rates, which may include providing resources and funding to students and educational institutions, particularly those in the area with social vulnerability (Thailand);
- 120.76 Significantly increase the number of hours of human rights education in primary and secondary education programmes (Dominican Republic);
- 120.77 Continue efforts in environmental protection through appropriate measures and redressal mechanisms (Bhutan);
- 120.78 Enhance environmental protection measures, such as improving monitoring of the use of pesticides and supporting sustainable environmental practices in rural communities (Jordan);
- 120.79 Include strong clauses on respect and protection of all human rights, including the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, under the guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in all free trade agreements and association or similar agreements that it negotiates (Dominican Republic);
- 120.80 Pursue the elaboration of a national just transition policy (Trinidad and Tobago);
- 120.81 Develop and adopt a comprehensive long-term public policy focused on the full realization of the right to development for all citizens (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 120.82 Take effective measures to realize the right to development alongside all other human rights (Pakistan);
- 120.83 Adopt a more inclusive policy on development by ensuring the full participation of marginalized communities and aligning its national development strategies with the right to development (Malaysia);
- 120.84 Develop a national action plan on business and human rights (Luxembourg);
- 120.85 Develop a national action plan on business and human rights, for which Switzerland is ready to share its expertise with Costa Rica (Switzerland);
- 120.86 Implement a public policy with sufficient resources for the application and promotion of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including for the agricultural and technology sectors (Dominican Republic );
- 120.87 Actively participate in the negotiation of an international legally binding instrument on business and human rights within the framework of the working group established by Human Rights Council resolution 26/9 (Ecuador);
- 120.88 Take effective measures, including at the legislative level, to prevent and combat violence against women (Russian Federation);
- 120.89 Ensure that all instances of gender-based violence are thoroughly investigated and the alleged perpetrators are brought to justice (Cyprus);

- 120.90 Continue efforts to ensure that all cases of sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls are thoroughly investigated and the alleged perpetrators are brought to justice (Lithuania);
- 120.91 Take effective steps to ensure that all cases of gender-based violence are thoroughly investigated, alleged perpetrators are brought to justice and victims receive redress, including through strengthening the Department on Gender-based Violence of the National Institute for Women (Azerbaijan);
- 120.92 Speed up the implementation of prevention mechanisms in combating gender-based violence and guarantee the necessary resources for the comprehensive implementation of the Violence against Women Act and the act establishing the notion of extended femicide (Spain);
- 120.93 Strengthen measures to combat gender-based violence by increasing funding to support services, particularly in rural areas, and improving law enforcement training to handle these cases effectively (Gambia);
- 120.94 Ensure the full implementation of the National Policy for Addressing and Preventing Violence against Women of All Ages, including through the allocation of sufficient resources (Ireland);
- 120.95 Allocate sufficient resources to the comprehensive implementation of the National Policy for Addressing and Preventing Violence against Women of All Ages and ensure the full implementation of Act No. 9406 (Iceland);
- 120.96 Implement support programmes for victims of sexual violence, including access to justice and psychological support during and after judicial proceedings (Thailand);
- 120.97 Adopt explicit laws and policies aimed at strengthening protection of women and girls from gender-based violence online (Republic of Korea);
- 120.98 Take appropriate legislative steps to combat digital violence and develop a national strategy against online gender-based violence in order to reduce the existing gaps between legislation and its effective application (India);
- 120.99 Ensure sufficient resources for the systematic implementation of public policies and programmes providing for children's rights, particularly at the municipal level (Zambia);
- 120.100 Take measures to ensure the systematic implementation of public policies and programmes providing for children's rights, particularly at the municipal level (Greece);
- 120.101 Adopt legislation to stop child sex tourism throughout the country (Liechtenstein);
- 120.102 Consider developing a national plan for the early detection and treatment of life-threatening conditions in children, and step up awareness campaigns for children and adolescents on the harms of drug use (Mongolia);
- 120.103 Reinforce the technical capacity of the National Child Welfare Agency to promote the implementation of Act No. 9406 at the local level, and raise awareness about the harmful effects of the practice of cohabitation between girls and adult men (Panama);
- 120.104 Strengthen the institutional architecture and management of the National Council of Persons with Disabilities and ensure that it maintains its autonomy (Namibia);
- 120.105 Develop a national strategy on deinstitutionalization of persons with disabilities (Namibia);
- 120.106 Intensify efforts to prevent and ensure accountability for acts of violence and threats against Indigenous communities (Lebanon);

- 120.107 **Facilitate the peaceful resolution of land disputes by enforcing the law on Indigenous land rights; providing adequate funding for effective compensation of non-Indigenous landholders; strengthening protections for Indigenous Peoples against violence and displacement; and ensuring equitable access to the justice system (United States of America);**
- 120.108 **Implement a reparations programme for Indigenous Peoples affected by human rights violations (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 120.109 **Amend, in consultation with Indigenous Peoples, Executive Decree No. 8487 in order to ensure that the use of comprehensive development associations is optional, not compulsory (Denmark);**
- 120.110 **Continue advancing policies and legislation to address historical and systemic injustices faced by people of African descent in Costa Rica, including by ensuring meaningful remediation and affirmative actions (Indonesia);**
- 120.111 **Finalize legislation to further strengthen the recognition and protection of LGBTQIA+ people (Australia);**
- 120.112 **Adopt legislation banning the use of conversion therapies, which threaten the life and integrity of LGBTQI+ persons (Canada);**
- 120.113 **Pass the bill banning conversion therapies (Chile);**
- 120.114 **Ban and punish conversion therapies by law, consider them as forms of torture and discrimination, and ensure that intersex people are not subjected to surgery without their consent (Colombia);**
- 120.115 **Prohibit and criminalize the use of all “conversion therapies” (Cyprus);**
- 120.116 **Ban “conversion therapies” (Iceland);**
- 120.117 **Establish a legal framework to prosecute practices that violate the integrity and dignity of LGBTI persons by processing the draft law on prohibiting conversion therapies (Spain);**
- 120.118 **Take further measures to protect the rights of LGBTQ+ persons, including banning the process of conversion therapy (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 120.119 **Respect the right of intersex persons to self-determination and ban medically unnecessary surgeries (Iceland);**
- 120.120 **Protect LGBTQI+ people from all forms of discrimination, stigmatization and gender-based violence by developing processes to raise awareness of their rights, including for healthcare staff, and by improving existing provisions aimed at combating discrimination against them (Luxembourg);**
- 120.121 **Protect the rights of the LGBTIQ community and the sexual and reproductive rights of women (Mexico);**
- 120.122 **Strengthen its efforts to address gender-based violence, discrimination and stigmatization against LGBTI+ persons, including proactive steps to improve the reporting of violence, discrimination and exclusion of incidents (Thailand);**
- 120.123 **Ensure that migrants and those in need of international protection can fully exercise their economic, social and cultural rights (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 120.124 **Strengthen further administrative and legal measures to prevent and investigate cases of disappearance of migrants and ensure that those responsible are criminally prosecuted (Bangladesh);**

120.125 Ensure that all asylum-seekers are granted effective access to the country and that detention is only used as a measure of last resort (Gambia);

120.126 Strengthen internal legislative and operational measures to promote and protect the rights of vulnerable groups of the population, with an emphasis on Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants, refugee children and asylum-seekers, guaranteeing better access to justice and education, the physical integrity of Indigenous leaders, as well as all the protection of the human rights of the defenders of the rights of Indigenous communities (Cabo Verde).

121. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Costa Rica and have been noted by Costa Rica:

121.1. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Côte d'Ivoire);

121.2 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines);

121.3 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

121.4 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Algeria);

121.5 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and harmonize national legislation with the provisions of the Convention (Egypt);

121.6 Consider the possibility of ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger);

121.7 Ratify the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement) (Chile) (Colombia) (Slovenia);

121.8 Decriminalize abortion in all circumstances and ensure access to safe and legal abortion services and emergency contraception in line with World Health Organization guidelines (Norway);

121.9 Reform the Criminal Code to decriminalize abortion in case of fetal malformations incompatible with extrauterine life and in case of pregnancies resulting from rape or incest (Belgium);

121.10 Decriminalize abortion in all circumstances in order to protect and fulfil the right of everyone to bodily and reproductive autonomy (Czechia);

121.11 Legalize abortion, at least in cases of rape, incest, threats to the pregnant woman and severe fetal impairment (Denmark);

121.12 Decriminalize abortion under all circumstances and ensure unrestricted access to reproductive health services (Iceland).

122. 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.

### III. Voluntary pledges and commitments

123. Costa Rica pledges to develop a national action plan to follow up the recommendations of the universal periodic review with the meaningful participation of civil society through the Permanent Consultation Entity; conclude the formulation and adoption of a national strategy for a society free of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia in consultation with affected populations, in follow-up to the national policy ending in 2025;



and establish a national system of management and follow-up of international human rights obligations through the implementation of the National Recommendations Tracking Database, with the support of OHCHR.

## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Costa Rica was headed by the Vice Minister of Multilateral Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Alejandro SOLANO ORTIZ and composed of the following members:

- Monserrat RUIZ GUEVARA, congresista, presidenta de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos de la Asamblea Legislativa de la República de Costa Rica;
  - Damaris VARGAS VÁSQUEZ, magistrada, vicepresidenta de la Corte Suprema de Justicia de la República de Costa Rica;
  - Embajador Christian GUILLERMET FERNÁNDEZ, Representante Permanente de Costa Rica ante la Oficina de Naciones Unidas y otras organizaciones internacionales con sede en Ginebra;
  - Embajadora Eugenia GUTIÉRREZ RUIZ, presidenta de la Comisión Interinstitucional para el Seguimiento e Implementación de las Obligaciones Internacionales de Derechos Humanos de Costa Rica;
  - Ministro consejero Roberto CÉSPEDES GÓMEZ, Misión Permanente de Costa Rica ante la Oficina de Naciones Unidas y otras organizaciones internacionales con sede en Ginebra;
  - Ministra consejera Viviana TINOCO MONGE, Misión Permanente de Costa Rica ante la Oficina de Naciones Unidas y otras organizaciones internacionales con sede en Ginebra;
  - Ministra consejera Marcela COEN MORAGA, Misión Permanente de Costa Rica ante la Oficina de Naciones Unidas y otras organizaciones internacionales con sede en Ginebra;
  - Tercer secretario Daniel ZAVALA PORRAS, secretario ejecutivo de la Comisión Interinstitucional para el Seguimiento e Implementación de las Obligaciones Internacionales de Derechos Humanos.
-