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

### **Mozambique**

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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 thirty-eighth session from 3 to 14 May 2021. The review of Mozambique was held at the 3rd meeting, on 4 May 2021. The delegation of Mozambique was headed by the Minister of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs, Helena Mateus Kida. At its 10th meeting, held on 7 May 2021, the Working Group adopted the report on Mozambique.
2. On 12 January 2021, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Mozambique: Armenia, Eritrea and the Philippines.
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 Mozambique:
  - (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, Panama, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay was transmitted to Mozambique 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 Minister of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs introduced the national report of Mozambique to the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review.
6. The delegation indicated that the universal periodic review had proved to be a useful tool in strengthening of the protection of human rights at the national level. Since the previous review, in 2016, Mozambique had committed itself to and made efforts to implement the 180 recommendations it had accepted.
7. Despite numerous challenges, including political-military instability in the central and northern regions, economic and financial crises, the adverse effects of climate change and the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, there had been substantial improvements in the human rights situation from 2016 to 2020 compared to the previous period.
8. The national report had been the object of consultations with representatives of the State and civil society, notably during a workshop held in October 2020.
9. During the period under review, there had been an increase in the institutional and response capacity of national human rights institutions, in particular the Office of the Ombudsman and the National Human Rights Commission, the results of which had already been felt by citizens.

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<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/38/MOZ/1.

<sup>2</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/38/MOZ/2.

<sup>3</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/38/MOZ/3.

10. At the international level, there had been an increase in technical cooperation with the United Nations, including with the United Nations Development Programme, OHCHR and the special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council.
11. The delegation provided information on the status of implementation of the recommendations from the previous review cycle.
12. In the framework of the dialogue for the achievement of peace and national reconciliation, a consensus had been reached between the Government and the largest opposition party, the Mozambique National Resistance, which permitted the approval by the parliament of new electoral legislation.
13. Concerning the right to political participation and the right to vote, there were few legal restrictions on political participation. The real barriers faced by the citizens of Mozambique included poverty, illiteracy, inadequate access to information and gender inequality.
14. In Mozambique, the rights to freedom of expression, of the press and to information were guaranteed by the Constitution. In recent years, the media landscape had expanded and diversified.
15. Several measures had been taken to combat trafficking in persons, including the adoption in 2018 of a law that incorporated into domestic legislation the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and established the legal framework for preventing and combating trafficking in persons. Additionally, a review of the anti-trafficking law was currently under way under the guidance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.
16. The reform of the administration of justice system, including through the approval of the new Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure and the adoption of the Code on the Execution of Sentences, were important achievements.
17. As a result of the country's economic and financial situation, the number of police officers remained very low despite recent efforts to recruit and train new police officers. Such training, which included a human rights component, was mandatory.
18. The Government had reformed the prison sector to guarantee fundamental human rights. The Government and cooperating partners had taken measures for the gradual improvement of prison conditions, placing particular emphasis on the rehabilitation of detention facilities and the correct application by magistrates of alternatives to imprisonment to address overcrowding, which continued to be the biggest challenge faced by the penitentiary system. Additionally, the Government had undertaken a vaccination campaign in prisons to protect prisoners from COVID-19.
19. To combat corruption and ensure transparency, the Central Public Ethics Commission had been created and Law No. 13/2020 of 23 December 2020 establishing the special legal regime for the extended confiscation and recovery of assets had been adopted, among other measures.
20. Measures taken to combat discrimination and violence against women included the gender policy and its implementation strategy (2018) and the National Plan to Prevent and Combat Gender-Based Violence (2018–2021). Mozambique had one of the highest percentages of women representatives in the national parliament, in both the continent and the world, and that proportion had increased over the years.
21. Numerous laws, policies, plans and other measures had been adopted to promote the well-being and protection of children. In particular, Law No. 19/2019 of 22 October 2019 on preventing and combating premature unions had been enacted and the Family Law had been revised to eliminate the provision allowing persons under the age of 18 years to marry with parental consent.
22. Mozambique had adopted rigorous measures to eliminate violence against children and had recognized the need for resources, multisectoral coordination, monitoring and data

collection, cooperation with civil society and the dissemination of information regarding the prohibition of early unions.

23. Persons with disabilities faced numerous challenges and the Government was committed to improving the legal and institutional framework for protecting their rights, for example through the adoption of measures to guarantee the accessibility of public services and buildings, as well as access to education, professional training and employment.

24. Legislative and policy measures had been adopted to protect the rights of older persons, including the national Policy for Older Persons and the Basic Social Security Programme.

25. Persons with albinism were victims of persecution, violence and discrimination due to myths and superstitions. In the northern part of the country, they were attacked, kidnapped and trafficked for the purpose of extracting organs and other parts of the human body. To combat this phenomenon, the new Penal Code severely punished practices related to the crimes of kidnapping and human trafficking. Additionally, the multisectoral plan aimed at responding to the problems faced by persons with albinism and at protecting them adopted in 2015 was in the process of implementation.

26. Although Mozambique had not yet ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Government had made efforts to implement policies emanating from the Covenant.

27. The enactment of the Law No. 18/2018 of 28 December 2018 establishing the National Education System had raised compulsory schooling from grade 7 to grade 9. Additionally, the expansion of the school network throughout the country had increased enrolment rates and reduced the average distance travelled by students. By revoking decree 39/GM/2003, which prohibited pregnant students from attending daytime classes, the Government addressed concerns about the discriminatory nature of the decree and the fact that it put pregnant girls at greater risk of physical and sexual abuse and violence.

28. The health sector was one of the priority areas for national development. An analysis of the situation revealed that poverty was behind the major public health problems. Despite existing challenges, successful results had been observed that guaranteed permanent improvements in the health indicators defined in the National Five-Year Plan 2015–2020.

29. Action had been taken within the framework of the National Five-Year Plan 2015–2020 to combat poverty, develop housing and ensure access to water and sanitation.

30. A number of challenges remained, however, including the high unemployment rate and widespread poverty.

31. In the future, the Government planned: to establish a commission for coordination on human rights and international humanitarian law; to adopt a national human rights policy and a strategy for its implementation; to adopt a national action plan for implementing the recommendations arising from the third cycle of the universal periodic review; to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and other international legal instruments; and to improve dialogue and strengthen partnerships with civil society organizations.

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

32. During the interactive dialogue, 106 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

33. Thailand welcomed the legislative measures taken to protect the rights of children in line with international standards.

34. Timor-Leste commended Mozambique for adopting the law on the National Education System and the law on preventing and combating premature unions.

35. Togo welcomed the efforts made by Mozambique to implement the recommendations from its second universal periodic review despite the challenges it faced.

36. Tunisia welcomed the efforts made by Mozambique to strengthen the National Human Rights Commission, promote women's rights and reform the justice sector.
37. Uganda welcomed the ratification of treaties and encouraged the Government to sustain its efforts to reform the criminal and judicial system.
38. Ukraine welcomed the revision of the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure and the adoption of the Code on the Execution of Sentences.
39. The United Arab Emirates welcomed the ratification of instruments of the International Labour Organization to protect the rights of children.
40. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland urged Mozambique to investigate allegations of human rights violations and hold perpetrators accountable.
41. The United States of America stated that human rights abuses by security or government-affiliated private security forces undermined efforts to address the humanitarian crises.
42. Uruguay welcomed the National Action Plan to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
43. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the institutional measures and policies on domestic violence and the rights of older persons.
44. Viet Nam welcomed the approval of legislation and policies to combat gender inequalities and the adoption of measures to improve women's political participation.
45. Yemen welcomed the efforts made to strengthen cooperation with humanitarian and human rights organizations and to consolidate the pillars of human rights protection.
46. Zambia thanked the delegation for the national report and the update provided.
47. Zimbabwe welcomed the measures taken to promote the rights of women, train the judiciary and the police and report to the treaty bodies.
48. Albania encouraged Mozambique to allocate sufficient resources to the National Human Rights Commission and welcomed the increased political participation of women.
49. Algeria welcomed the law on the National Education System and the strengthening of the National Human Rights Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman.
50. Angola welcomed the Government's cooperation with the special procedures and the efforts made on security and climate change.
51. Argentina made recommendations.
52. Armenia encouraged Mozambique to continue to address child labour and to establish safe avenues for reporting torture.
53. Australia recognized the challenges faced in combating terrorism and expressed concern about reports of attacks against journalists.
54. Austria thanked the delegation for the report.
55. Azerbaijan welcomed the development of the capacity of national human rights institutions and the increased technical cooperation with United Nations human rights bodies.
56. Belarus noted with satisfaction the improvement in national institutions and the adoption of legislation in the field of human rights.
57. Belgium commended the efforts of Mozambique to promote children's rights and gender equality.
58. Botswana congratulated Mozambique for its reform of the justice system and for the improvements to the National Human Rights Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman.
59. Brazil appreciated the steps taken by Mozambique to promote gender equality, combat corruption and improve access to health care, education and water.

60. Bulgaria recognized the challenges faced, noting that the situation had deteriorated as a result of the crisis in Cabo Delgado.
61. Burkina Faso welcomed the adoption of a plan to combat violence against women and legislation to prevent child marriage.
62. Burundi welcomed the adoption of various measures, including those to protect the rights of persons with disabilities.
63. Cambodia welcomed the efforts of Mozambique to advance children's rights and engage with United Nations human rights mechanisms.
64. Cameroon expressed appreciation for the considerable improvements in the protection of human rights.
65. Canada commended Mozambique for the adoption of the 2019 law on preventing and combating premature unions, in fulfilment of its universal periodic review commitments.
66. Chad welcomed the review of the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure.
67. Chile highlighted the policies adopted to promote gender equality and eradicate gender-based violence.
68. China appreciated the implementation of a five-year national plan for development and the formulation of a social security strategy.
69. Côte d'Ivoire congratulated Mozambique for the progress made since the second universal periodic review cycle.
70. Cuba recognized the priority given by Mozambique to the health sector and acknowledged improvements in this area despite the COVID-19 pandemic.
71. Czechia welcomed the adoption of laws improving the situation of women and human rights defenders in recent years.
72. Denmark noted that laws prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity had yet to be adopted.
73. Djibouti acknowledged the implementation of recommendations from the previous cycle through various laws, policies and programmes of action.
74. Egypt commended the reforms implemented to improve the legislative and institutional framework and the progress made on the rights of women and children.
75. Eswatini noted the progress made in implementing the recommendations from the second cycle of the universal periodic review.
76. Ethiopia welcomed the focus on reporting to the treaty bodies and the commitment made to increasing women's representation in the parliament and to addressing child marriage.
77. Fiji praised the resilience shown by Mozambique in facing challenges, including the political-military instability in certain regions and the adverse impacts of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic.
78. Finland welcomed the engagement of Mozambique in the universal periodic review process.
79. France welcomed the presentation of the national report.
80. Georgia welcomed the establishment of a legal framework and strategy for social protection and the law on the National Education System.
81. Germany remained concerned about the human rights situation in Cabo Delgado and restrictions targeting independent media and journalists.
82. Ghana welcomed the reform of the administration of justice system and the prison sector and the measures taken to combat gender inequalities.
83. Iceland welcomed the commitment of Mozambique to achieving gender equality.

84. India noted challenges to protecting the right to health and, in particular, the need for specific strategies to address the COVID-19 pandemic.
85. Indonesia welcomed the efforts made to strengthen the capacity of national human rights institutions and the increased dialogue with civil society.
86. Iraq welcomed the decision by Mozambique to extend a standing invitation to the special procedures, as well as the progress made in the peace process.
87. Ireland acknowledged the efforts made to promote human rights but remained concerned about the shrinking democratic and civic space.
88. Italy welcomed the National Plan to Prevent and Combat Gender-Based Violence (2018–2021) and the 2019 law on preventing and combating premature unions.
89. Japan noted the challenges facing Mozambique, including the instability in Cabo Delgado and the challenges related to persons affected by leprosy.
90. Israel noted the challenges related to climate change and terrorism. It welcomed legislative and policy frameworks aimed at promoting gender equality.
91. Jordan welcomed legislative and policy efforts to promote respect for human rights and the 2019 peace agreement.
92. In response to the questions regarding the situation in Cabo Delgado, the delegation indicated that the instability resulting from terrorist activities had undermined the efforts of Mozambique to ensure the enjoyment of human rights. The delegation recalled that Mozambique was a country where all citizens and institutions had to comply with the rule of law. Defending the nation and the national interest entailed protecting all citizens and their property, particularly by the armed forces, whose action was guided by the Constitution and other relevant legislation.
93. The current peace process was aimed at bringing together a whole plethora of stakeholders, including international partners like the United Nations. The agreement for peace and national reconciliation in Mozambique was the main instrument guiding the process for the demilitarization, disarmament and reintegration of former members of the Mozambique National Resistance. Awareness-raising efforts were being made to encourage their self-proclaimed high commanders to join the process.
94. Mozambique had granted national and international media access to the areas affected by the conflict so that they could report on the living conditions in those areas in a transparent and impartial manner. However, efforts to ensure security could occasionally result in limits on the number of persons authorized access to those areas. Access had been ensured, in particular, to organizations with expertise in human rights and humanitarian aid, including the International Committee of the Red Cross.
95. The issues and recommendations raised during the interactive dialogue largely corresponded to the Government's main concerns, which were already being addressed, as described in the national report. In that regard, information had been provided on early marriages, on the eradication of all types of violence, including domestic violence, on gender equality and on legal reforms, including for the incorporation of international obligations into domestic law. Moreover, action had been taken to decrease school dropout rates, particularly among girls, to reduce illiteracy rates and to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.
96. Concerning the ratification of international human rights instruments, a process was in place for the ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to consider the ratification of other instruments.
97. Kenya commended Mozambique for its review of the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure.
98. Latvia appreciated the presentation of the national report.
99. Lebanon welcomed the 2019 peace agreement but expressed concern about the large number of people displaced by natural disasters in the north.

100. Lesotho applauded Mozambique for safeguarding freedom of opinion and expression through the establishment of a media higher council.
101. Libya commended the enactment of laws and policies for the promotion and protection of human rights.
102. Luxembourg wished Mozambique success in the implementation of the recommendations received during the review.
103. Malawi thanked the Government for its comprehensive report.
104. Malaysia noted the efforts made to tackle human trafficking and poor detention conditions. Malaysia encouraged Mozambique to take additional steps to protect persons with albinism.
105. Maldives acknowledged the efforts made to improve the operational capacity of human rights institutions and reform the administration of justice system.
106. Mali expressed its solidarity with Mozambique following the recent terrorist attacks and called upon the international community to further support the efforts made by Mozambique to fight terrorism.
107. Mauritania congratulated Mozambique for the progress made in the promotion of human rights since the past cycle.
108. Mauritius applauded the adoption of measures to combat violence against children and prohibit forced labour.
109. Mexico welcomed the National Action Plan to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labour and the updating of the anti-trafficking law.
110. Montenegro welcomed the OHCHR presence in Mozambique and encouraged continued government engagement with the United Nations country team to promote human rights.
111. Morocco took note of the efforts made by Mozambique to fulfil its national and international obligations for the protection of human rights.
112. Namibia commended Mozambique for taking measures aimed at promoting the rights of women and children in the country.
113. Nepal appreciated the efforts made to reform the prison sector, ensure children's right to education and increase women's representation in political life.
114. The Netherlands highlighted the progress made on the promotion of safe abortion. It expressed concern about reports of a violent insurgency in the north of Mozambique.
115. Nicaragua thanked the delegation for the presentation of its national report.
116. New Zealand was concerned by reports of an increase in domestic violence in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.
117. The Niger welcomed the efforts made to address the effects of natural disasters and called upon the international community to support conflict resolution initiatives in Cabo Delgado.
118. Nigeria commended Mozambique for its poverty reduction efforts and its determination to combat trafficking and corruption and to protect the rights of vulnerable persons.
119. Norway made recommendations.
120. Pakistan welcomed the efforts made to reform the justice system and incorporate human rights education in the national curriculum.
121. Paraguay called for further measures aimed at eliminating all forms of discrimination, in particular against persons with albinism.
122. The Philippines welcomed the efforts made by Mozambique to strengthen women's political participation and combat gender inequalities.

123. Poland urged Mozambique to make every effort to effectively combat and eradicate child and forced marriage, as well as other harmful practices such as initiation rites, which had a detrimental psychological and physical effect on children and women.
124. Portugal expressed concern about the human rights situation in Cabo Delgado and the growing restrictions to the civic space.
125. Qatar welcomed the efforts made to promote human rights through laws, constitutional reforms and programmes and to improve conditions for all without discrimination.
126. The Republic of Korea acknowledged the efforts made by Mozambique regarding gender issues, especially women's increased participation in decision-making bodies.
127. The Russian Federation welcomed the ongoing efforts made by the authorities to strengthen national human rights capacities.
128. Rwanda acknowledged the adoption by Mozambique of stringent measures to combat violence against children through the application of criminal sanctions.
129. Senegal welcomed the major efforts made to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights.
130. Serbia welcomed women's increased participation in decision-making bodies, a step designed to ensure greater gender parity.
131. Sierra Leone welcomed the adoption of a national plan to combat gender-based violence and the implementation of gender equality policies.
132. Singapore welcomed the efforts made to guarantee the right to education, especially for children, including by raising the compulsory schooling age.
133. Slovenia was concerned by the worsening human rights situation in Cabo Delgado, where the conflict had affected children and adolescents.
134. Somalia welcomed the measures taken to combat corruption and the increase in women's representation in government institutions at all levels.
135. South Africa welcomed the efforts made to improve the capacity of human rights institutions and the reforms to the judicial system.
136. South Sudan thanked the delegation for the national report.
137. Spain applauded the delegation for participating in the review exercise.
138. Sri Lanka wished to highlight the efforts aimed at increasing the institutional and response capacity of national human rights institutions.
139. The State of Palestine commended the Government on the steps taken to respond to the impacts of climate change.
140. The Sudan was encouraged by the constructive engagement with human rights mechanisms and the cooperation with different regional and international bodies.
141. Sweden commended the Government's efforts to end child marriage and acknowledged the steps taken to combat corruption.
142. Switzerland expressed concern about the resurgence of violence in Cabo Delgado, which had led to great suffering among civilians.
143. The Syrian Arab Republic noted that Mozambique faced enormous economic, security and climate-related challenges and welcomed the measures taken to protect older persons.
144. The delegation noted that the National Human Rights Commission had the capacity to investigate abuses by the security forces. The Commission had deployed commissioners specialized in various thematic areas so that they could monitor, in a coordinated fashion, the situation in Cabo Delgado, including through regular visits. In addition, the Government had been following up on attacks through various mechanisms, to monitor the human rights situation of the civilian population.

145. The Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Defence had investigated human rights violations, whenever necessary, particularly if they involved the excessive use of force or abuse of power by State officials. The Government had always been ready to provide humanitarian assistance to the victims of attacks by insurgents.

146. Journalists and civil society organizations, as well as the general public, had been actively carrying out their work and expressing their opinions without any fear of reprisals or intimidation.

147. The Government had supported persons affected by natural disasters and conflicts, carried out media campaigns and disseminated materials to raise awareness in communities about vulnerable situations and abuse.

148. In conclusion, the delegation thanked all who had participated in the review of Mozambique and said that it would continue to submit additional information to the questions raised, including at the time of the adoption of the report by the Human Rights Council.

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

149. **The following recommendations will be examined by Mozambique, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council.**

149.1 **Sign, ratify and implement the main international human rights and international humanitarian law instruments (Albania);**

149.2 **Ratify the main international human rights treaties to which it is not yet a party, including the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), of the International Labour Organization, to make progress on Sustainable Development Goals 5, 8, 11, 13 and 16 (Paraguay);**

149.3 **Swiftly conclude the process of ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and consider becoming a State party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Poland);**

149.4 **Pursue its efforts to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Mauritius);**

149.5 **Intensify efforts to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Nepal);**

149.6 **Consider taking steps towards ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Pakistan);**

149.7 **Consider ratifying outstanding international instruments, notably the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Ghana);**

149.8 **Accede to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and fully implement them into domestic law (Indonesia);**

149.9 **Accede to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Lebanon) (Côte d'Ivoire);**

149.10 **Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Argentina) (India) (Rwanda) (Senegal) (Latvia);**

149.11 **Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and its Optional Protocol (Portugal);**

149.12 **Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as well as other international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Burundi);**

- 149.13 **Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Switzerland) (Timor-Leste) (Armenia) (Chile) (Namibia) (Republic of Korea) (Lesotho) (Ukraine) (Luxembourg) (Mexico) (France);**
- 149.14 **Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina);**
- 149.15 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ukraine) (Lesotho) (Luxembourg) (Mexico) (Portugal) (France);**
- 149.16 **Continue efforts to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Iraq);**
- 149.17 **Complete the process of ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Japan);**
- 149.18 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Portugal) (Ukraine);**
- 149.19 **Ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education, guaranteeing in particular inclusive education for all children (South Sudan);**
- 149.20 **Ratify the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention against Discrimination in Education (Rwanda) (Ukraine);**
- 149.21 **Ratify the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), of the International Labour Organization (Namibia);**
- 149.22 **Ratify all pending treaties, including the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Zambia);**
- 149.23 **Ratify and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as recommended during the second universal periodic review cycle (Latvia);**
- 149.24 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and implement it into national law (Netherlands);**
- 149.25 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Luxembourg) (Austria) (France);**
- 149.26 **Withdraw its reservations to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Paraguay);**
- 149.27 **Ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the rights of persons with disabilities in Africa (Yemen);**
- 149.28 **Coordinate with the relevant human rights bodies to acquire technical expertise and conduct programmes aimed at capacity-building in order to fulfil reporting obligations under various international human rights conventions (Maldives);**
- 149.29 **Accelerate the process of domestication of the provisions of the international human rights treaties to which it is a party (Zimbabwe);**
- 149.30 **Adopt and implement the national human rights policy and strategy as planned (Viet Nam);**
- 149.31 **Consider adopting, in the short term, a national human rights strategy (Angola);**
- 149.32 **Consider the possibility of elaborating a national human rights action plan (Belarus);**
- 149.33 **Continue the constructive policy dialogue on human rights and governance with the European Union (Germany);**

- 149.34 Sustain efforts to uphold human rights and seek necessary support to enhance its capacity in this regard (Nigeria);
- 149.35 Seek international assistance in mitigating the adverse effects of COVID-19 and climate change (Pakistan);
- 149.36 Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 149.37 Continue working with the relevant United Nations agencies and human rights mechanisms, as appropriate, including through capacity-building initiatives, to promote and protect the rights of its people (Singapore);
- 149.38 Ensure that the National Human Rights Commission is afforded the necessary resources to be able to effectively implement its mandate in full compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Zambia);
- 149.39 Guarantee the independence of the National Human Rights Commission in accordance with the Paris Principles and allocate further human, technical and financial resources as required (Togo);
- 149.40 Continue efforts to ensure the effective operation and full independence of the National Human Rights Commission, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Djibouti);
- 149.41 Provide its National Human Rights Commission with sufficient resources to enable effective monitoring and enforcement of the implementation of the human rights framework (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 149.42 Provide adequate financial and budgetary autonomy to ensure the effective functioning of the National Human Rights Commission so that it can discharge its mandate effectively and independently (Paraguay);
- 149.43 Establish a standing national mechanism for the implementation, reporting and follow-up of human rights recommendations, considering the possibility of receiving cooperation assistance for this purpose, within the framework of Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17 (Paraguay);
- 149.44 Support the progress made in combating discrimination and inequalities and promote the rights of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities and persons with albinism (Tunisia);
- 149.45 Take further measures to protect vulnerable groups of population, in particular women, persons with disabilities, persons with albinism, children and older persons (Ukraine);
- 149.46 Guarantee the exercise of the rights of persons in vulnerable situations, in particular persons with albinism and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Mexico);
- 149.47 Adopt legislation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Sweden);
- 149.48 Improve the conditions of life for vulnerable groups, in particular persons with albinism, by facilitating their access to education, professional training and employment (Somalia);
- 149.49 Intensify measures to tackle discrimination and stigma against persons with disabilities and those with albinism (South Africa);
- 149.50 Intensify efforts to raise awareness of albinism to fight the rampant discrimination against persons with albinism (Kenya);
- 149.51 Take further measures to improve the human rights of persons with albinism and address the widespread discrimination against them (Malaysia);

- 149.52 **Implement a national action plan on discrimination against persons with albinism, with concrete indicators and a timeline with regard to ensuring access to health, education, employment and social integration (Norway);**
- 149.53 **Further strengthen efforts to promote the rights of older persons by implementing relevant national laws and policies (Sri Lanka);**
- 149.54 **Further advance the protection of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons by prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and guaranteeing the right to freedom of association for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Spain);**
- 149.55 **Enact legislation to explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Denmark);**
- 149.56 **Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that addresses direct and indirect discrimination and encompasses all the prohibited grounds of discrimination, including sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);**
- 149.57 **Pursue efforts aimed at strengthening the realization of economic, social and cultural rights, in particular the right to development (Algeria);**
- 149.58 **Expedite the process of developing a national action plan on business and human rights and ensure its coherence with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (Thailand);**
- 149.59 **Adopt a comprehensive national strategy and action plan on business and human rights (Ukraine);**
- 149.60 **Continue and intensify efforts to implement frameworks on business and human rights consistent with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and address its context-specific business and human rights concerns (Fiji);**
- 149.61 **Strengthen measures in relation to the extraction of natural resources to promote respect for human rights in accordance with the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (Switzerland);**
- 149.62 **Continue its efforts to respond to the impacts of climate change and to ensure the inclusion of environmental protections and infrastructural considerations in its plans (State of Palestine);**
- 149.63 **Intensify efforts aimed at mitigating the effects of climate change and natural disasters, including through the effective implementation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Master Plan 2017–2030 (Botswana);**
- 149.64 **Ensure that women, children, persons with disabilities, minority groups and local communities are meaningfully engaged in the development and implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks (Fiji);**
- 149.65 **Accelerate the process for the implementation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Master Plan 2017–2030, as well as the National Strategy for Basic Social Security 2016–2024 (Somalia);**
- 149.66 **Pursue efforts to address the political and military tensions in the central region of the country and continue to provide assistance to displaced people until they return to their regions (Lebanon);**
- 149.67 **Take urgent measures to protect the population affected by the conflicts in the north and centre of the country and ensure that displaced persons, particularly children, have access to health care, education and other basic public services, as well as protection from human rights violations (Portugal);**
- 149.68 **Ensure that all security forces give priority to the protection of civilians and respect their obligations under international humanitarian law (Luxembourg);**

- 149.69 Continue its efforts to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive peace process, strengthen complaints mechanisms for victims and take further measures to ensure the protection of civilians (State of Palestine);
- 149.70 Ensure a comprehensive and inclusive process for peace, justice and reconciliation and address, in particular, the need for additional measures for the consolidation of peace, including through the greater involvement of affected communities (Jordan);
- 149.71 Adopt capacity-building and technical assistance projects in cooperation with OHCHR with the aim of building the capacity of State officials, in particular the security forces, on international principles (Jordan);
- 149.72 Adopt a comprehensive strategy against violent extremism based on the rule of law and the promotion and respect for human rights, including through the training of security and defence forces (Spain);
- 149.73 Request support from other States, as well as from regional and international organizations, to combat violent extremism and terrorism (Luxembourg);
- 149.74 Continue its efforts to counter extremist activity within its territory while protecting the human rights of civilians (Australia);
- 149.75 Develop, in partnership with the international community, a counter-terrorism plan in line with international law and international human rights standards (Bulgaria);
- 149.76 Ensure accountability and due process through independent and transparent investigations into cases of alleged human rights violations by the military and the police in Cabo Delgado (Sweden);
- 149.77 Adopt measures to end human rights abuses and violations in Cabo Delgado and hold accountable those responsible (Canada);
- 149.78 Facilitate human rights monitoring and media and humanitarian access to Cabo Delgado Province (Finland);
- 149.79 Take necessary measures, in coordination with the international community, to restore stability and improve the humanitarian situation in Cabo Delgado (Japan);
- 149.80 Facilitate humanitarian assistance in the Cabo Delgado region, ensuring that those responsible for human rights violations are identified and brought to justice, while respecting all fair trial guarantees (Portugal);
- 149.81 Ensure the protection of civilians, in particular in the context of the conflict in Cabo Delgado (France);
- 149.82 Step up efforts to ensure that the principles of international humanitarian and human rights law are adhered to in Cabo Delgado, for example, for the protection of civilians and the prevention of ill-treatment (Germany);
- 149.83 Ensure humanitarian access to affected communities in conflict zones, investigate human rights violations and abuses and hold those responsible to account (Norway);
- 149.84 Provide additional funding for emergency assistance to victims of terrorists to address the pressing problems of the affected population (Russian Federation);
- 149.85 Ensure that all children in conflict areas are protected against violations of their rights, especially grave violations such as killing and maiming, recruitment or use of children by armed forces or armed groups and sexual violence (Slovenia);

- 149.86 **Implement all the necessary measures to fight against enforced disappearances, extrajudicial executions and ill-treatment (France);**
- 149.87 **Accelerate the implementation of the multisectoral plan to combat violence against people with albinism (Burkina Faso);**
- 149.88 **Continue its efforts to combat violence against persons with albinism, protect them from discrimination and hold accountable those responsible for any violations committed against them (Egypt);**
- 149.89 **Institute measures to protect persons with albinism from kidnapping and trafficking (Uganda);**
- 149.90 **Establish appropriate mechanisms to protect people with albinism, in order to address the recent waves of violence directed against them (Israel);**
- 149.91 **Investigate and prosecute incidents of violence against persons with albinism (Sierra Leone);**
- 149.92 **Strengthen the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and law enforcement institutions to ensure the right to a fair trial in line with international human rights standards (Finland);**
- 149.93 **Continue its efforts to strengthen measures to foster training and raise the awareness of public officials, including the security forces, on relevant human rights issues (Ghana);**
- 149.94 **Take necessary measures to improve professionalism in the police force by including human rights practices in training (Malawi);**
- 149.95 **Consider the establishment of non-custodial sentences to avoid overcrowding of detention facilities (Uganda);**
- 149.96 **Investigate allegations of human rights abuses by non-State armed groups, government security forces and private security forces; hold accountable those found responsible; and ensure government security forces are vetted for complicity in human rights abuses and trained in responsibilities under international humanitarian law and international human rights law (United States of America);**
- 149.97 **Ensure the prompt, thorough and impartial investigation of alleged human rights violations and abuses and of violations of international humanitarian law by all parties, including the security forces, and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice (Ireland);**
- 149.98 **Take all necessary measures to ensure respect for human rights by public and private security forces, as well as conduct investigations into all allegations of violations, in order to bring to justice the perpetrators (Switzerland);**
- 149.99 **Conduct immediate, thorough and impartial investigations into allegations of arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, torture and excessive use of force by security services (Australia);**
- 149.100 **Ensure that all cases of enforced disappearances, summary executions and torture are investigated and that the alleged perpetrators are brought to justice (Belgium);**
- 149.101 **Ensure that all allegations of human rights violations against civilians, including killing and abduction, are thoroughly and impartially investigated (Republic of Korea);**
- 149.102 **Enhance efforts to prevent and ensure prosecution for human rights violations by law enforcement personnel, including the excessive use of force, arbitrary arrests and ill-treatment (Italy);**

- 149.103 Consider the establishment of specialized services for children in conflict with the law, especially by aligning laws on arrest and custody of minors with the country's obligations under international law (Malawi);
- 149.104 Consider harmonizing the juvenile justice system with international standards (United Arab Emirates);
- 149.105 Continue its efforts aimed at reforming the justice sector, including criminal procedures and criminal justice (Mauritania);
- 149.106 Fully implement the child justice system in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Kenya);
- 149.107 Reform the legal framework on the arrest and custody of minors, harmonizing it with the country's obligations under international law (Zambia);
- 149.108 Continue the reform measures specified in the July 2019 report on transparency, governance and corruption (Austria);
- 149.109 Pursue efforts to promote the rule of law and good governance and cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Morocco);
- 149.110 Fully and effectively respect the protection of human rights, including the rights to freedom of expression, access to information and freedom of the press (Paraguay);
- 149.111 Take all necessary steps through the law and government policy to ensure protection and promotion of freedom of expression, including the robust implementation of article 48 of its Constitution (Australia);
- 149.112 Ensure that the reform of the law on social communication and the press guarantees the rights to freedom of expression, the press and access to information, as well as guaranteeing the work of journalists and human rights defenders (Spain);
- 149.113 Redraft the proposed law on social communication and the law on broadcasting to guarantee freedom of expression, including by increasing the space for dissent and discussion, and ensure a safe and enabling space for everyone to exercise these rights (Sweden);
- 149.114 Review the proposed media and communication laws with the aim of guaranteeing freedom of opinion and expression through free and independent media (Germany);
- 149.115 Adopt the law on social communication and the law on broadcasting by the parliament without any limitations on freedom of the media (Czechia);
- 149.116 Ensure that the protections on freedom of expression provided for under international human rights law are reflected in the text of proposed new laws governing media and broadcasting, and that these are respected in practice (Canada);
- 149.117 Align legislation on freedom of expression and freedom of the press with international standards so that human rights defenders and journalists can operate without restrictions and risks and ensure accountability for all reported cases of violations and abuses against them (Italy);
- 149.118 Ensure that the right to freedom of expression and freedom of the press is respected, including in the Internet space, and maintain a positive environment for the work of independent media and journalists (Bulgaria);
- 149.119 Guarantee the right to freedom of opinion and expression and ensure that journalists and media outlets can perform their work without undue interference (Austria);
- 149.120 Guarantee freedom of expression, association and assembly, as well as the protection of human rights defenders, guarantee and protect press freedom

**and take all measures so that journalists can carry out their work independently, without fear of reprisals (France);**

**149.121 Continue to reinforce relevant measures to promote and protect the rights to freedom of expression, access to information and media freedom in the country (Ghana);**

**149.122 Strengthen the civic space by investigating all reported cases of violence or intimidation, including reported attacks, against human rights defenders and the press (Iceland);**

**149.123 Take all necessary measures to fully protect the rights of freedom of expression, access to information and media freedom for all, including human rights defenders, journalists and media workers (Ireland);**

**149.124 Create measures to safeguard the civic space, including through investigations of all reported attacks on human rights defenders and the press (Ukraine);**

**149.125 Promote and protect the right to freedom of expression and media freedom (Latvia);**

**149.126 Enhance capacity-building efforts to enforce the right to information law (Malawi);**

**149.127 Take all necessary steps to protect and fulfil the rights to freedom of expression and association, access to information and media freedoms (New Zealand);**

**149.128 Adopt measures to protect the civic space, including by conducting thorough investigations and strengthening accountability for all reported cases of violence or intimidation of human rights defenders and journalists (Montenegro);**

**149.129 Undertake prompt, thorough, impartial, independent and transparent investigations into all cases of attacks, harassment, intimidation and forced disappearance of civil society actors, journalists, human rights defenders, religious clerics and academics (Netherlands);**

**149.130 Undertake full, independent and impartial investigations into the alleged killing, disappearance and persecution of journalists, human rights defenders, activists and academics, and ensure that those responsible are brought to justice (New Zealand);**

**149.131 Investigate and hold accountable those responsible for violent attacks against members of the press (United States of America);**

**149.132 Ensure that ongoing revisions and reforms of media laws protect freedom of expression and media freedom, promote media pluralism and are based on stakeholder consultations (Norway);**

**149.133 Allow independent press and civil society access to report on conflict regions and uphold the domestic and international obligations of Mozambique and its commitments to respect freedom of expression, including for members of the press (United States of America);**

**149.134 Respect and protect human rights, including the rights to freedom of expression, access to information and media freedom (Slovenia);**

**149.135 Strengthen collaboration with civil society in the monitoring of human rights, on the basis of an open and constructive dialogue (Albania);**

**149.136 Take measures to foster a safe, respectful and enabling environment for civil society and human rights defenders, especially women human rights defenders, so that they are free from persecution, intimidation and harassment (Latvia);**

- 149.137 **Simplify the registration of civil society organizations, including those fighting discrimination on sexual grounds (Czechia);**
- 149.138 **Lift all provisions in the law on freedom of association that limit the registration and activities of civil society entities working on issues of sexual orientation and gender identity (Netherlands);**
- 149.139 **Guarantee full respect for the rights to freedom of expression and association and the protection of civil society space by eliminating existing obstacles to the registration and activities of civil society organizations, including those who work in the area of the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons (Uruguay);**
- 149.140 **Consider the recommendations expressed by the European Union election observation mission in 2019, which could lead to a significant strengthening of the democratic process (Austria);**
- 149.141 **Implement the previous recommendation made by Czechia to improve the transparency and inclusiveness of election processes (Czechia);**
- 149.142 **Ensure equal participation in political and public affairs through swift implementation of the recommendations of the European Union election observation mission in 2019, in particular on the prevention of election violence, access of independent media to all stages of the election process and an equal environment for all political parties (Czechia);**
- 149.143 **Consolidate all electoral laws and regulations into one integrated electoral legal framework and establish a permanent and reliable voter registration system (Norway);**
- 149.144 **Criminalize all forms of modern slavery and bring the legal definition of “trafficking” in line with international standards (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 149.145 **Take further steps within the framework of combating human trafficking (Azerbaijan);**
- 149.146 **Step up efforts to combat trafficking in human beings, including by ensuring the effective identification and protection of victims of trafficking (Belarus);**
- 149.147 **Accelerate the adoption of the national action plan against trafficking in persons (Chad);**
- 149.148 **Accelerate the process of adopting the national action plan against trafficking in persons, including trafficking in children for sexual exploitation (Senegal);**
- 149.149 **Continue to work to ensure greater protection for child victims of human trafficking within the framework of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (United Arab Emirates);**
- 149.150 **Strengthen measures to combat human trafficking and ensure the protection of the rights of women and children and all persons in vulnerable situations (Nigeria);**
- 149.151 **Strengthen its laws on statelessness, human trafficking and people smuggling (Eswatini);**
- 149.152 **Continue efforts to ensure the socioeconomic rights of citizens and protection of the most vulnerable categories of the population (Russian Federation);**

- 149.153 Continue to consolidate its successful social policies for the benefit of its people, especially in the areas of housing, health and education (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 149.154 Continue to promote poverty reduction and to realize the revitalization and development of rural areas (China);
- 149.155 Continue to strengthen national policies and strategies directed at development and poverty reduction (Tunisia);
- 149.156 Continue its efforts in the fight against poverty (Nicaragua);
- 149.157 Strengthen efforts to address poverty and lack of access to clean water and sanitation in rural areas (Kenya);
- 149.158 Intensify efforts to address poverty and the lack of access to clean water and sanitation among children in rural areas (Malaysia);
- 149.159 Accelerate the process of reviewing the land law to better protect land use rights and facilitate the effective participation of rural communities and non-governmental organizations in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas (Switzerland);
- 149.160 Further mainstream social support schemes for persons with disabilities and the elderly (Ethiopia);
- 149.161 Continue to take measures to streamline the Government's targeted food subsidy cash transfer for vulnerable older people (India);
- 149.162 Consider the impact of COVID-19 on the entire care system, especially in terms of the greater domestic burden on women, and the negative survival resources for women, such as premature unions (Argentina);
- 149.163 Continue to increase investment in the health sector to better protect the right to health (China);
- 149.164 Take measures to improve the quality of and access to primary health-care services in rural areas and to ensure the availability of qualified health personnel (Serbia);
- 149.165 Continue working towards universal access to health care, including through the "one district, one hospital" programme (Sri Lanka);
- 149.166 Prioritize measures to improve access to and the quality of primary health-care services, in particular in rural areas, and ensure the availability of qualified health-care personnel (Sudan);
- 149.167 Intensify cooperation and efforts, with support of the international community, to further enlarge programmatic interventions and investments that seek to further reduce the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and malaria (Cambodia);
- 149.168 Guarantee that persons with HIV/AIDS have adequate medical assistance and medication (Israel);
- 149.169 Review and amend article 169 (1) a of the Penal Code to remove barriers for rural women and girls to access abortion (Denmark);
- 149.170 Ensure that all citizens have access to health, especially the elderly, people living with albinism and people living with disabilities (Eswatini);
- 149.171 Strengthen efforts to improve access to health care for all, including access to sexual and reproductive health-care services and information (Fiji);
- 149.172 Allocate adequate resources to the national leprosy control programme (Japan);
- 149.173 Support strategies aimed at promoting the health sector and providing health care for all (Libya);

- 149.174 **Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development to distribute quality and safe long-term modern contraceptive methods, information and education in 100 per cent of secondary schools by 2030 (Iceland);**
- 149.175 **Improve sexual and reproductive health through comprehensive education, including awareness of HIV and enhancement of family planning (Malawi);**
- 149.176 **Ensure that all women and girls have access to free and quality sexual and reproductive health services (Mexico);**
- 149.177 **Prioritize measures to improve access to quality primary health care, including sexual reproductive health services, to women, children and rural communities (South Africa);**
- 149.178 **Implement concrete measures to reform the education system (Sierra Leone);**
- 149.179 **Continue the efforts made to support the educational system and guarantee the right to education for all Mozambicans (Tunisia);**
- 149.180 **Continue to ensure full and comprehensive access to education for its entire population (Nicaragua);**
- 149.181 **Enhance efforts to expand quality education throughout the country so that children from rural areas have access to the same level and quality of education as their peers from city areas (Singapore);**
- 149.182 **Put in place significant measures to ensure universal access to education as a means to reduce poverty, social inequality and gender inequality, among others (Mauritius);**
- 149.183 **Continue efforts aimed at equal access to education and creating mechanisms to reduce the number of school dropouts (Georgia);**
- 149.184 **Intensify measures to reduce school dropout rates (Sri Lanka);**
- 149.185 **Adopt specific measures to reduce school dropouts in the primary education sector (Angola);**
- 149.186 **Intensify efforts to reduce the school dropout rate among girls, facilitate the re-entry into education of young mothers, strengthen inclusive and accessible adult literacy programmes (Armenia);**
- 149.187 **Continue the efforts to increase access to education and reduce the gap in school enrolment rates between boys and girls (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 149.188 **Increase girls' access to education and reduce their dropout rate (China);**
- 149.189 **Continue efforts to promote gender equality by combating the high dropout rate among girls and by ensuring the reintegration of young mothers (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 149.190 **Address issues that limit the participation of young women and girls in the education system (Philippines);**
- 149.191 **Undertake the necessary measures to include human rights education in the curricula of the National Education System at the basic level (Qatar);**
- 149.192 **Continue efforts to eliminate illiteracy rates among girls, especially in rural areas (Qatar);**
- 149.193 **Continue taking additional measures to integrate human rights education into the curricula of the National Education System (Cambodia);**

- 149.194 Continue efforts to strengthen the process of raising awareness of human rights education and training among civil society and law enforcement officials (Algeria);
- 149.195 Continue efforts to include human rights education in the curricula of the National Education System at the basic and secondary level (Lesotho);
- 149.196 Continue efforts to integrate human rights education in curricula at the secondary level (Pakistan);
- 149.197 Strengthen the efforts aimed at ensuring gender equality (Azerbaijan);
- 149.198 Adopt a comprehensive and multisectoral approach to combating discriminatory gender stereotypes, including harmful practices such as female genital mutilation and child marriages (Botswana);
- 149.199 Step up efforts regarding women in rural areas by giving access to adequate health services and economic empowerment solutions (Brazil);
- 149.200 Make further efforts towards the economic empowerment of all rural women, including by reinforcing the provision of financial credit and loans and ensuring that rural women have access to justice, education, health, other infrastructure and land ownership (India);
- 149.201 Continue to empower rural women by reinforcing the provision of financial credit and loans (Kenya);
- 149.202 Take necessary steps to ensure the economic empowerment of women, including those residing in rural areas (Maldives);
- 149.203 Enhance the participation of women at the different levels of decision-making (Mauritania);
- 149.204 Improve the rights of women and girls by ensuring access to social benefits, health and education (Eswatini);
- 149.205 In line with the previous recommendation of Finland, implement gender-related legislation and the gender strategy in education in order to combat female illiteracy, gender-based violence and child, early and forced marriages, and to establish State-funded shelters for victims of violence, particularly in rural and conflict-ridden areas (Finland);
- 149.206 Ensure girls' access to education and fight gender-based violence and the practice of forced and early marriages (France);
- 149.207 Continue efforts to enable women to enjoy their social and economic rights, especially those with disabilities (Libya);
- 149.208 Continue efforts to promote women to decision-making posts in the political and economic spheres, to create favourable conditions for their participation in the electoral process (Russian Federation);
- 149.209 Continue combating violence against women and girls, in particular in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, through awareness-raising campaigns and the establishment of effective means of protection, reparation and rehabilitation (Spain);
- 149.210 Take further steps to curb the rise in domestic violence cases during the COVID-19 pandemic, including by prioritizing support for women and girls at greatest risk of different types of violence (Indonesia);
- 149.211 Ensure the provision of gender-based violence prevention services as an essential and life-saving component of the COVID-19 response, and ensure that services remain open and accessible, including the provision of hotlines, referrals, case management and psychosocial support for survivors (Malaysia);
- 149.212 Ensure that protection from gender-based and domestic violence is an integral part of national responses to pandemics and other emergencies and

**prioritize supporting women and girls from different types of gender-based violence (Bulgaria);**

**149.213 Carry out awareness-raising campaigns on the criminal nature and the serious effects of all forms of gender-based violence on the enjoyment of women's rights (Argentina);**

**149.214 Take further measures to prevent gender-based violence (Timor-Leste);**

**149.215 Continue measures aimed at ending domestic violence and at protecting its victims (Azerbaijan);**

**149.216 Allocate the necessary human, technical and financial resources and provide monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for the implementation of the second national plan to combat violence against women (Belgium);**

**149.217 Continue to strengthen measures in combating violence against women and girls, and fully implement the National Plan to Prevent and Combat Gender-Based Violence (2018–2021) (South Africa);**

**149.218 Accelerate implementation of a multisectoral approach to eradicating domestic, sexual and gender-based violence. This includes training for law enforcement, community and religious leaders, educators and medical personnel, as well as victim support services and holding perpetrators accountable (Canada);**

**149.219 Continue stepping up measures to eliminate violence against women and girls, including campaigns to ensure that victims can register complaints and ensure that they have access to effective remedies for reparation and protection (Chile);**

**149.220 Strengthen the promotion and protection of women's rights through the implementation of additional measures to combat violence against women (Djibouti);**

**149.221 Continue strengthening its work in fighting violence against girls and women (Nicaragua);**

**149.222 Continue to strengthen measures to combat sexual and gender-based violence (New Zealand);**

**149.223 Ensure the participation of women and local communities in the design and implementation of policies and programmes to combat gender-based violence and discrimination (Philippines);**

**149.224 Redouble efforts to combat discrimination and violence against women and girls, in particular early marriage and domestic violence (Republic of Korea);**

**149.225 Take all necessary measures, both in law and in practice, to combat violence against women and girls and domestic violence, female genital mutilation, as well as child early and forced marriage (Latvia);**

**149.226 Continue necessary efforts to eliminate gender-based violence, including the harmful practices against women and girls (Nepal);**

**149.227 Continue to strengthen measures aimed at eliminating discrimination against women and tackling gender-based violence, to eradicate harmful practices, in particular female genital mutilation, forced and early marriage, polygamy and others (Ukraine);**

**149.228 Continue consolidating the various laws, policies and plans adopted by the country to protect boys and girls, in particular those contained in the National Plan of Action for Children (Cuba);**

**149.229 Ensure the allocation of adequate resources for programmes on children's rights (Philippines);**

- 149.230 **Intensify efforts to address poverty among children in rural areas and to provide them with clean water and sanitation (Iraq);**
- 149.231 **Ensure that all children in conflict zones have access to social and child protection services, prioritizing the adoption of measures to ensure their protection against violations of their human rights (Uruguay);**
- 149.232 **Ensure that all children in conflict zones have access to basic social services and that they are afforded protection against violations of their rights (Chile);**
- 149.233 **Take the necessary measures to improve the situation of the rights of the child, especially with regard to preventing child marriage, child labour and trafficking in children (Libya);**
- 149.234 **Protect children's rights of access to health and education, and put in place measures to prevent all kinds of violence against children (Norway);**
- 149.235 **Adopt additional concrete measures to combat violence against children by increasing criminal penalties for the perpetrators of this phenomenon (Qatar);**
- 149.236 **Increase the Government's efforts to ensure access to birth registration services in rural areas (South Sudan);**
- 149.237 **Implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, including through the extension of the national strategy to prevent and combat child marriages and the prohibition of harmful traditional practices, guaranteeing the provision of adequate resources for the implementation of these public policies in order to strengthen the protection of girls against child marriages and early pregnancies (Uruguay);**
- 149.238 **Continue efforts to fight all forms of violence against children, including early and enforced child marriage (Sudan);**
- 149.239 **Take all necessary measures to eliminate child marriage and harmful aspects of initiation rites for girls (Zambia);**
- 149.240 **Continues its efforts to combat gender inequalities and child, forced and early marriages (Zimbabwe);**
- 149.241 **Take all necessary measures to eliminate child marriage (Burkina Faso);**
- 149.242 **Redouble efforts to address the prevalence of early child marriage and make school safer for women and girls (Ethiopia);**
- 149.243 **Eradicate child marriages and develop broad awareness-raising campaigns and programmes on the provisions that criminalize these harmful practices, as well as on the harm that they cause to the physical and mental health and well-being of boys and girls (Argentina);**
- 149.244 **End child marriage practices, including by ensuring enforcement of the law on preventing and combating premature unions (2019) (Australia);**
- 149.245 **Implement legislation expressly prohibiting traditional practices detrimental to the well-being of children and take the necessary measures to eliminate child marriage (Belgium);**
- 149.246 **Strengthen protection of children's rights, in particular implementing measures to eliminate child marriage and other harmful aspects of initiation rites for girls (Brazil);**
- 149.247 **Extend the national strategy on preventing and combating child marriages and early pregnancy and ban harmful traditional practices (Iceland);**

- 149.248 Continue the endeavours against gender-based violence and promote gender equality, including by strengthening the efforts to eradicate child, early and forced marriage (Italy);
- 149.249 Implement legislation explicitly prohibiting all traditional practices harmful to the physical and psychological well-being of children, notably child marriage and harmful aspects of initiation rites for girls (Montenegro);
- 149.250 Harmonize legislation with a view to preventing child and forced marriage (Sierra Leone);
- 149.251 Continue its efforts in preventing child labour, including by ensuring the effective implementation of relevant policies and measures (Thailand);
- 149.252 Accelerate the finalization of the draft law on the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, ensuring its compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Chad);
- 149.253 Accelerate the process of finalizing the draft law for the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and ensure that it is in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities through inclusive consultations (Georgia);
- 149.254 Improve the legal and institutional framework to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities and persons with albinism (Viet Nam);
- 149.255 Fulfil its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, especially with regard to legal capacity (Yemen);
- 149.256 Align the Constitution and the Civil Code with its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, especially with regard to legal capacity (Cameroon);
- 149.257 Designate the National Human Rights Commission as the monitoring body for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and allocate adequate resources for the fulfilment of this mandate (Cameroon);
- 149.258 Maintain its commitment to persons with disabilities and ensure the full implementation of current policies, strategies and plans of action, including those aimed at improving institutional capacity to provide adequate accommodation to persons with disabilities (Cuba);
- 149.259 Further align the national disability policy with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Indonesia);
- 149.260 Develop policies to ensure the full enjoyment of rights of persons with disabilities, particularly in terms of inclusive education and accessibility (Israel);
- 149.261 Redouble the Government's efforts to finalize the draft law for the protection of persons with disabilities in the country (South Sudan);
- 149.262 Carry out the necessary legislative amendments to protect all migrants, asylum seekers and refugees from violence and any form of discrimination based on their immigration status (Argentina);
- 149.263 Strengthen partnerships, in accordance with national priorities, to meet the requirements of support programmes for internally displaced persons (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 149.264 Provide humanitarian assistance, including food, housing, education and health services to the growing number of internally displaced persons (Austria);
- 149.265 Allow access to humanitarian aid for internally displaced persons (Mexico);

149.266 **Adopt additional measures with a view to consolidate peace by further integrating the protection and empowerment of displaced and vulnerable persons, particularly in the context of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic (Togo).**

150. **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 Mozambique was headed by H.E. Mrs. Helena Mateus Kida, Minister of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs of the Republic of Mozambique and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Filimão Joaquim Suaze, Vice Minister of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs of the Republic of Mozambique;
  - H.E. Mr. Manuel Gonçalves, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Mozambique;
  - H.E. Mr. Amadeu da Conceição, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mozambique to United Nations Office in Geneva and Other International Organizations;
  - Mr. Manuel de Jesus Chitute Didier Malunga, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs of the Republic of Mozambique;
  - Mr. Jeremias Cumbe, Director General of the National Penitentiary Service;
  - Mr. Justino Tonela, Director General of the Institute of Sponsorship and Legal Assistance;
  - Mrs. Elisa Samuel Boerkamp, Director for Judiciary Training Center;
  - Mr. Claudio Mate, National Director of Human Rights and Citizenship;
  - Mr. Albachir Macassar, National Director of Religious Affairs;
  - Mr. Sergio Divage, National Director from the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Action;
  - Mrs. Graça Nhate, Deputy National Director of Human Rights and Citizenship;
  - Mrs. Maria Márcia Rungo, Advisor to the Minister of Justice;
  - Mrs. Laurinda Fernando Saide Banze, Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mozambique in Geneva;
  - Mrs. Francelina Romão, Health Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mozambique in Geneva;
  - Mrs. Dalmasia Cossa, Advisor from the Ministry of Health;
  - Mr. Farai Chicuecue, Advisor from the Ministry of Health;
  - Mr. Martinho Henrique Neves, Advisor from the Ministry of Defence;
  - Mr. Juvenal Monjane, Official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Mozambique;
  - Mrs. Uraca Daniel Cabo, Official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Mozambique;
  - Mr. Luis João Manjate, Official from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security;
  - Mr. Joaquim Deguenhe, Official from the Ministry of Interior.
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