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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Singapore

* 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 Singapore was held at the 15th meeting, on 12 May 2021. The delegation of Singapore was headed by the Ambassador-at-Large, Chan Heng Chee. At its 17th meeting, held on 14 May 2021, the Working Group adopted the report on Singapore.
2. On 12 January 2021, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Singapore: Cameroon, Russian Federation and Uzbekistan.
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 Singapore:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);¹
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);²
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).³
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Haiti, Liechtenstein, Panama, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Singapore 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 Singapore stated that the Inter-Ministry Committee on Human Rights, comprising 15 government agencies, had carefully reviewed progress made in implementing the accepted recommendations received during the previous review cycle, in 2016. It was done in consultation with various civil society groups. Singapore remained committed to the regular review of its policies to ensure that no one was left behind.
6. The head of the delegation underlined that the universal periodic review cycle was taking place in extraordinary times. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic had accelerated longer-term transformations in societies and created new challenges in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The pandemic had led to the worst recession since the independence of Singapore, severely affecting every part of its society. By applying a human-centric approach, Singapore had taken swift measures to cushion its population, especially the low-income and vulnerable groups, from the worst of the impact of the pandemic.
7. Since its independence, Singapore had not wavered in its commitment to building a democratic, fair and inclusive society. Singapore had strived to achieve better outcomes for its people, while taking into account its national context and realities. As a densely populated, multiracial and multireligious society, it was of paramount importance to forge a common national identity while maintaining racial and social harmony.
8. Singapore applied a pragmatic approach to promoting human rights, with a focus on outcomes and adherence to the rule of law. The goal was to achieve the necessary balance

¹ A/HRC/WG.6/38/SGP/1.

² A/HRC/WG.6/38/SGP/2.

³ A/HRC/WG.6/38/SGP/3.

between individual interests and societal needs. In 2020, Singapore had been ranked twelfth on the human development index and twelfth for gender equality on the gender inequality index.

9. Singapore continued to have rigorous debates in Parliament and the community on how it could adapt to changing circumstances. In preparation for its review, the Government had held consultations with civil society, in addition to its regular and ongoing cooperation with civil society in the context of human rights. Singapore was grateful for the engagement of civil society in the universal periodic review process.

10. Singapore had ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in 2017, underscoring its commitment to working towards a society free from racial discrimination.

11. The Government had increased grants to help more Singaporeans to acquire their own homes, with a special focus on low-income families. Over 90 per cent of the population of Singapore owned their homes.

12. To promote the right to education, and in line with Sustainable Development Goal 4, significant investments had been made in early childhood education. Regular review of bursaries for higher education had been conducted, and the Government would continue to work towards preserving social mobility. Mindful of the importance of lifelong learning, the Government had been helping the population, including those of all ages, to upgrade and learn new skills through the SkillsFuture programme.

13. Greater social support had been introduced for vulnerable members of society. The Government had continued to disburse cash supplements to lower-wage workers and older persons, as well as subsidies to ensure that members of lower-income groups could afford digital devices and Internet connections.

14. The Government had started a national conversation series to get feedback from the population on issues concerning Singaporean women at home, at the workplace, in school and in the community. It would result in a white paper with recommendations for ways to enhance development among women, which would be submitted to Parliament.

15. Singapore was of the view that there could be no one-size-fits-all approach to development and the realization of human rights, as each society had its own unique circumstances.

16. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government had covered the hospital bills of COVID-19 patients in public hospitals, including for intensive care, for both citizens and long-term residents. The national vaccination strategy had been rolled out, prioritizing high-risk and vulnerable groups, including migrant workers.

17. Beyond public health, the socioeconomic impact of the pandemic had also been severe. Singapore had spent close to \$75 billion on health, welfare and stimulus measures. Most of those measures were targeted at vulnerable groups, such as lower- to middle-income households, children, older persons, migrant workers and those at risk of domestic violence.

18. It had introduced grants and programmes to co-fund wages and help lower- to middle-income Singaporeans who had lost their jobs or had suffered substantial loss of income. Social services and legal recourse had remained available during the period of lockdown measures for those at risk of domestic violence. Singapore had also worked to ensure that children continued to have unimpeded access to education, despite the challenges posed by the pandemic. It had implemented home-based learning, during the period of school closure. Tablets, laptops and Internet-enabled devices had been loaned to students in need of them. Lower-income households could apply for subsidized computers and broadband services.

19. Singapore had actively countered the spread of false information on the pandemic through public clarifications and the judicious use of the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

20. During the interactive dialogue, 140 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

21. Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Kuwait made statements. Several delegations acknowledged the human-centred COVID-19 response of Singapore and recognized its progress made on human rights since the previous review cycle, including the ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the repeal of marital immunity for rape and strengthening protection for all vulnerable groups. Some delegations expressed concern about the continued use of the death penalty and corporal punishment, as well as restrictions on freedom of expression. The webcasts of the full statements can be found online.⁴

22. The delegation of Singapore elaborated on measures to support and protect women and children, persons with disabilities, older persons and other vulnerable groups, as well as on its approach to migrant workers.

23. In the next few years, the Government would spend more than \$1.52 billion annually to increase access to quality and affordable preschools. Upstream support for children from less privileged backgrounds was also being provided through the KidSTART programme, which equipped parents with the knowledge to nurture the physical and psychoemotional health of their children.

24. Efforts were being made to ensure that no child was left behind in terms of access to education. Children under 7 years of age with developmental needs received early intervention through government-funded programmes, within their preschools or in a specialized intervention setting. In 2019, the Compulsory Education Act had been extended to include children with moderate to severe special needs.

25. Singapore regularly reviewed legislation to ensure the adequate protection of children. In 2019, the Penal Code had been amended to better protect children and young people from sexual exploitation, and the Children and Young Persons Act had been amended to expand protection for abused or neglected children to those from 16 years of age or younger to those 18 years of age or younger. Singapore also provided coordinated support for young people with complex family circumstances or those who exhibited at-risk behaviour.

26. Regular five-year plans, termed "enabling master plans", had been developed together with persons with disabilities and stakeholders, instituting measures to build a more inclusive society. Support had been increased for the employment of persons with disabilities, through wage support, job placement, training and recognition of employers.

⁴ See <http://webtv.un.org/search/>.

27. In 2018, the Government had enacted the Vulnerable Adults Act to protect persons 18 years of age and older who were unable to protect themselves from abuse, neglect and self-neglect, due to physical or mental disability.
28. Concerning older persons, the Government provided support so that they could live independently within the community. It had introduced new housing options and assisted living. In addition, the Code on Accessibility in the Built Environment had been refined to include universal design concepts.
29. Singapore had strengthened protection for women against violence, enhanced support for survivors of violence and shifted mindsets towards reporting violence. Amendments had been introduced into the Penal Code to repeal marital immunity for rape and increase penalties for offences, including those committed against victims in an intimate relationship with the offender.
30. An inter-agency task force on family violence had been set up to formulate recommendations on increasing awareness, protecting victims and holding perpetrators accountable for their actions.
31. Through public consultations, it emerged that there was a need to change the societal mindset on gender stereotypes, strengthen protection for women and girls and support women in achieving their career goals. The feedback received would assist the Government in reviewing its policies and presenting a white paper for parliamentary debate.
32. The Government had provided a number of benefits for the development of children, regardless of the marital status of their parents. Moreover, support had been extended to unwed parents through the government-paid maternity leave and child development account benefits.
33. All Singaporeans, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, enjoyed equal access to opportunities and support, such as in education, jobs and health care. Social services were accessible to all, without discrimination. Singapore opposed violence, abuse, discrimination and harassment against all individuals, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons. Laws were in place to protect victims from domestic violence, regardless of their sexual orientation.
34. Migrant workers were an essential part of the development of Singapore, and Singapore was committed to supporting their well-being. A comprehensive legal framework ensured the protection of the rights of migrant workers, including foreign domestic workers. The majority of migrant workers were accorded the same rights as local workers under the Employment Act and the Work Injury Compensation Act. Foreign domestic workers were protected under the Employment of Foreign Manpower Act. Employers who violated the laws protecting migrant workers faced heavy fines or jail terms and could be banned from hiring migrant workers. In addition, migrants could seek assistance through non-governmental organizations or the Services Centre of the Ministry of Manpower.
35. The Government had adopted a three-pronged approach to safeguarding against abuse of foreign domestic workers by educating employers, detecting cases through interviews and deterring abuse through heavy penalties. Singapore had also introduced home visits to check on the well-being and work and living environments of foreign domestic workers.
36. An employer's consent was usually required before a migrant worker could seek new employment in Singapore, in order to balance the interests of migrant workers to change jobs and the interests of employers for stability and predictability in the employment relationship. However, such consent was not required in cases of a breach of legal protections, such as non-payment of salary.
37. Singapore recognized that high recruitment fees had created unnecessary financial burdens for migrant workers. Measures had been put into place to prevent the practice in Singapore.
38. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government ensured that all migrant workers were given the same level of medical care as any Singaporean who fell ill with COVID-19, with the full cost of in-patient treatment borne by the Government. Migrant workers in dormitories were provided with free COVID-19 tests. An inter-agency task force had been

formed, with a view to limiting the spread of the virus in the migrant worker dormitories. It had enabled the Government to mobilize resources early on, to ensure the safety of migrant workers living in the dormitories and to provide comprehensive support for migrant workers. The support included the provision of daily meals, essentials, wireless Internet access and SIM cards, enabling workers to stay in touch with their families. The Government ensured that migrant workers continued to be paid their salaries. Medical and mental health issues were also addressed through telemedicine and counselling services.

39. The Government was working with dormitory operators and employers to holistically review migrant worker dormitory standards and management processes. It was also enhancing regulations on migrant worker accommodations and building new dormitories with improved living standards, in line with standards set by the International Labour Organization.

40. The delegation of Singapore elaborated on freedom of expression and freedom of assembly, the approach of Singapore towards law and order and its approach to race and religion.

41. Free and responsible speech was vital to the democracy of Singapore, and vigorous debates on a wide range of issues took place openly and frequently, both online and offline. However, modern technologies had brought new challenges to free speech by enabling discourse to be more easily influenced and manipulated by online falsehoods. That was especially detrimental to a compact and highly diverse society like Singapore. In response, Singapore had adopted a whole-of-society approach, which included measures in public education, public communication and legislation, such as the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act.

42. The Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act relied primarily on correction directions, which required the tagging of facts to falsehoods. The approach should be compared with how major social media companies label misinformation. The directions did not require the removal of the falsehood. The Act applied only to false statements of fact affecting the public interest. It did not apply to opinions and could not be used just because the Government disagreed with a statement. The Act provided for checks and balances, as a direction under the Act could be challenged in court.

43. The Administration of Justice (Protection) Act was based on the common law concerning contempt. It dealt with personal attacks on judges and the courts and protected the trust in the judicial system.

44. In order to balance the right to freedom of assembly and the right to safety and security, organizers of processions or cause-based assemblies were required to obtain a police permit. The rules applied regardless of the cause or personality behind the activity.

45. Although Singapore was not a party to certain human rights treaties, its domestic policies had generally been in compliance with their substance. Singapore engaged seriously with treaty bodies, reviewed its treaty reservations, where appropriate, and welcomed learning opportunities on implementing human rights.

46. The approach of Singapore to law and order was underpinned by its adherence to the rule of law, a robust criminal justice system with tough laws and enforcement and the effective rehabilitation of ex-offenders. Singapore had professional and impartial law enforcement agencies and an independent judiciary, which enjoyed a high level of trust from Singaporeans.

47. The death penalty was an important part of the criminal justice system of Singapore. It was applied only after due process of law and with judicial safeguards. It had been an effective deterrent against the most serious crimes, such as murder and drug trafficking.

48. Judicially imposed corporal punishment was meted out for serious crimes, such as sexual and violent offences, and was governed by strict legal, judicial and medical safeguards. Corporal punishment had had a deterrent effect against serious crimes.

49. As a city State with one of the most religiously diverse populations in the world, racial and religious harmony was the cornerstone of the nation. The Government worked closely

with the community to safeguard and promote racial and religious harmony. Singapore viewed its diversity as a strength.

50. Singapore had amended the Constitution to provide for reserved presidential elections in order to ensure equitable racial representation in its highest political office. It had also updated the Maintenance of Religious Harmony Act to respond more effectively to incidents of religious disharmony and to strengthen safeguards against foreign influences that might threaten religious harmony.

51. The Government had been proactive in implementing measures aimed at building trust between various communities at the national and local levels. The National Steering Committee on Racial and Religious Harmony, comprising leaders from major faith and ethnic groups, had been established. At the community level, interfaith platforms had been set up in every constituency, in order to deepen understanding between religious, ethnic and community groups through activities such as heritage trails, dialogues and various ethnic and religious celebrations.

52. Singapore supported community-led initiatives by providing grants for such projects and encouraging grass-roots community programmes that provided safe spaces and opportunities to foster greater understanding and appreciation of the country's diversity.

53. The delegation of Singapore expressed its appreciation for the acknowledgement by States that had taken the floor of its efforts to build a more inclusive, cohesive and resilient society.

54. Singapore reiterated that capital punishment was only imposed for the most serious crimes and that rigorous judicial processes and legal safeguards were in place to protect the rights of the accused. They included the provision of free legal counsel at trial and on appeal. Capital punishment was imposed only after due process and in strict accordance with the law by an independent and impartial judiciary. The prosecution bore the burden of proof beyond reasonable doubt. Every capital case was tried in the High Court and could be appealed before the Court of Appeal. Even in the absence of an appeal, before capital punishment could be meted out, the Court of Appeal must review the conviction for which capital punishment had been imposed, and be satisfied as to the correctness, legality and propriety of the conviction and sentence.

55. Freedom of expression was particularly important in a compact, multiracial and multireligious city State such as Singapore. Its laws governing the freedom of expression, including the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act, had been written with that in mind. The Act only tackled falsehoods. It did not cover criticisms, opinions, satire or parody.

56. The approach of Singapore to defamation was not unique. Individuals had the right to protect their reputation against unfounded or scurrilous allegations by challenging defamatory allegations in court before an independent judiciary.

57. Singapore reiterated that members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities were valuable members of its society. The Government did not tolerate violence, abuse, discrimination or harassment against members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. Although section 377A of the Penal Code remained in place, it was not enforced. Attitudes towards homosexuality were still evolving, and various communities held different views. Any move by the Government must therefore take into consideration the sentiments of all communities in Singapore.

58. Singapore would thoroughly examine the recommendations received through the universal periodic review process, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, and consider how they could be implemented and best contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights in the country. It would also bear in mind its national context and the need to preserve the political trust of its people in the democracy and institutions of Singapore.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

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

59.1 Ratify the core international human rights treaties that are still pending, in order to make progress on Sustainable Development Goals 5, 11, 13 and 16 (Paraguay); Become a party to core international human rights instruments and the optional protocols thereto (Zambia); Ratify the core international human rights treaties to which Singapore is not yet a party (El Salvador); Ratify the core human rights instruments (Luxembourg); Ratify all core international human rights treaties (Namibia); Ratify remaining core international human rights treaties (Ukraine);

59.2 Consider acceding to the international human rights conventions to which Singapore is not yet a party (Sudan);

59.3 Continue to consider the possibility of acceding to the fundamental human rights treaties (Belarus);

59.4 Ratify other core international human rights treaties, namely, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Slovenia);

59.5 Prioritize the ratification of the main international instruments to which the country is not yet a party, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Uruguay);

59.6 Ratify the core international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Czechia);

59.7 Ratify international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Iceland);

59.8 Consider the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Morocco);

59.9 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, in line with previous recommendations (Finland);

59.10 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and implement them in national law (Germany);

- 59.11 Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as previously recommended (Latvia);
- 59.12 Continue its efforts to accede to the core international human rights treaties, mainly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Republic of Korea);
- 59.13 Take into consideration the benefits of ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Romania);
- 59.14 Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);
- 59.15 Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Nepal);
- 59.16 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Belgium) (Chile) (Argentina) (Brazil) (Austria) (Indonesia);
- 59.17 Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto (Italy);
- 59.18 Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Austria) (Brazil) (Argentina) (Chile) (Portugal);
- 59.19 Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Slovakia) (Mauritius);
- 59.20 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark) (Malawi) (Slovakia) (Brazil) (Argentina) (Chile) (Indonesia) (Costa Rica);
- 59.21 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and abolish the use of corporal punishment, like caning (Austria);
- 59.22 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto (Ghana);
- 59.23 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);
- 59.24 Consider adhering to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger);
- 59.25 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina) (Chile)
- 59.26 Withdraw reservations made to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and consider ratifying the Optional Protocol thereto (Argentina);
- 59.27 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Afghanistan) (Gabon) (Armenia);
- 59.28 Reinvigorate steps towards the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Georgia);

- 59.29 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 59.30 **Advance national efforts towards accession to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Protocol thereto (Japan);**
- 59.31 **Accede to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, enact national legislation on asylum in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Argentina);**
- 59.32 **Accede to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and adopt legislation on this matter in accordance with international standards (Mexico);**
- 59.33 **Accede to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto (Namibia);**
- 59.34 **Promote the international legal order by acceding to the Additional Protocols of 1977 to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Switzerland);**
- 59.35 **Accede to the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court (France); Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Luxembourg); Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Austria); Ratify and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as previously recommended (Latvia);**
- 59.36 **Sign and ratify the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) of the International Labour Organization (ILO) (South Sudan);**
- 59.37 **Ratify the ILO Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) (Spain);**
- 59.38 **Continue to give consideration to the ratification of the ILO Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) (Trinidad and Tobago);**
- 59.39 **Consider ratifying the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (Mauritius);**
- 59.40 **Establish a permanent national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up with regard to human rights recommendations and consider the possibility of receiving cooperation for this purpose, within the framework of Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17 (Paraguay);**
- 59.41 **Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 59.42 **Extend a standing invitation to the special procedures (Costa Rica); Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, as previously recommended (Latvia);**
- 59.43 **Continue cooperation with OHCHR and other United Nations bodies and mechanisms (Kazakhstan);**
- 59.44 **Continue to support the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights in advancing human rights in the region (Indonesia);**
- 59.45 **Enhance ongoing efforts to review and bring the legislation into line with the commitment to the international human rights obligations of Singapore (Turkmenistan);**

- 59.46 Continue efforts to fulfil international obligations for the promotion and protection of human rights by further developing and implementing comprehensive national plans and programmes (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 59.47 Continue the implementation of social-oriented policies aimed at further improving the well-being of citizens based on the fundamental goals of ensuring equality, harmony and opportunities for all (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 59.48 Continue efforts to support political participation and public service, given that Singapore recorded very good indicators (Oman);
- 59.49 Establish a national human rights institution in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (South Africa) (Germany) (Qatar); Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Senegal); Promote the establishment of a national human rights institution, which enjoys autonomy and independence in accordance with the Paris Principles (Chile); Consider establishing an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Albania); Establish an independent national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Lithuania) (Ukraine); Move forward in the establishment of an independent national human rights institution in full accordance with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea); Take steps to establish a national human rights institution, in compliance with the Paris Principles (Malaysia);
- 59.50 Consider establishing an independent mechanism for monitoring human rights, in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Timor-Leste);
- 59.51 Extend cooperation to address corruption and transnational organized crime that impact the enjoyment of human rights (Indonesia);
- 59.52 Implement a national action plan for human rights education (Paraguay);
- 59.53 Continue to provide necessary training for law enforcement officials on the protection and promotion of human rights (Egypt);
- 59.54 Implement comprehensive legislation protecting people from discrimination on the basis of age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, race, religion or belief (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 59.55 Enact comprehensive national anti-discrimination legislation to prohibit discrimination (Canada);
- 59.56 Incorporate the principle of non-discrimination into domestic legislation, including on the basis of gender, sexual orientation and gender identity (Denmark);
- 59.57 Incorporate into the domestic legal system the express prohibition of all forms of discrimination against women and girls, as well as discrimination on the basis of gender, ethnicity or nationality (Ecuador);
- 59.58 Incorporate the principle of non-discrimination into its domestic legislation and effectively prohibit discrimination, in line with its international obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Greece);
- 59.59 Continue taking steps aimed at building an inclusive society and promoting peaceful coexistence without any discrimination on the basis of race, colour, religion or ethnicity (Pakistan);

- 59.60 Undertake further work to protect the rights of vulnerable groups, including children, women, persons with disabilities and older persons (Russian Federation);
- 59.61 Continue efforts aimed at promoting religious and racial harmony, including through the initiative to broaden the scope of racial and religious interaction through education and public dialogue (Saudi Arabia);
- 59.62 Take further steps on strengthening the protection of the rights of children, women and persons with disabilities (Turkmenistan);
- 59.63 Further strengthen and protect racial and religious diversity (Barbados);
- 59.64 Continue with its measures, particularly those related to women, children and the elderly (Bhutan);
- 59.65 Continue efforts to maintain racial and religious harmony in the country, given the diversity of the population and the obligations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Chad);
- 59.66 Strengthen non-discrimination policies to include all vulnerable groups, including non-citizens (Cyprus);
- 59.67 Mainstream tolerance-teaching, social justice and anti-bias education throughout the education system (Cyprus);
- 59.68 Continue promoting laws that cater for the elderly, people living with albinism and people living with disabilities (Eswatini);
- 59.69 Continue to strengthen efforts to enhance racial and religious harmony, including by implementing provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in law and practice, and increase awareness of the Convention among the rights holders (Guyana);
- 59.70 Continue to strengthen efforts to enhance inter-racial and inter-religious dialogue and respect, including through initiatives like the inaugural International Conference on Cohesive Societies (Jordan);
- 59.71 Continue promoting the inclusion of all racial and religious groups (Nicaragua);
- 59.72 Continue efforts to preserve interethnic and interfaith harmony (Niger);
- 59.73 Continue the Government's efforts to improve accessibility and mobility for people with disabilities (Oman);
- 59.74 Address discriminatory laws and practices against the LGBTI community, including through the repeal of section 377A of the Penal Code, and enable transgender persons to change their legal sex without undergoing sex reassignment surgery (Canada);
- 59.75 Create a legal framework that promotes the strengthening of the fight against all forms of discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation (France);
- 59.76 Ensure that LGBTIQI persons are effectively protected against all forms of discrimination (Israel);
- 59.77 Prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Luxembourg);
- 59.78 Repeal section 377A of the Penal Code, remove restrictions on LGBTI-related content and enact anti-discrimination legislation (Australia);

- 59.79 Repeal section 377A of the Penal Code criminalizing homosexual acts even if undertaken in private spaces and enact legislation to protect the rights of LGBTI persons (Austria);
- 59.80 Amend article 377A of the Penal Code to decriminalize homosexual relations between consenting adults, as previously recommended (Spain);
- 59.81 Repeal the criminalization, as stipulated in the Penal Code, of consensual male-to-male sexual relations (Sweden);
- 59.82 End the criminalization of consensual same-sex relations and increase protection against discrimination on the basis of gender identity and sexual orientation, including through enacting comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation (United States of America);
- 59.83 Strengthen its commitment to the principle of non-discrimination by repealing section 377A of the Penal Code to fully decriminalize consensual sexual relations between two adults of the same sex (Uruguay);
- 59.84 Take the necessary measures to decriminalize consensual same-sex relations and move towards eradicating all forms of violence and discrimination against LGBTI persons (Chile);
- 59.85 Eliminate all forms of discrimination, including those based on sexual orientation and gender identity and repeal legal provisions that criminalize homosexuality (Czechia);
- 59.86 Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);
- 59.87 Decriminalize consensual same sex relations (Italy);
- 59.88 Abolish section 377A of the Penal Code, which penalizes “carnal intercourse against the order of nature”, and actively improve the position of LGBTI+ persons (Netherlands);
- 59.89 Decriminalize consensual same-sex relationships and eliminate legislation and policies that discriminate based on sexual orientation and gender identity (New Zealand);
- 59.90 Continue efforts to ensure an inclusive, cohesive and resilient society, especially within the context of the COVID-19 response (Viet Nam);
- 59.91 Continue taking efforts to ensure a comprehensive response to the COVID-19 pandemic for vulnerable groups (Saudi Arabia);
- 59.92 Continue to ensure that its COVID-19 response is inclusive and takes into account the rights of vulnerable groups (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 59.93 Continue to work with stakeholders to ensure that the COVID-19 response continues to be inclusive and takes into account the rights of vulnerable groups (United Arab Emirates);
- 59.94 Continue to ensure that its response to COVID-19 is inclusive, including in its vaccination roll-out (Kyrgyzstan);
- 59.95 Continue to ensure that its COVID-19 response is inclusive while also giving due consideration to the rights of all vulnerable groups, in particular children and older persons (Mongolia);
- 59.96 Enhance measures to ensure the protection of the rights and well-being of older persons, including efforts to reduce ageism (Viet Nam);
- 59.97 Step up measures to advance the rights of the elderly population (Sri Lanka);
- 59.98 Continue its efforts to promote and protect the human rights of older persons and persons with disabilities (El Salvador);

- 59.99 Continue efforts to promote the rights of older persons (Iraq);
- 59.100 Continue to ensure that the rights of older persons are protected, particularly during the pandemic, including through enhancing the relevant policies (Kyrgyzstan);
- 59.101 Continue to expand the common space among different racial and religious groups to protect religious and racial diversity (Tajikistan);
- 59.102 Carry on its efforts towards expanding the common space among all segments of society, as well as their harmonious coexistence and integration, on the basis of rule of law (Turkey);
- 59.103 Continue to expand a common space among different racial and religious groups to further social inclusion, inter-racial understanding and harmony (United Arab Emirates);
- 59.104 Continue to expand common space among racial and religious groups to promote social inclusion, respect and racial harmony (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 59.105 Continue to broaden the common space among different racial and religious groups in order to promote social inclusion and racial harmony (Burundi);
- 59.106 Eliminate all forms of racial discrimination through concrete measures, including a full implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 59.107 Continue implementing its socioeconomic and development strategies in way that it would cover all sectors of society (Turkmenistan);
- 59.108 Continue national efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (Egypt);
- 59.109 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development programmes to strengthen the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (Maldives);
- 59.110 Develop a national action plan in line with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (Japan);
- 59.111 Continue efforts to address the effects of climate change by implementing its long-term low emission development strategy (Sudan);
- 59.112 Encourage the implementation of environmental legislation to combat climate change and its negative impacts on human rights (Bahamas);
- 59.113 Increase efforts to reduce carbon emissions and increase its continuing support to global action to combat and mitigate negative impacts of climate change (Vanuatu);
- 59.114 Strengthen its efforts to combat climate change and adopt effective policies to transition to a low-carbon economy (Bangladesh);
- 59.115 Strengthen its legislation to protect the environment and to combat climate change (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 59.116 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);
- 59.117 Take concrete measures to combat the negative impacts of climate change, in the country and abroad, with a view to sharing best practices on how to take advantage of technological advances to combat climate change (Haiti);
- 59.118 Ensure that vulnerable groups are engaged in the development of policies and programmes related to climate change and disaster risk reduction (Maldives);

- 59.119 **Implement the climate action policies outlined in the low emissions development strategy (Marshall Islands);**
- 59.120 **Take the decision not to issue a “certificate of cooperation” for drug offences, subject to judicial review (Australia);**
- 59.121 **Move towards the abolition of the death penalty, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Paraguay);**
- 59.122 **Pursue more comprehensive death penalty reforms, with the ultimate aim of abolishing the death penalty altogether (Romania);**
- 59.123 **Repeal the mandatory use of the death penalty, with a view to its abolishment (Austria);**
- 59.124 **Take concrete steps towards the abolition of the death penalty and corporal punishment (Sweden);**
- 59.125 **Bring the provisions of national legislation authorizing the use of the death penalty into line with relevant norms and standards, by removing the mandatory imposition of the death penalty and repealing the death penalty for drug crimes, treason and kidnapping (Switzerland);**
- 59.126 **Continue to review the use of the death penalty (Timor-Leste);**
- 59.127 **Ensure strict compliance in all death penalty cases with international fair trial standards and provide the necessary psychological and other support to children whose parents have been sentenced to death (Croatia);**
- 59.128 **Fully abolish the death penalty (Iceland); Abolish the death penalty (Luxembourg) (Canada); Take steps to abolish the use of the death penalty in practice and in law (New Zealand);**
- 59.129 **Continue to review the use of the death penalty and the type of crimes to which it is applied (Mexico);**
- 59.130 **Undertake further reforms towards abolishing the death penalty (North Macedonia);**
- 59.131 **Re-establish a moratorium on executions and publish disaggregated data (Australia);**
- 59.132 **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to its abolition (Portugal) (Costa Rica); Establish an official moratorium on executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (South Africa) (Uruguay); Reinstate the moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to its complete abolition (Spain); Establish an official moratorium on capital punishment, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Malawi); Establish a moratorium on capital executions, with a view to fully abolishing the death penalty (Italy); Adopt a moratorium on executions, with the ultimate aim of abolishing the death penalty (Czechia); Introduce a moratorium on capital punishment and make legislative reforms, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Poland); Establish a moratorium on executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Slovenia); Establish immediately a moratorium on executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty completely, in line with previous recommendations (Finland); Establish a moratorium on executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Albania); Introduce an immediate moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to its future complete abolition (Lithuania); Establish a moratorium on capital punishment, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Ukraine); Establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, with a view to its abolition (Norway); Re-establish a moratorium on executions, with a view to completely abolishing the death penalty (Netherlands);**
- 59.133 **Consider adopting an official moratorium on the application of the death penalty and corporal punishment (Brazil);**
- 59.134 **Ensure the strict prohibition of corporal punishment (Costa Rica);**

- 59.135 Consider establishing a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Chile);
- 59.136 Consider establishing an official moratorium on executions (Cyprus);
- 59.137 Establish a moratorium on capital executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (France);
- 59.138 Eliminate the mandatory character of the death penalty and establish an official moratorium (Germany);
- 59.139 Introduce measures to restrict the use of the death penalty and consider a moratorium on executions as a step towards abolition (Ireland);
- 59.140 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to its eventual abolition, and consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Latvia);
- 59.141 Prohibit and criminalize corporal punishment as a sentence for child offenders (Zambia);
- 59.142 Abolish the practice of corporal punishment as a judicially imposed punishment (Norway);
- 59.143 Continue efforts to combat trafficking in women and girls for sexual and labour exploitation (Peru);
- 59.144 Continue to ensure the provision of adequate protection and support for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children (Philippines);
- 59.145 Continue the efforts of combating human trafficking, especially of girls and women (Romania);
- 59.146 Continue its work to combat human trafficking (Russian Federation);
- 59.147 Continue efforts to combat trafficking in persons and support victims (Tunisia);
- 59.148 Further step up efforts to combat trafficking in human beings, including ensuring the effective identification and protection of victims of trafficking (Belarus);
- 59.149 Strengthen measures against trafficking, including investigating and identifying child victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking and ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice (Botswana);
- 59.150 Ensure that victims of trafficking are provided with adequate protection and support, including by establishing separate, well-equipped shelters with trained staff to address their specific needs and concerns (Zambia);
- 59.151 Continue to broaden the scope of measures in the framework of the law on the prevention of trafficking in persons, in order to strengthen the support and protection provided to victims (Dominican Republic);
- 59.152 Promote reform of the Prevention of Human Trafficking Act, to facilitate the effective protection of victims and the prosecution of perpetrators (Ecuador);
- 59.153 Continue strengthening its laws to curb human trafficking and people smuggling (Eswatini);
- 59.154 Continue its efforts to combat domestic violence and trafficking in persons (Gabon);
- 59.155 Strengthen its efforts in the fight against trafficking in persons and protecting victims of trafficking (Islamic Republic of Iran);

- 59.156 **Take all necessary measures to combat human trafficking and support and protect victims (Libya);**
- 59.157 **Strengthen measures to combat human trafficking and ensure the protection of the rights of victims, as well as the rights of migrants (Nigeria);**
- 59.158 **Strengthen the normative framework for the protection of victims of human trafficking, including women and children (North Macedonia);**
- 59.159 **Enact laws that will allow for a civil service alternative to military service for those who refuse military service on grounds of conscience (Croatia);**
- 59.160 **Intensify measures to enhance the enjoyment of freedom of religion or belief, including by lifting the ban on the wearing of hijab by Muslim women employees in the public services (Malaysia);**
- 59.161 **Implement measures increasing protection, in law and in practice, for exercising freedom of expression and freedom of assembly and association (Poland);**
- 59.162 **Ensure that laws and policies on the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association comply with the relevant international human rights standards (Republic of Korea);**
- 59.163 **Take appropriate measures to ease restrictions on freedom of expression and freedom of the media online and offline (Slovakia);**
- 59.164 **Introduce a freedom of information provision guaranteeing access to public information and data (Switzerland);**
- 59.165 **End the use of legal and administrative actions, including criminal defamation lawsuits that curb freedom of expression and peaceful assembly (United States of America);**
- 59.166 **Ensure full respect for the rights to freedom of expression and freedom of association by taking measures to enhance the security of civil society, journalists and human rights defenders (Uruguay);**
- 59.167 **Ensure the full enjoyment of the right to freedom of expression through the revision of the Internal Security Act and the Newspaper and Printing Presses Act, in order to eliminate media censorship and prevent self-censorship (Belgium);**
- 59.168 **Ensure the full enjoyment of the right to freedom of expression, eliminate media censorship and allow peaceful demonstrations without undue restrictions (Czechia);**
- 59.169 **Amend the legislation that restricts the right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly to ensure that the legislation complies with international human rights standards (Finland); Review relevant legislation that may unduly restrict the right to freedom of expression or peaceful assembly, in line with international standards (Iceland);**
- 59.170 **Renew efforts in favour of freedom of expression, in particular freedom of the press (France);**
- 59.171 **Ensure that freedom of opinion and expression, as well as peaceful assembly, are protected (Italy);**
- 59.172 **Amend article 14 of the Constitution so that it clearly proclaims press freedom and freedom of expression and information without any restriction (Netherlands);**
- 59.173 **Ensure that the right to freedom of opinion and expression is protected, including via online public platforms (New Zealand);**
- 59.174 **Review the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act (Bahamas);**

- 59.175 **Review and amend the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act to establish an independent body to review possible cases of disinformation and to ensure consistency with accepted principles of international law (Canada);**
- 59.176 **Repeal the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act (Denmark);**
- 59.177 **Amend or repeal the Sedition Act, the Administration of Justice (Protection) Act and the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act to ensure that they comply with international human rights standards (Germany);**
- 59.178 **Review the operation of the Administration of Justice (Protection) Act and the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act to ensure that they do not interfere with the right to freedom of expression (Ireland);**
- 59.179 **Review the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act, as well as other laws, such as the Defamation Act, to ensure that the right to free speech is sufficiently protected (Norway);**
- 59.180 **Amend the Public Order Act and relevant sections of the Penal Code to allow for peaceful demonstrations without undue restrictions and to guarantee the right to peaceful assembly to all (Portugal); Revise the Public Order Law and the Penal Code to guarantee the right to peaceful assembly without discrimination (Mexico);**
- 59.181 **Repeal the Public Order Act and relevant sections of the Penal Code to allow for peaceful demonstrations without undue restrictions and guarantee the right to peaceful assembly for all people in Singapore (Malawi);**
- 59.182 **Remove all existing obstacles to the registration of LGBTI organizations (Norway);**
- 59.183 **Adopt further measures to ensure access to justice, as well as the enjoyment of human rights by all without discrimination (Nigeria);**
- 59.184 **Continue efforts to strengthen and protect social, economic and cultural rights for all people, including the rights of women and children and persons with disabilities (Kazakhstan);**
- 59.185 **Support access to education, housing, and health care for vulnerable groups, such as low-income families (Mauritania);**
- 59.186 **Continue to provide support to persons who have been negatively affected by the pandemic, particularly those from low- or middle-income households (Burundi);**
- 59.187 **Continue the provision of social support for the vulnerable groups, especially those disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic (Cambodia);**
- 59.188 **Continue to expand the benefits of its social services for the population, in order to make its social protection system more effective (Algeria);**
- 59.189 **Strengthen the protection for low-income persons (Kuwait);**
- 59.190 **Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, narrow the income gap and improve people's living standards (China);**
- 59.191 **Further develop health care and strengthen the public health system to better protect the people's right to health (China);**
- 59.192 **Consider implementing training for health-care professionals on sexual orientation and gender identity issues, with the aim of eliminating discrimination in health-care access (Malta);**

- 59.193 Ensure the highest standard of health for all Singaporeans, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic (Yemen);
- 59.194 Ensure continued access to essential primary health care, despite the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic (Djibouti);
- 59.195 Enhance affordable access to quality education and health-care services for all during the pandemic, including access to COVID-19 vaccines for migrant workers (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 59.196 Exert more effort to improve all children's access to affordable and quality education (Qatar);
- 59.197 Continue efforts to improve the accessibility, affordability and quality of early childhood education, to give every child a good start (Bahrain);
- 59.198 Make further efforts for the protection of children and youth and ensuring their access to education (Kuwait);
- 59.199 Continue to improve the accessibility, affordability and quality of early childhood education (Barbados);
- 59.200 Continue to work to improve access to early childhood education (Yemen);
- 59.201 Continue to implement measures to improve the accessibility and quality of education, particularly in early childhood (Cuba);
- 59.202 Consider efforts to ensure free, equal and non-discriminatory access to quality education for all (India);
- 59.203 Continue efforts to ensure an appropriate education for children (Iraq);
- 59.204 Continue strengthening access to quality and inclusive education (Nicaragua);
- 59.205 Proceed with the lifelong learning support programme (Oman);
- 59.206 Further advance the right to education, particularly for children from low-income families (Sri Lanka);
- 59.207 Improve access to quality education for vulnerable groups, including children with disabilities and children from low-income households (Azerbaijan);
- 59.208 Step up efforts to implement programmes aimed at providing targeted assistance to school students from low-income families (Uzbekistan);
- 59.209 Take additional steps to further enhance the right to education among less privileged children (Cambodia);
- 59.210 Improve access to quality education for those with special needs and those from low-income households (Lebanon);
- 59.211 Continue to ensure the accessibility of quality education, in particular for children from low-income families (Mozambique);
- 59.212 Continue improving its efforts in the area of affordable quality education for children (Myanmar);
- 59.213 Continue efforts to increase the participation of women in decision-making positions, including in political and public life (Rwanda);
- 59.214 Strengthen policies to better promote women and girls (Senegal);
- 59.215 Increase women's full and equal participation in all forms of decision-making processes (South Sudan);
- 59.216 Ensure the effective implementation of the Women's Charter (Togo);

- 59.217 Continue efforts to develop measures to support and protect women's rights and to enshrine gender equality (Tunisia);
- 59.218 Adopt a road map to ensure the protection of the interests and development of women, and ensure its successful implementation (Uzbekistan);
- 59.219 Continue strengthening efforts to integrate all women into political and public life (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 59.220 Continue efforts in ensuring the full implementation of initiatives to promote and protect the rights of women and vulnerable groups (Brunei Darussalam);
- 59.221 Take further measures to encourage women and girls to choose contemporary fields of study and professional careers and to eliminate traditional stereotypes and administrative obstacles, which may deter girls from enrolling in engineering, electronics, telecommunications and information technology studies (Bulgaria);
- 59.222 Continue its efforts to ensure greater representation of women in politics and public services, as well as on boards of listed companies and statutory entities (Zimbabwe);
- 59.223 Take further measures in advancing women's protection, interests and development (Georgia);
- 59.224 Continue with measures in furtherance of gender equality, particularly in employment (India);
- 59.225 Continue implementing measures to promote gender equality (Italy);
- 59.226 Intensify efforts to increase women's participation in politics and in public service (Kenya);
- 59.227 Continue efforts to increase the participation of women in politics and public service (Marshall Islands);
- 59.228 Continue with its plan for the empowerment of women by strengthening the Conversations on Singapore Women's Development, launched in 2020 (Nicaragua);
- 59.229 Continue to strengthen the legislative framework in order to cover all forms of discrimination against women (Romania);
- 59.230 Redouble efforts to guarantee equality between women and men in marriage and family relations (South Sudan);
- 59.231 Include gender as a ground for discrimination in the national law against discrimination (Sweden);
- 59.232 Formulate and implement effective policies geared towards reducing the gender pay gap, with a view to ensuring equal pay for all (Botswana);
- 59.233 Continue improving the rights of women and girls, ensuring access to social benefits, health and education (Eswatini);
- 59.234 Continue efforts to tackle the gender pay gap, as a complex problem to be addressed from multiple angles and at multiple levels (Fiji);
- 59.235 Continue efforts to address cases of gender-based violence against women, including domestic and sexual violence (Rwanda);
- 59.236 Enhance efforts to combat discrimination and violence against women (Slovakia);
- 59.237 Amend the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code to classify all forms of violence against women and girls as a crime and broaden the definition of rape (Spain);

- 59.238 Continue its efforts to improve the protection of women and girls from violence through policy and legislation (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 59.239 Continue to strengthen legislation and policies to protect women and girls from violence (Bahrain);
- 59.240 Continue to enhance protection for women against violence (Cameroon);
- 59.241 Strengthen measures to protect the rights of women and girls, including policies to combat violence against women and girls (Chad);
- 59.242 Continue the fight against harassment and violence in the workplace (France);
- 59.243 Ensure that victims of sexual harassment in the workplace have access to effective complaint procedures and protection measures and recourse to remedies (Greece);
- 59.244 Ensure that victims of sexual harassment in the workplace have access to effective complaint procedures and protection measures and recourse to remedies (Israel);
- 59.245 Adopt measures to criminalize all forms of sexual violence against women (Argentina);
- 59.246 Continue ensuring that there are sufficient measures in place to protect the rights of women and girls, including from domestic violence (Azerbaijan);
- 59.247 Continue efforts to strengthen the protection of women from gender-based violence (Kuwait);
- 59.248 Continue to strengthen efforts to support victims of domestic violence, including by providing greater access to social services (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 59.249 Take appropriate measures to promote awareness of gender-based violence in households (Kenya);
- 59.250 Criminalize domestic violence and marital rape (Latvia);
- 59.251 Reinforce the legal framework to protect women and girls from domestic violence and sexual abuse (Lebanon);
- 59.252 Continue to enhance the policy of protection for women against violence and family violence (Myanmar);
- 59.253 Continue efforts to eliminate discrimination against children in vulnerable situations (Rwanda);
- 59.254 Take steps to carry out recommendations with regard to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Slovakia);
- 59.255 Continue to strengthen and effectively implement legislation to protect children's rights (Togo);
- 59.256 Continue to work to protect and promote the rights of children and youth (Uzbekistan);
- 59.257 Strengthen legislation for children and youth (Cameroon);
- 59.258 Strengthen cooperation with the United Nations in the protection of children's rights (Cameroon);
- 59.259 Continue to protect the rights of children by strengthening protective policies and legislation, in particular by meeting children's educational needs and combating domestic violence against them (Djibouti);
- 59.260 Strengthen and expand programmes and policies aimed at combating violence against children (Algeria);

- 59.261 Consider undertaking legislative reforms to prohibit corporal punishment of children, and develop awareness-raising campaigns about its harmful effects (Peru);
- 59.262 Abolish the practice of caning in public educational institutions and conduct public education and information campaigns to limit the use of caning in the private sphere (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 59.263 Continue to enhance legislative and policy measures to protect children and youth from abuse and violence at home (Jordan);
- 59.264 Provide comprehensive support to the institution of the family (Russian Federation);
- 59.265 Continue supporting the institution of the family and the preservation of family values through economic and social policies (Haiti);
- 59.266 Establish an adequate and coordinated mechanism for the identification and protection of child victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation, by strengthening the capacity of relevant services (Serbia);
- 59.267 Continue to strengthen legislation and policies to protect children and youth from sexual exploitation and abuse (Tajikistan);
- 59.268 In working towards ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, thoroughly investigate all cases of child sexual abuse, the sale of children and child exploitation to ensure that perpetrators are brought to account (Cyprus);
- 59.269 Ensure that all cases of sexual and labour exploitation and the sale, abduction and trafficking are investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice (Ghana);
- 59.270 Establish mechanisms to identify and protect child victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation (Greece);
- 59.271 Establish adequate and coordinated mechanisms to identify and protect child victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation (Guyana);
- 59.272 Continue efforts to protect children and youth against sexual exploitation (Malaysia);
- 59.273 Establish adequate and coordinating mechanisms to identify and protect child victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation (Montenegro);
- 59.274 Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to an internationally recognized standard (Poland);
- 59.275 Continue promoting and protecting children's rights, including by ensuring that the pretrial detention of children is applied only as a measure of last resort and subject to time limitations (Thailand);
- 59.276 Consider bringing the juvenile justice system fully into line with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant international standards (Bulgaria);
- 59.277 Continue to develop its juvenile justice system in conformity with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Fiji);
- 59.278 Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to an internationally accepted standard (Lithuania);
- 59.279 Abolish the sentence of life imprisonment for children under the age of 18 (Montenegro);
- 59.280 Continue efforts to enhance the integration of persons with disabilities into society by building their capacities and ensuring their equitable access to employment opportunities (Qatar);

- 59.281 Strengthen efforts to promote and protect human rights for persons with disabilities (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 59.282 Continue efforts to support programmes for the social and economic integration of persons with disabilities and their protection (Tunisia);
- 59.283 Deepen efforts to protect women from abuse, neglect and self-neglect due to physical or mental disability (Barbados);
- 59.284 Ensure that persons with disabilities continue to enjoy the same privileges in schools and at the workplace (Brunei Darussalam);
- 59.285 Intensify efforts to build an inclusive society where persons with disabilities are empowered to participate fully (Cameroon);
- 59.286 Reform national legislation to fully recognize the legal capacity of persons with disabilities (Costa Rica);
- 59.287 Continue efforts to ensure the full participation of persons with disabilities within society, in correspondence with national programmes and policies (Cuba);
- 59.288 Encourage measures to achieve a greater social inclusion of people with disabilities (Dominican Republic);
- 59.289 Continue efforts in implementing the enabling master plans to promote the social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities (Ethiopia);
- 59.290 Enhance efforts to build inclusive infrastructure for persons with disabilities, such as in public transport and public amenities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 59.291 Ensure the accessibility of health-care and support services to all persons with disabilities without discrimination (Israel);
- 59.292 Continue to integrate persons with disabilities into society, under the enabling master plan, to ensure that they have access to education, job training and employment (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 59.293 Continue efforts aimed at strengthening national plans for the social and economic integration of people with disabilities (Libya);
- 59.294 Take measures to increase accessibility in television broadcasts by encouraging service providers to adopt closed-captioning and sign language interpreters across television stations (Malta);
- 59.295 Take further measures to ensure the full enjoyment of rights by persons with disabilities, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Mozambique);
- 59.296 Incorporate the lessons learned from the implementation of the third enabling master plan (2017–2021) for enhancing the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (Nepal);
- 59.297 Make additional efforts to provide equal opportunities for children belonging to minority groups (Serbia);
- 59.298 Continue efforts to increase the inclusiveness, participation and recognition of ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 59.299 Enhance its efforts to eradicate all forms of discrimination against minority groups (Mongolia);
- 59.300 Improve long-term protections for migrant workers and foreign domestic workers, including by extending labour protections, addressing wage discrimination and increasing job mobility (Australia);

- 59.301 Ensure that women migrant domestic workers are guaranteed the same level of protection and benefits as other workers (Peru);
- 59.302 Further strengthen the programmes and services that are available to migrant workers, including those related to mental health (Philippines);
- 59.303 Make progress in the reduction of restrictive measures regarding the freedom of movement of migrant workers (Spain);
- 59.304 Continue to protect and promote the rights, well-being and safety of migrants (Sri Lanka);
- 59.305 Extend the legislative protections of the Employment Act to migrant workers (Switzerland);
- 59.306 Continue its efforts in strengthening safeguards for the well-being of migrant workers, including by improving the purpose-built dormitory facilities (Thailand);
- 59.307 Strengthen legislation for the protection of migrant workers, in particular domestic workers (Togo);
- 59.308 Adopt further legislation against modern slavery, including reporting provisions for corporations, ensuring the enforcement of recruitment fee caps, greater flexibility to move between employers and statutory hours of rest and leave for foreign domestic workers (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 59.309 Address gaps in employment rights and protections for migrant workers, such as the exclusion of domestic workers under the Employment Act (United States of America);
- 59.310 Extend the applicability of the Employment Act to migrant domestic workers (Belgium);
- 59.311 Continue efforts to ensure the well-being, health and safety of migrants (Cameroon);
- 59.312 Significantly improve living conditions in migrant workers' dormitories and extend labour protections under the Employment Act to include domestic workers (Canada);
- 59.313 Strengthen measures to protect the rights of women migrant workers and prohibit the requirement of compulsory pregnancy tests (Costa Rica);
- 59.314 Continue to promote the implementation of integration policies for migrants (Dominican Republic);
- 59.315 Strengthen measures to guarantee the protection of migrant workers and their families (El Salvador);
- 59.316 Continue promoting the welfare of all migrant populations, ensuring that they have access to health and social benefits (Eswatini);
- 59.317 Ensure respect for the right to seek asylum by enabling effective and unhindered access to the territory of Singapore, including the opportunity to apply for refugee status with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and full compliance with the principle of non-refoulement (Afghanistan);
- 59.318 Provide a robust and faster response to requests for consular cooperation and treatment of migrant workers (Indonesia);
- 59.319 Sustain efforts to protect the rights of migrant workers, especially in dealing with COVID-19 pandemic-induced challenges (Pakistan);
- 59.320 Continue efforts to uphold and protect the rights, safety, health and welfare of migrant workers, including during the COVID-19 pandemic (Philippines);

59.321 Continue its efforts to ensure safe and secure work environments for, as well as the welfare of, migrant workers, including by extending social protection to them as they face the onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic (Bangladesh);

59.322 Continue with measures to protect the rights of migrant workers, especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic (India);

59.323 Pursue efforts aimed at enhancing legislative and policy measures to protect migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic (Mauritania);

59.324 Continue to provide COVID-19 related care for migrant workers, within existing measures, and extend further measures to ensure their well-being and that their medical and social needs are met (Myanmar).

60. 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 Singapore was headed by Professor CHAN Heng Chee, Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Umej Singh BHATIA, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations at Geneva;
- Dr. Shashi JAYAKUMAR, Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights;
- Associate Professor Eugene Tan, Alternate Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights;
- Ms. ANG Bee Lian, Director-General of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social and Family Development;
- Ms. Lynette LONG, Director-General, International Organisations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. LIN Qinghui, Senior Director, Policy Development Division, Ministry of Home Affairs;
- Mr. LEE Chung Wei, Divisional Director, Workplace Policy and Strategy Division, Ministry of Manpower;
- Mr. TAN Pei-En, Divisional Director, Planning Division, Ministry of Education;
- Ms. LIM Yi Jia, Director, Disability Office, Ministry of Social and Family Development;
- Mr. Shaun GOH, Director, Community Relations and Engagement Division, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth
- Ms. Sharifah Farah Binte Syed Mahamood ALJUNIED, Director, Education & Student Development, Muis;
- Dr. Lyn JAMES, Director, International Cooperation Division, Ministry of Health;
- Mr. Kelvin KOW, Second Director, Information Policy Division, Ministry of Communications and Information;
- Mr. Eugene SNG, Second Director, Civil and Legislative Policy, Ministry of Law;
- Mr. Mark SEAH, Deputy Director-General, International Organisations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Nedyam Nitya MENON, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations at Geneva;
- Mr. CHEAH Sin Liang, Deputy Director, Policy and Planning, National Climate Change Secretariat;
- Ms. Terri LIM, Deputy Senior State Counsel, International Affairs Division, Attorney-General's Chambers;
- Ms. Yvonne Elizabeth CHEE, Deputy Director, International, Social and Humanitarian Issues, International Organisations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Seraphina FONG, Deputy Director, International Legal Division, Ministry of Law;
- Mr. Keefe CHIN, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations at Geneva;

- Mr. Daniel NG, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations at Geneva;
- Ms. Cheryl TOH, Assistant Director, International, Social and Humanitarian Issues, International Organisations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Eunice SIN, Assistant Director, International, Social and Humanitarian Issues, International Organisations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. SEOW Ai Lin, State Counsel, International Affairs Division, Attorney-General's Chambers;
- Ms. Vaishnavi VASUDEVAN, Desk Officer, International, Social and Humanitarian Issues, International Organisations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Rochelle YAP, Desk Officer, International, Social and Humanitarian Issues, International Organisations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
