



# Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

National Human Rights Commission Nepal  
Hariharbhawan, Lalitpur, Nepal  
2022



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## The Universal Periodic Review

The UPR was initiated when the Human Rights Council was created on 15 March 2006 by the UN General Assembly in resolution 60/251 in order to be non-selective and to ensure equal treatment for every country. This mandated the Council to "undertake a universal periodic review, based on objective and reliable information, of the fulfilment by each State of its human rights obligations and commitments in a manner which ensures universality of coverage and equal treatment with respect to all States". On 18 June 2007, one year after its first meeting, members of the new Council agreed to its institution-building package (A/HRC/RES/5/1) providing a road map guiding the future work of the Council. The mechanism was further refined during the review process through resolution 16/21 and decision 17/119. These two documents provided the necessary modifications of modalities for the review in the second and subsequent cycles.

It involves a review of the human rights record of all 193 UN Member States once every four and a half years. The UPR is a State-driven process, under the auspices of the HRC, in which each State's human rights performance is assessed by other States with the ultimate aim of improving the human rights situation on the ground. At the time of writing, the second cycle of the UPR was about to be completed. All UN Member States will then have been reviewed twice.

While the discussion among States in the framework of the UPR can be much politicized, the review is based on a broad variety of information. Besides the report presented by the State under review, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) compiles two reports: one based on information provided by NGOs and other stakeholders, such as NHRIs, and the other based on a compilation of conclusions and recommendations made by treaty



monitoring bodies and special procedures, which are all composed of independent experts, and information provided by UN entities.

## **The Bases of UPR Process**

The UPR is to review the fulfillment by each State of its human rights obligations and commitments based on human rights treaties and other instruments that they have ratified”. The UPR will assess the extent to which States respect their human rights obligations set out in: (1) the UN Charter (2) the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (3) human rights instruments to which the State is party (human rights treaties ratified by the State concerned); (4) voluntary pledges and commitments made by the State (e.g. national human rights policies and/or programmes implemented); and, (5) applicable international humanitarian law.

### **Steps of the UPR process**

- preparation of documents, including a national report which should be based on “a broad consultation process at the national level with all relevant stakeholders”, a summary of NGO reports, and information on engagement and compliance with UN-related human rights commitments which is prepared by the OHCHR;
- assessment of the national report and preparation of recommendations by recommending States;
- review of the State under review by the UPR Working Group, which is composed of all Member States of the HRC; and presentation by the State under review of its report, holding of an interactive dialogue during which
- States ask questions and make recommendations. Each State review is assisted by groups of three States, known as “troikas”, which serve as rapporteurs. The troikas may group issues or questions to be shared with the
- State under review to ensure that the interactive dialogue takes place in a smooth and orderly manner;





- preparation of a document containing recommendations by States and voluntary commitments made by the State under review;
- preliminary adoption of the report;
- final adoption of the document during a plenary session of the HRC.

### **The UPR has six objectives:**

- the improvement of the human rights situation on the ground
- the fulfilment of the State's human rights obligations and commitments and assessment of positive developments and challenges faced by the State
- the enhancement of the State's capacity and of technical assistance, in consultation with, and with the consent of, the State concerned
- the sharing of best practice among States and other stakeholders
- support for cooperation in the promotion and protection of human rights
- the encouragement of full cooperation and engagement with the HRC, other human rights bodies and OHCHR

### **Steps of the UPR**

#### **a. Documentation**

The review of a State is based upon three documents:

- information prepared by the State concerned, not exceeding 20 pages
- a compilation prepared by OHCHR of the information contained in the reports and official
- documents of relevant UN bodies and agencies, not exceeding ten pages



- a summary prepared by OHCHR of “additional, credible and reliable information provided by other relevant stakeholders”, not exceeding ten pages.

The preparation of the State report is a State responsibility and an NHRI should not undertake this task on behalf of the State. Preparation leads to responsibility and ownership. The State should take responsibility for its own report and should own the contents and voluntary commitments, if any, in it. If an NHRI or anybody other than the Government prepares the report, the Government is able to distance itself from its contents and commitments.

### **b. Interactive dialogue in the UPR Working Group**

The second stage of the UPR is an interactive dialogue with each State under review. The interactive dialogue takes the form of statements, including questions and answers, by the State under review, HRC member States and observer States. It takes place in the HRC’s UPR Working Group. Each State is allocated a session of three and half hours for its interactive dialogue, with the time being divided so that:

- the State under review has a total of 70 minutes for its initial presentation, replies to statements by other States and answers to their questions, and its concluding comments
- the remaining time (140 minutes) is divided among member States and observer States

### **c. The UPR report and its recommendations**

The UPR Working Group prepares a report of the interactive dialogue that is forwarded to the HRC for consideration and adoption in a plenary meeting at a future regular session of the HRC. A draft of the report is prepared by the troika for the particular State under review with the full involvement of the State under review and the assistance of the secretariat (OHCHR). The draft is discussed for 30 minutes in the Working Group and adopted and referred to the HRC.

The Working Group report on each State under review includes:



- a summary of the proceedings
- conclusions
- recommendations made by individual States in the interactive dialogue
- voluntary commitments made by the State under review.

To date, the reports on States under review have basically summarized the interactive dialogue. They contain the views of the State under review and of each State that spoke. The Working Group does not attempt to form its own collective conclusions but the report incorporates the individual views of individual States or groups of States.

#### **d. HRC plenary debate and adoption of the report**

The UPR Working Group report on each State under review is considered and adopted at a regular session of the HRC soon after the completion of the Working Group session. An hour is allocated for the consideration of each individual report. The hour is apportioned between the State under review (20 minutes), HRC member and observer States (20 minutes) and other observers, that is, NHRIs and NGOs (20 minutes).

The State under review speaks first. It is expected to respond to the recommendations in the Working Group report either before the plenary debate or at it.

*The State under review will inform the Council about its views concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as voluntary commitments/pledges whenever it is in a position to do so, during the meeting of the Working Group, or between the session of the Working Group and the next session of the Council, or during the meeting of the Council at its plenary session.*

On the basis of this response, the report of the debate identifies the recommendations that the State under review supports, the recommendations that it is still considering and the recommendations





that it does not support. The State can then be held accountable for its implementation of the recommendations it supports and it can later be questioned and pressed in relation to those it does not.

**The “A status” NHRI of the State under review has special status. It is “entitled to intervene immediately after the State under review during the adoption of the outcome of the review by the Council plenary”.**

### **e. Follow up**

Implementation of the UPR recommendations is the principal objective of the process. States are expected to act on the recommendations they accept and to consider further those they do not accept.

Implementation is a State responsibility but international assistance may be required, especially for least developed and developing States. The United Nations Development Programme, OHCHR and other UN agencies and field presences may be able to provide assistance with implementation. The procedures adopted for the UPR now require reporting on follow up and implementation. In the second cycle of the review, States are required to report on their follow up and implementation of recommendations of the first cycle. In subsequent cycles they will report on follow up on recommendations in all past review reports. In addition they are asked to provide the HRC with a mid -cycle report on implementation.

### **Report Format**

The guidance note for report format, which offers essential support to other stakeholders, so that they can submit their report to the OHCHR by the deadline.

1. **Document format** - Use of word documents only - Written (main) submissions should be saved and submitted as a Word document only.
2. **Identification** - Written submissions should be clearly identifiable. The cover page of the main submission should clearly identify the submitting stakeholder(s) (letterhead, name



and acronym, logo, webpage, email and postal address, etc.). For joint submissions, a list of organizations should be added as an Endnote in the cover page or as an annex to the document.

3. **Brief Description of main activities:** - A paragraph describing the main activities of the submitting organization/coalition, as well as date of establishment, especially for those organizations which interrelate for the first time with the UN, is also encouraged to be included in the cover page.
4. **Length** – Individual written submissions must not exceed 2815 words (additional documentation can be annexed for reference). Joint submissions must not exceed 5630 words. The cover page, endnotes and annexes will not be counted within the word/page limits of contributions.
5. **Use of endnotes** - Stakeholders should only use endnotes to reference information. Endnotes should not include any substantive information therein as it will not be taken into consideration in the summary.
6. **Numbering paragraphs and pages** - For ease of reference, paragraphs and pages should be numbered.
7. **Language** - Written contributions should be submitted in one of the UN official languages and preferably in English, French or Spanish.

### **The Role of the Government in UPR Process**

The reviews will be based on three documents identified in paragraph 15 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 namely: information prepared by the State concerned, which can take the form of a national report; a compilation prepared by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies, special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and other relevant official United Nations documents; and a summary of additional, credible and reliable information provided by other relevant stakeholders. Among these the national report is the important one.



Reviews take place through an interactive discussion between the State under review and other UN Member States. This takes place during a meeting of the UPR Working Group. During this discussion any UN Member State can pose questions, comments and/or make recommendations to the States under review. The troikas may group issues or questions to be shared with the State under review to ensure that the interactive dialogue takes place in a smooth and orderly manner. The duration of the review was three hours for each country in the Working Group during the first cycle. From the second cycle onwards the time has been extended to three hours and thirty minutes.

### **The Role of the NHRIs**

As independent bodies with constitutional or legislative mandates to protect and promote human rights, Paris Principles compliant national human rights institutions (NHRIs) are able to contribute effectively to all stages of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process. The roles of NHRIs in the UPR process includes:

- Acting as a bridge between the national and international human rights systems;
- Providing independent and authoritative information on national situations;
- Sharing best practice examples and lessons learned;
- Providing advice to Government on the implementation of UPR recommendations, and monitoring follow-up; and
- Raising UPR awareness at the national level and encouraging domestic actors.

Most recently, as a result of the Council's review and advocacy, the Council has broadened NHRI contribution opportunities in the UPR. In resolution 16/21, the Council confirmed:

- That Paris Principles compliant NHRIs will be allocated a separate section of future summaries of stakeholders' information prepared by OHCHR; and
- That Paris Principles compliant NHRIs will be entitled to



intervene immediately after their State during the Council's adoption of the UPR report on that State.

## **UPR and the NHRC Nepal**

With the aim of protection, promotion and the effective implementation of the human rights, NHRC Nepal was established by the NHRC Act 2000 and elevated into the Constitutional body which can play significant role in the UPR process.

To provide suggestions to the government of Nepal during reporting periods of the various treaties in which Nepal is a party is one of the main constitutional responsibilities of NHRC Nepal so that actual and factual information can be incorporated in the reports during UPR process.

NHRC can submit its own independent UPR report or provide information to the government collecting independent, reliable and updated information with regard to the human rights situation of Nepal. In the previous first and second cycle too in leadership of NHRC, on behalf NHRIs NHRC, National Women Commission, National Dalit Commission jointly submitted the UPR reports. In the third cycle too as practiced in the previous reviews, the joint report of the Constitutional commissions will be submitted in the leadership of NHRC Nepal. During the preparation of the report, wider consultation and interaction with the relevant stakeholders to collect the information will be made to prepare the report.

## **The Role of the civil society and Non-governmental Organizations**

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a state-driven exercise. However, despite the limited role during the actual review, civil society and Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have many opportunities to take part and influence the UPR process. Civil society and NGOs participation can take five main forms:

- Participate in the national consultations held by the State under Review;



- Send information on the human rights situation in the country;
- Lobby members of the Working Group;
- Take the floor at the Human Rights Council during the adoption of the report;
- Monitor and participate in the implementation by the State under Review of the UPR recommendations.

### **Universal Periodic Review and Nepal**

As UPR involves a review of the human rights record of all 193 UN Member States of UN once every four and a half years, as a member state of UN the review of Nepal is also the mandatory one. Nepal was first reviewed by the UPR working group at the 10th UPR session on 25 January 2011. In 2011 the first cycle review in the UPR of the human rights situation of Nepal was held, 55 nations commented upon the human rights situation of Nepal and provided 135 recommendations, out of 135 recommendations, Nepal accepted 120 and other 15 were noted by Nepal. Similarly, in 2015, second cycle UPR was reviewed 73 nations commented upon the human rights situation of Nepal and provided 195 recommendations. Out of 195 recommendations; Nepal accepted 152 recommendations and other 43 recommendations were noted by Nepal.

1. Education -Norway, Cuba, Turkey, Slovakia, Maldives, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Israel, Afghanistan, Finland, Thailand, Namibia, Indonesia, Singapore, Venezuela.
2. Health, nutrition and population - Venezuela, Cuba, Singapore, Thailand, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Israel, New Zealand.
3. Labor and employment -USA, Poland, South Africa, Finland, Australia.
4. Culture - Mexico, Algeria.
5. Legal reform and administration of justice (enactment of law, law reform and the court) - Republic of Korea, Poland, Egypt,



China, Holy See, Italy, India, France, Azerbaijan, Slovakia, Colombia, Germany, Norway, New Zealand, Denmark, Switzerland, UK, Slovenia, Japan, Hungary, Turkey, Sweden, Austria, France, Slovakia, Sierra Leone, Timor Leste, Portugal, Uganda, Spain, Slovenia, USA, Czech Republic, USA, Estonia, Ireland, Botswana, Estonia, Cyprus, Canada, Netherlands, Belgium, ,Slovenia,, Egypt, Haiti, Hungary.

6. Environment and sustainable development -Myanmar, Azerbaijan Maldives, Philippines, Colombia, \_
7. Women, persons with disabilities, senior citizens and gender and sexual minorities a) Women b) Persons living with disabilities c) Senior citizens d) Gender and sexual minorities - Philippines, Chile, Venezuela, Lao PDR, Sweden, Botswana, Singapore, Palestine, New Zealand, Norway, Azerbaijan, Nicaragua, Slovenia, Malaysia, Uganda, Israel, France, Mauritius, Timor-Leste, Pakistan, Norway, Spain, Azerbaijan, Australia, Mexico, France, Czech Republic, Thailand, Brazil, Japan, Bhutan, Malaysia, Germany, Netherlands, Canada, Egypt, Panama, \_
8. Nepal's international obligations -Pakistan, Japan, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Ukraine, Lao PDR, Qatar, Ghana, France, Philippines, Myanmar, Spain, Brazil, Panama, Cyprus, Austria, New Zealand, Maldives, German
9. Food security and food sovereignty - Hungary, Ireland, Brazil \_
10. Transitional justice and conflict victims - Canada, Denmark, Switzerland, Belgium, New Zealand, Czech Republic, India, Costa Rica, Switzerland, Egypt, Moldova, Austria, Holy See, Vietnam, Pakistan, Singapore, Bhutan, Yemen, Uruguay \_
11. Human Right education - Cuba, Paraguay, Djibouti, Morocco, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Viet Nam
12. Inclusive development a) Indigenous people, peoples of ethnic communities and marginalized groups b) Dalit c) Backward class/area d) Badi - Thailand, Japan, Germany, Pakistan, Argentina, Myanmar, UK, Sweden, Netherlands, Paraguay,





Denmark, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Namibia, Bolivia, Austria, Sweden, Argentina, Ukraine, Ukraine, USA, Malaysia, Cuba,

13. Children (protection of child rights, child development and juvenile justice) - Botswana, Belgium, Azerbaijan, Lao PDR, Hungary, Slovakia, Canada, Austria, Estonia, Namibia, Spain, Slovenia, Djibouti, Russian Federation, Bhutan, Spain, Poland, Chile, Maldives, Algeria, Slovakia
14. Housing (Urban development and housing) - Morocco, Singapore, Finland
15. Social service and security (drinking water, electricity, sanitation and drainage, consumption of natural resources, cooperatives, poverty, sports and road utilization etc.) - Bhutan, Cambodia, Azerbaijan, Malaysia, Venezuela, Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Malaysia, Morocco, Algeria, Bolivia, Cambodia, Azerbaijan, Russian Federation, Pakistan, Morocco
16. Execution of Supreme Court Judgments and recommendations of National Human Rights Commission -Canada, USA
17. Custody and prison reform -Sweden, Sierra Leone,
18. Institutional strengthening -Myanmar, Australia, Egypt, India, Bolivia, Republic, of Korea, India, Portugal, Canada, France, Norway, Slovenia, Egypt, Philippines, China, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Lao PDR, Viet Nam

The third cycle of UPR was held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021. Nepal received 233 recommendations altogether of which 196 recommendations were supported while 37 recommendations were noted. The following bullets reveal thematic recommendations with the state providing such recommendations.

1. Ratification of & accession to international instruments: Georgia, Honduras, Paraguay.
2. Legal & institutional reform: Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Oman.



3. Paris Principles: Australia, India, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Pakistan, Paraguay, Portugal, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Uzbekistan.
4. Torture: Montenegro.
5. Rights of Prisoners: Cuba.
6. Unlawful Killings: Greece, Nigeria.
7. Freedom of Opinion: Brazil, Chile.
8. Human Rights Defenders: Czechia, Estonia, France, Greece, Iceland, Netherlands, Australia, Latvia, Canada.
9. Poverty Reduction : Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Cambodia, China, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Myanmar, Philippines, Paraguay, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Kuwait, Sri Lanka.
10. Safe drinking water & sanitation: Bangladesh, Cambodia.
11. Right to health: Bahrain, Haiti, India, Japan, Argentina, Myanmar, Mauritius, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, Oman.
12. Right to education: Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Finland, Holy See, Mauritius, Norway, Turkey, France.
13. Children: Burkina Faso, Holy See, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Croatia, Belgium, Croatia, Italy, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Marshall Islands, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain.
14. SDG: Vietnam
15. National Human Rights Action Plans: China, Sri Lanka.
16. Transitional justice: Uruguay, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Republic of Korea, Australia, State of Palestine, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
17. Right to food: Cuba, Qatar, State of Palestine.



18. Labour rights and right to work: Bhutan.
19. Economic, social & cultural rights: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sudan, Chile.
20. Rights of Migrant Worker: Canada
21. Trafficking in Persons: Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cyprus, Fiji, Holy See, Iraq, Malaysia, Montenegro, Armenia, Nigeria, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
22. Sexual & reproductive health and rights: France, Iceland.
23. Discrimination against women: Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Canada, China, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Viet Nam, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Armenia, Nicaragua, Panama, Portugal, Singapore, Sudan, Lebanon.
24. Violence against women: Finland, Italy, Spain, Turkey.
25. Sexual & gender-based violence: Botswana, Uzbekistan, Egypt, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Malta, Myanmar, Norway, Philippines, Australia, Azerbaijan, Thailand.
26. Advancement of women: Lao People's Democratic Republic, Bahrain, Cyprus, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq.
27. Elimination of Racial Discrimination: Bahamas, State of Palestine, Sudan, Croatia, El Salvador, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Argentina, Malta, Republic of Korea.
28. Persons with disabilities: Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Malaysia, Bulgaria, Qatar, Iraq, Bulgaria.
29. Indigenous peoples: Marshall Islands.
30. Environment: Bangladesh.

Finally, the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a unique process which involves a periodic review of the human rights records of all 193 UN Member States. The UPR is a significant innovation of the Human Rights Council which is based on equal treatment for all countries.



It provides an opportunity for all States to declare what actions they have taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries and to overcome challenges to the enjoyment of human rights. The UPR also includes a sharing of best human rights practices around the globe.

## **Treaty Based Clustering of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle Recommendations**

### **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966 (ICCPR)**

#### **Religion**

1. Amend article 26 of the Constitution to include the right to choose or change one's religion or belief, in accordance with article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights <sup>1</sup>
2. Repeal or amend sections 155, 156 and 158 of the Penal Code so it is consistent with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>2</sup>
3. Remove restrictions on the right to freedom of religion or belief in the Criminal Code.<sup>3</sup>
4. Continue to improve the prison infrastructure and the living conditions of persons deprived of liberty<sup>4</sup>

#### **Right to Expression**

5. Consider revising the local legislation on media and information technology in order to guarantee the full respect of the right to freedom of opinion and expression<sup>5</sup>
6. Ensure that legislation on cyber security guarantees the rights of access to information and freedom of expression.<sup>6</sup>

1 Para159.86 recommendation given by Netherland.

2 Para 159.176 recommendation given by (Denmark);

3 Para 159.87 recommendation given by Norway.

4 Para159.55 recommendation given by Cuba

5 Para 159.73 recommendation given by ( Brazil)

6 Para 159.74 recommendation given by (Chile)



7. Ensure the right to freedom of expression online and offline, in law and in practice, and guarantee a safe and enabling environment for journalists and human rights defenders.<sup>7</sup>
8. Reform the Electronic Transactions Act to eliminate the criminalization of speech.<sup>8</sup>
9. Uphold respect for freedom of expression and the right to privacy, including in draft legislation regulating information technology, media and mass communications<sup>9</sup>
10. Safeguard the freedom of expression and foster civil society participation; ensure that NGOs active in the field of human rights – including those receiving foreign grants – are free to operate<sup>10</sup>
11. Ensure no person is arrested for peacefully exercising their right to freedom of expression, association or assembly and that all arrests are carried out in accordance with the law and in line with international human rights standards<sup>11</sup>
12. Protect and uphold the freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, including by respecting and supporting the free and independent media, in line with international human rights standards<sup>12</sup>
13. Promote and protect the right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly of all residents of Nepal<sup>13</sup>
14. Eliminate all provisions that restrict freedom of expression, through any means, such as criminal provisions relating to slander or defamation<sup>14</sup>
15. Ensure the right to freedom of expression and ensure all

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7 Para 159.77 recommendation given by (Estonia)

8 Para 159.89 recommendation given by (USA).

9 Para 159.104 recommendation given by (Canada)

10 Para 159.75 recommendation given by (Czechia);

11 Para 159.79 recommendation given by (Greece);

12 Para 159.81 recommendation given by Iceland

13 Para 159.82 recommendation given by Latvia

14 Para 159.84 recommendation given by (Mexico);



individuals are protected against threats, intimidation and violence when engaging in public discourse<sup>15</sup>

16. Guarantee freedom of expression, information and peaceful assembly by putting an end to the excessive use of force against demonstrators, human rights defenders and journalists, as well as by sanctioning the perpetrators of violations of their rights<sup>16</sup>
17. Take measures to foster a safe, respectful and enabling environment for civil society and human rights defenders, especially women human rights defenders, free from persecution, intimidation and harassment, and to relax the requirements for registering NGO<sup>17</sup>

## **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966 (ICESCR)**

### **Poverty, Employment and Social Security**

1. Implementation of a national action plan to reduce poverty with a human rights-based approach and focused on Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 10.<sup>18</sup>
2. Accelerate efforts to reduce poverty aimed at achieving an adequate living standard for all people<sup>19</sup>
3. Continue its poverty reduction measures to achieve its target of reducing from 18 to 13 per cent by 2024 through inclusive and sustainable development.<sup>20</sup>
4. Strengthen effective collaboration with the international community to increase investment in food, housing, poverty reduction, employment generation, health care, education, social security and the development of people-centric infrastructures<sup>21</sup>

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15 Para 159.88 recommendation given by (Australia);

16 Para 159.78 recommendation given by France

17 Para 159.83 recommendation given by Latvia

18 Para 159.123 recommendation given by (Paraguay);

19 Para 159.108 recommendation given by ( Korea), 159.119 (Lebanon)

20 Para 159.120 recommendation given by (Maynmar)

21 Para 159.131 recommendation given by(Turkmenistan);





5. Continue its efforts in poverty reduction by providing poor families with opportunities to access productive resources, capacity-building, income and sustainable development<sup>22</sup>
6. Intensify cooperation and efforts with the support of the international community to further enlarge programmatic interventions and investment in key areas of poverty reduction<sup>23</sup>
7. Take further steps for socioeconomic development<sup>24</sup> and socioeconomic rights of the citizen<sup>25</sup>
8. Continue its efforts to improve the standards of living of its people through the implementation of laws and policies that have already been put in place.<sup>26</sup>
9. Ensure that its efforts to address poverty are inclusive, gender-responsive and human rights-based.<sup>27</sup> (Philippines);
10. Continue to take measures to further strengthen implementation of the Right to Employment Act and the contributory social security system and, in particular, implement targeted interventions for vulnerable groups<sup>28</sup>
11. Further capitalize on the gains in poverty reduction and step up efforts for an increased per capita<sup>29</sup>
12. Continue measures to improve the country's standard of living<sup>30</sup>
13. Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development and to further promote poverty alleviation<sup>31</sup>
14. Step up efforts to fight hunger<sup>32</sup>

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22 Para159.109 recommendation given by (Lao People's Democratic Republic);

23 Para159.111 recommendation given by (Cambodia)

24 Para 159.122 recommendation given by Pakistan

25 Para 159.126 recommendation given by Russia Federation.

26 Para 159.127 recommendation given by Sri Lanka.

27 Para 159.124 recommendation given by (Philippines);

28 Para159.105 recommendation given by ( Bhutan)

29 Para159.116 recommendation given by (Ethiopia)

30 Para159.117 recommendation given by (Kuwait)

31 Para159.113 recommendation given by (China)

32 Para 159.129 recommendation given by South Sudan.



## Drinking Water, Sanitation and Environment

15. Continue to promote access to safe drinking water and sanitation, especially in rural and hard-to-reach areas<sup>33</sup>
16. Consider taking additional steps to raise the number of people having access to upgraded water facilities nationwide.<sup>34</sup>
17. Step up effort ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation.<sup>35</sup>
18. Continue the measures aimed at poverty alleviation, ensuring adequate housing and providing water and sanitation to the population<sup>36</sup>
19. Maintain and expand government programmes aimed at guaranteeing the right to food and addressing food insecurity, particularly among the most vulnerable populations<sup>37</sup>
20. Pursue the good management of policies related to the basic needs of citizens such as the rights to food, adequate housing, drinking water, education and work<sup>38</sup>
21. Continue the efforts to achieve remarkable progress in indicators related to hunger, nutrition and food security<sup>39</sup>
22. Consider adopting a more coordinated approach to address hunger and malnutrition.<sup>40</sup>
23. Collaborate with specialized United Nations agencies to develop the agricultural sector<sup>41</sup>

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33 Para159.110 recommendation given by (Bangladesh)

34 Para159.112 recommendation given by (Cambodia)

35 Para 159.129 recommendation given by South Sudan.

36 Para 159.130 recommendation given by (Azerbaijan);

37 Para159.114 recommendation given by (Cuba)

38 Para 159.121, 159.115 recommendation given by Nicaragua, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

39 Para 159.125 recommendation given by Qatar.

40 Para 159.128 recommendation given by State of Palestine

41 Para 159.118 recommendation given by Kuwait



## Health and the Covid Crisis

24. Make efforts in furtherance of the rights to health and education<sup>42</sup>
25. Maintain its commitment to implementing health plans and programmes to ensure the protection of the right to health during emergencies and pandemics.<sup>43</sup>
26. Continue efforts in furtherance of the rights to health<sup>44</sup> and to facilitate access to health services
27. Continue the Government's efforts to strengthen integrated networks of health services<sup>45</sup>
28. Continue its efforts to create favourable conditions for ensuring access to free and quality public health for all.<sup>46</sup>
29. Decriminalize abortion and concretely protect the rights and sexual and reproductive health of women and girls.<sup>47</sup>
30. Ensure leprosy training within the health-care community and implement the principles and guidelines for the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members<sup>48</sup>
31. Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development to ensure that marginalized groups are able to exercise their reproductive rights through universal access to quality family planning services, the upscaling of adolescent-friendly health services and the full integration of comprehensive sexuality education, consistent with the evolving capacities and needs of youth.<sup>49</sup>

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42 Para 159.138 recommendation given by India

43 Para 159.132 recommendation given by Bahrain

44 Para 159.138 and 159.143 recommendation given by India and Saudi Arabia.

45 Para 159.146 recommendation given by Oman.

46 Para 159.147 recommendation given by Democratic People's Republic of Korea

47 Para 159.135 recommendation given by France.

48 Para 159.139 recommendation given by Japan

49 Para 159.137 recommendation given by Iceland.



32. Take steps to reduce neonatal mortality, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 3.<sup>50</sup>
33. Continue to expand efforts towards universal health coverage while minimizing disruption in the access to basic health-care services during the pandemic, taking into consideration the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>51</sup>
34. Strengthen the implementation of World Health Organization's guidelines on preparedness, prevention and control of COVID-19 in prisons and other places of detention<sup>52</sup>
35. Take all necessary measures to strengthen the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons, particularly in the current situation of extreme vulnerability they face in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic<sup>53</sup>
36. Make progress in social economic recovery with a human rights perspective to face the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, taking into consideration the special needs of vulnerable groups in society<sup>54</sup>

### **Education**

37. Defend and promote the fundamental right to education and Continue its efforts to create favorable conditions for ensuring access to compulsory, free and quality education for all without any discrimination<sup>55</sup>
38. Step up further efforts to ensure gender parity in both primary and secondary education<sup>56</sup>
39. Enhance measures to scale up school enrolment at the secondary level<sup>57</sup>

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50 Para 159.141 and 159.142 recommendation given by Mauritius and Myanmar

51 Para 159.144 recommendation given by Singapore.

52 Para 159.145 recommendation given by Thailand.

53 Para 159.140 recommendation given by Argentina.

54 Para 159.133 recommendation given by Chile

55 Para 159.147 ,159.151,159.152 and 159.153 recommendation given by Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Holy See ,Mauritius, France

56 Para 159.148 recommendation given by Bangladesh

57 Para 159.149 recommendation given by Ethiopia



40. Take all necessary measures to ensure full inclusion and improve learning results for all children belonging to the Dalit community, underrepresented castes and indigenous peoples, including children with disabilities, at all levels of education, and to ensure the representation of these groups, especially women, in teaching positions<sup>58</sup>
41. Expand the scope of such initiatives as the Act relating to Compulsory and Free Education of 2018 and provide more scholarships on an equal basis<sup>59</sup>

## **Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1979 (CEDAW)**

### **Rights of Women**

1. Expedite the appointment of a commissioner on women's rights and provide the National Women's Commission with a complaint mechanism and the authority to issue binding rulings.<sup>60</sup>
2. Enhance the empowerment of women through education, awareness-raising, training for skills development and employment.<sup>61</sup>
3. Step up efforts to provide equal access to online education for girls, especially during the COVID-19 lockdown<sup>62</sup>
4. Promote awareness-raising campaigns and strengthen the enforcement of existing legislation and policies to eradicate harmful practices, trafficking in persons and child labour<sup>63</sup>
5. Strengthen awareness-raising programmes on harmful traditional practices against women and, at the same time, improve investigation and prosecution of perpetrators and provide compensation to the victims<sup>64</sup>

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58 Para 159.150, 159.153 recommendation given by Finland, Norway

59 Para 159.154 recommendation given by Turkey

60 Para 159.24 and 159.27 recommendation given by Guyana and Timor-Leste.

61 Para 159.156 recommendation given by Lao People's Democratic Republic.

62 Para 159.181 recommendation given by Islamic Republic of Iran.

63 Para 159.194 by Panama

64 Para 159.196 recommendation given by Portugal



6. Continue its efforts to promote the rights of women and girls, also with a view to empowering them in society<sup>65</sup>
7. Continue efforts to promote women's empowerment<sup>66</sup>

### **Gender**

8. Amend the legislation that generates discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity right <sup>67</sup> and continue effort to combat gender based discrimination<sup>68</sup>
9. Review the definition of marriage in the Civil Code<sup>69</sup> or adopt marriage equality legislation to guarantee equal right to marriage to same sex couple.<sup>70</sup>
10. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that includes a definition of discrimination against women encompassing direct and indirect discrimination and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. <sup>71</sup>
11. Further strengthen measures to eliminate discrimination against women and girls, including through concrete legislative and policy interventions, as well as public awareness of the negative effects of harmful practices against women and girls <sup>72</sup>
12. Increase efforts to achieve effective equality between women and men, especially in the judiciary, the law enforcement institutions and the diplomatic corps<sup>73</sup>
13. Continue to further strengthen the national system in order to eliminate discrimination against women<sup>74</sup>
14. Ensure full equality between men and women with respect to conferring citizenship on their children and spouse, including

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65 Para 159.180 recommendation given by Islamic Republic of Iran

66 Para 159.160 recommendation given by Bahrain

67 Para159.31 recommendation given by Uruguay

68 Para159.41 recommendation given by Lebanon.

69 Para 159.31 recommendation given by Uruguay.

70 ibid. Para 159. 37 recommendation given by Iceland

71 Para 159.36 recommendation given by Guyana

72 Para 159.179 recommendation given by Indonesia

73 Para 159.182 recommendation given by Iraq

74 Para 159.190 Armenia





by amending provisions in the Constitution and Citizenship Act amendment bill 2020.<sup>75</sup>

Amend the Citizenship Act to enable citizenship documentation at birth and to repeal gender discriminatory provisions.<sup>76</sup>

Ensure that the rights to acquire, transfer and retain citizenship are extended equally to all women and their children.<sup>77</sup>

15. Continue to fully guarantee women's rights, including the right to equal lineage without gender discrimination and the right to safe motherhood<sup>78</sup>
16. Ensure that the transitional justice process takes a gender-sensitive approach<sup>79</sup>
17. Continue to promote gender equality and better protect women's rights<sup>80</sup>
18. Amend the provisions of its normative framework that contravene the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in order to guarantee a non-discriminatory approach to the granting of citizenship<sup>81</sup>(Panama);
19. Finalize its draft national gender equality policy expeditiously and undertake awareness-raising activities, in all levels of society, about its key measures<sup>82</sup>

### **Strengthening Judicial System, Administration of Justice and Law Reforms**

20. Remove the one-year statute of limitations for rape and sexual violence to ensure that cases are brought to justice.<sup>83</sup>

75 Para 159.166 recommendation given by Canada

76 Para 159.176 recommendation given by Germany

77 Para 159.174 recommendation given by Finland

78 Para 159.191 Nicaragua

79 Para 159.65 recommendation given by Ireland.

80 Para 159.66 and 159.167, 159.178 recommendation given by China and India

81 159.193 Panama

82 Para 159.198 recommendation given by Singapore

83 Para 159.157, 159.158, 159.170 recommendation given by Bahamas, Uruguay, Denmark



21. Fully enforce the law and strengthen policy measures with a view to eliminating harmful traditional practices<sup>84</sup>
22. Ensure the effective implementation of the criminalization of chhaupadi and wedding dowries, including by raising awareness among all stakeholders, imposing sanctions and prosecuting perpetrators (Belgium);<sup>85</sup>
23. Ensure the speedy conclusion of investigations into allegations of gender-based violence that remain pending since 1996–2006<sup>86</sup>

### **Gender Based Violence**

24. Step up efforts to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence within the framework of the relevant presidential programme <sup>87</sup>
25. Take concrete actions to eliminate all forms of inequality and structural violence against women, in particular in the new constitutional legislation of Nepal<sup>88</sup>
26. Adopt legislation that prohibits all forms of violence against women and girls to ensure that all cases are investigated and perpetrators brought to justice and that victims receive compensation, as well as strengthen awareness-raising programmes on harmful practices related to women and girls, like chhaupadi, child marriage, dowries, son preference, polygamy and witchcraft.<sup>89</sup> Speed up the measures to put an end to all harmful traditional practices<sup>90</sup>

Bring existing legislation on rape into accordance with international standards, and enforce legislation on domestic violence and harmful practices <sup>91</sup>

Prevent and combat all forms of violence against women and

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84 Para 159.159 recommendation given by Bahamas

85 Para 159.161 recommendation given by Belgium

86 Para 159.162 recommendation given by Botswana.

87 Para 159.164 recommendation given by Uzbekistan

88 Para 159.165 recommendation given by Chile

89 Para 159.173 recommendation given by Finland

90 Para 159.200 recommendation given by Sudan

91 Para 159.175 recommendation given by Germany.



girls, including child, early and forced marriage and other harmful practices, and take further measures to fight domestic violence<sup>92</sup>

27. Ensure effective access to gender-based violence response services and justice<sup>93</sup>
28. Enable a safe environment for women and girls to report cases of sexual and gender-based violence and ensure that all reports are fully and adequately investigated<sup>94</sup>
29. Take effective steps to eliminate all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including by broadening the definition of family and domestic violence to cover all forms of gender-based violence against women, as well as by ensuring effective access to gender-based violence response services, and to provide justice to survivors.<sup>95</sup>
30. Ensure sustainable funding for a sufficient number of safe shelters for victims of gender-based violence<sup>96</sup>
31. Continue working to ensure that the police provide a safe and confidential environment for women and girls to report incidents of violence, including sexual violence, and that such complaints are recorded and investigated and those responsible are brought to justice<sup>97</sup>
32. Allocate sufficient funds and facilities for shelters and one-stop crisis management centres for victims and survivors of all forms of gender-based violence and trafficking in persons<sup>98</sup>
33. Fully commit to end sexual and gender-based harassment and violence at all levels of society, including against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons<sup>99</sup>

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92 Para 159.183 recommendation given by Italy

93 Para 159.184 recommendation given by Japan

94 Para 159.185 recommendation given by Latvia

95 Para 159.186 recommendation given by Liechtenstein

96 Para 159.187 recommendation given by Malaysia

97 Para 159.188 recommendation given by Malta

98 Para 159.189 recommendation given by Myanmar

99 Para 159.192 recommendation given by Norway



34. Continue to empower women economically and socially, and effectively implement the laws to prevent all forms of gender-based violence<sup>100</sup>
35. Step up efforts to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence within the framework of the relevant presidential programme<sup>101</sup>
36. Expedite the adoption of a national action plan on gender empowerment and include measures to combat gender-based violence<sup>102</sup>
37. Redouble its efforts to end gender-based violence and ensure effective access to gender-based violence response services<sup>103</sup>
38. Strengthen the efforts aiming at protecting victims of gender-based violence and ensuring gender equality<sup>104</sup>
39. Take additional measures to tackle the increase of violence against women and girls in order to fight against the increase of these cases registered over the last years, including domestic violence, and to continue to prohibit harmful practices with no legal sanction – the law on violence using acid is a good example<sup>105</sup>
40. Adopt comprehensive legislation banning gender-based discrimination; take effective measures to end gender-based violence, trafficking in women and girls, and sexual exploitation; provide sufficient numbers of safe shelters and other necessary services for victims<sup>106</sup>

### **Abolition of Slavery, Human Trafficking and Other forms of Exploitation**

41. Step up efforts to combat slavery and trafficking in human beings, including by considering the possibility of adopting

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100 Para 159.203 recommendation given by Turkey

101 Para 159.164 recommendation given by Uzbekistan

102 Para 159.168 recommendation given by Cyprus

103 159.202 recommendation given by Thailand

104 Para 159.201 recommendation given by (Azerbaijan);

105 Para 159.199 recommendation given by Spain

106 Para 159.169 recommendation given by Czechia);



strategies or action plans in these spheres, as well as additional measures to identify victims of slavery and trafficking, especially among women and children, and to ensure their comprehensive protection and rehabilitation.<sup>107</sup>

42. Intensify efforts to prevent trafficking in persons and all forms of slavery. Continue to strengthen efforts to prevent trafficking in persons, slavery, bonded labor, sexual exploitation, child labor and forced labour, and ensure effective implementation of standard operating procedures to address early identification of trafficking victims and provide adequate resources to rehabilitation centres for trafficking victims.<sup>108</sup>
43. Revise the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act to bring the definition of human trafficking into line with international law and to include all aspects of human trafficking<sup>109</sup>
44. Continue efforts aimed at implementing the law on combating trafficking in human beings, notably the national action plan to combat human trafficking (Saudi Arabia);<sup>110</sup>
45. Harmonize the Foreign Employment Act and the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act to ensure consistency with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children<sup>111</sup>
46. Ensure, in law and in practice, the effective combat of sexual violence and the end of discriminatory measures against women and girls, including in policies related to access to justice, attribution of nationality and prevention of trafficking in persons<sup>112</sup>
47. Invest additional efforts in fighting human trafficking, slavery,

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107 Para 159.90 recommendation given by (Belarus); 159.91 Burkina Faso

108 Para159.92 recommendation given by ( Cyprus) 159.93 ( Fiji), 159.94 (Holy See), 159.95 (Iraq) 159.96 (Malaysia), 159.97 (Montenegro) 159.99 (Nigeria ), 159.100 (Norway)

109 Para159.98 recommendation given by (Armenia)

110 Para159.101 recommendation given by (Saudi Arabia)

111 Para 159.103 recommendation given by (UK and Northern Ireland)

112 Para 159.163 recommendation given by Brazil



sexual exploitation and forced labour, as well as efficiently conduct the sanctions policy against perpetrators of these crimes<sup>113</sup>

48. Ensure, in law and in practice, the effective combat of sexual violence and the end of discriminatory measures against women and girls, including in policies related to access to justice, attribution of nationality and prevention of trafficking in persons<sup>114</sup>

### **Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1984 (CAT)**

1. Accede and Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.<sup>115</sup>
2. Introduce new legislation criminalizing torture, ill-treatment and enforced disappearance in all settings and ensure prompt, impartial and independent investigations into all relevant cases and bring perpetrators to justice<sup>116</sup>
3. Fight more effectively against impunity by putting in place legislation that „penalizes acts of torture and investigating extrajudicial executions<sup>117</sup>
4. Ensure prompt, impartial, independent and effective investigations into all cases of unlawful killings.<sup>118</sup>
5. Revise the draft anti-torture bill to comply fully with international standards, including by removing the statute of limitations and providing for all five forms of reparation.<sup>119</sup>

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113 Para 159.102 recommendation given by Serbia

114 Para 159.163 recommendation given by Brazil

115 Para 159.4, 159.11, 159.12,159.13,159.14 and 159.5 recommendation given by Mongolia, Czechia, Afghanistan, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Paraguay, Ukraine

116 Para159.11 recommendation given by Czechia

117 159.59 France

118 Para159.56 recommendation given by Greece

119 Para159.57 recommendation given by (Ireland)



## **International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families 1990 (CMW)**

1. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.<sup>120</sup>
2. Adopt national legislation in accordance with international standards relating to the protection of refugees and put mechanisms in place to ensure respect for the principle of non-refoulement<sup>121</sup>
3. Register and verify all Tibetan, Bhutanese and other refugees followed by issuance of identity documents with the formal right to work and access services<sup>122</sup>
4. Resume implementation of the gentleman's agreement, provide access and safe passage through its territory for Tibetan new arrivals and implement any legal agreements with China consistent with the principle of non-refoulement<sup>123</sup>
5. Undertake further measures to prevent the exploitation and abuse of Nepalese migrant workers, including by implementing the 2018 recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants<sup>124</sup>
6. Scale up efforts to protect the rights of migrants<sup>125</sup>

## **International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1965, (CERD)**

### **Caste Based Discrimination**

1. Conduct public awareness campaigns to eliminate discrimination based on racial or caste-based hierarchies and ensure that

120 Para 159.20 recommendation given by Egypt, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Philippines.

121 Para 159.,230 recommendation given by (Afghanistan);

122 Para159.232 recommendation given by (United States of America);

123 Para159.233 recommendation given by USA

124 Para159.228 recommendation given by (Canada)

125 Para159.99 recommendation given by (Nigeria)



educational curricula do not propagate these hierarchies.<sup>126</sup>

2. Consider including the issue of caste discrimination in school and university curricula.<sup>127</sup>
3. Increase education and awareness-raising programmes to combat crimes of hate and racial discrimination.<sup>128</sup>
4. Effectively apply national legislation towards the elimination of all practices based on a caste system.<sup>129</sup>

Develop effective mechanisms to implement the Caste-based Discrimination and Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act<sup>130</sup> and continue the efforts to combat caste-based discrimination and segregation<sup>131</sup>

5. Take the necessary measures to advance in the fight against discrimination in all its forms, in particular racial and caste discrimination.<sup>132</sup>
6. Investigate effectively and prosecute caste-based discrimination and violence<sup>133</sup>

### **Minorities/Indigenous People**

7. Step up efforts in the fight against segregation and discrimination of indigenous peoples and ethnic and caste minorities, including Dalits and Tibetans<sup>134</sup>
8. Adopt policies to protect and provide justice for women and girls, especially those from minority communities<sup>135</sup>

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126 Para 159.32 recommendation given by Bahamas

127 Para 159.43,159.47 and 159.48 recommendation given by Malta, State of Palestine, and Sudan.

128 Para 159.40 recommendation given by Jordan.

129 Para159.34 recommendation given by El Salvador

130 Para159.35 and 159.44 recommendation given by Germany, Korea.

131 Para159.39 recommendation given by Italy

132 Para159.42 recommendation given by Argentina.

133 159.33 Croatia);

134 Para 159.218 recommendation given by Czechia)

135 Para159.172 recommendation given by Estonia





9. Ensure that the rights of indigenous communities regarding the use of their land are upheld through the revision of the legislation on this matter<sup>136</sup>
10. Take the necessary measures to protect ethnic and caste minorities, namely from excessive use of force by the police and alleged torture in custody, and punish perpetrators<sup>137</sup>
11. Take all necessary measures, in particular at the legislative level, in order to protect the rights of persons from religious minorities and in order to guarantee freedom of religion or belief in law and in practice, in accordance with international human rights law<sup>138</sup>

### **Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989, (CRC)**

1. Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.<sup>139</sup>
2. End definitively the practice of child marriage<sup>140</sup>
3. Move forward in fully implementing a national action plan to end child marriage, with the goal of ending all child marriage by 2030 in line with the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>141</sup>
4. Strengthen its efforts to put an end to torture and ill-treatment of children in all settings, including by ensuring that children are detained as a measure of last resort only<sup>142</sup>
5. Expand legislation and regulations on child labour to include the informal sector.<sup>143</sup> Ensure that child labour in the informal sector is incorporated into the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act<sup>144</sup>. Take effective steps to combat all forms of child

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136 Para 159.219 recommendation given by (Marshall Islands);

137 Para 159.210 recommendation given by (Portugal);

138 Para 159.180 recommendation given by Haiti

139 Para 159.4 recommendation given by Mongolia.

140 Para 159.206 recommendation given by Holy See

141 Para 159.207 recommendation given by (Kazakhstan);

142 Para 159.208 recommendation given by (Liechtenstein);

143 Para 159.212 recommendation given by (Kazakhstan);

144 Para 159.209 recommendation given by (Belgium);



6. labour and extend the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act to all areas of work.<sup>145</sup>
7. Develop safe and inclusive mechanisms for all children to express their views and find solutions for the worst forms of child labour<sup>146</sup>
8. Strengthen the enforcement of existing legislation and policies to eradicate the practice of child labour, in particular regarding hazardous work<sup>147</sup>. Ensure that existing legislation prohibiting child labour is fully implemented and its enforcement monitored<sup>148</sup>
9. Strengthen the implementation and enforcement of existing legislation and regulations on child labour, including the expansion of the number of labour-inspector positions and the filling of all vacant positions with experts who are in possession of strong qualifications in the area of child labour<sup>149</sup>
10. Adopt complementary measures to strengthen the national action plan for eradicating the worst forms of child labour before 2028, prioritizing the eradication of the most dangerous conditions of labour for children<sup>150</sup>
11. Establish a special mechanism responsible for independent child rights monitoring<sup>151</sup>
12. Operationalize its strategy to end child marriage by 2030<sup>152</sup>
13. Strengthen its efforts to put an end to torture and ill-treatment of children in all settings<sup>153</sup>
14. Ensure the inclusion of vulnerable children and families in policy

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145 Para 159.213 recommendation given by ((Liechtenstein); 159.215 Russia Federation

146 Para 159.210 recommendation given by (Croatia);

147 Para 159.211 recommendation given by Italy;

148 Para 159.214 recommendation given by (Marshall Islands)

149 Para 159.216 recommendation given by (Slovenia)

150 Para 159.217 recommendation given by (Spain);

151 Para 159.205 recommendation given by Estonia

152 Para 159.204 recommendation given by (Burkina Faso);

153 Para 159.58 recommendation given by Montenegro)



responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in order to minimize the risk of children getting involved in child labour<sup>154</sup>

## **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**

1. Increase its efforts to achieve inclusive education by ensuring access for all persons with disabilities at all levels of education<sup>155</sup>
2. Ensure the meaningful and empowered inclusion of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in implementing disability-inclusive development projects and in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>156</sup>
3. Continue to work to improve the living standards for persons with disabilities<sup>157</sup>
4. Take further steps to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, in particular to provide them with equal job opportunities, as well as access to educational and health facilities<sup>158</sup>
5. Continue measures to guarantee the access of persons with disabilities to rehabilitation services and social protection programmes<sup>159</sup>
6. Increase measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to community-based rehabilitation services and adequate social protection programmes<sup>160</sup>
7. Continue the implementation of various measures aimed at empowering persons with disabilities and ensuring their participation in the policymaking and development process<sup>161</sup>

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154 Para 159.134 recommendation given by (Croatia);

155 Para159.221 recommendation given by (Bulgaria);

156 Para159.222 recommendation given by (Bulgaria);

157 Para 159.223 recommendation given by (Egypt);

158 Para 159.224 recommendation given by (Islamic Republic of Iran);

159 Para159.225 recommendation given by (Jordan);

160 Para 159.226 recommendation given by (Malaysia);

161 Para 159.227 recommendation given by (Qatar);



## **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED)**

1. Ratification of International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.<sup>162</sup>
2. Ensure the independence of the transitional justice commissions, providing them with resources to fulfil their mandates.<sup>163</sup>
3. Take appropriate measures to effectively address the cases related to violations of human rights and international humanitarian law that occurred during the conflict and provide justice to the victims<sup>164</sup>
4. Bring the Enforced Disappearances Enquiry, Truth and Reconciliation Commission Act into compliance with international norms, particularly with regard to the definition of amnesty, witness protection and the delays in processing complaints<sup>165</sup> and with the Supreme Court's ruling of 26 February 2015 to deliver meaningful results on truth, justice and reconciliation<sup>166</sup> and provide justice to victim.

Adopt, on the basis of transparent and inclusive consultations, a holistic transitional justice strategy, combining fact-finding, justice, reparations and guarantees of non-repetition, as well as institutional reforms.<sup>167</sup>

### **Noted Recommendations: Ratification of & accession to international instruments**

1. Accede to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (Rec. no. 159.2 by Holy See)

162 Para 159.15, 159.16, 159.17 recommendation given by Chile, Japan, Argentina, Greece, Honduras.

163 Para 159.21 and 159.68 recommendation given by Uruguay and Republic of Korea.

164 Para 159.66 and 159.70 recommendation given by (Italy) and Palestine.

165 Para 159.62 recommendation given by (Belgium)

166 Para 159.63 recommendation given by (Canada), 159.64 (Germany), 159.65 (Ireland), 159.67 (Norway) 159.69 (Australia), 159.72 (UK and Northern Ireland)

167 Para 159.71 recommendation given by (Switzerland)



2. Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Rec. no. 159.4 by Mongolia)
3. Ratify the Arms Trade Treaty, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Rec. no. 159.6 by Panama)
4. Ratify the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I) and the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II) (Rec. no. 159.8 by Switzerland)
5. Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, introduce new legislation criminalizing torture, ill-treatment and enforced disappearance in all settings and ensure prompt, impartial and independent investigations into all relevant cases and bring perpetrators to justice. (Rec. no. 159.11 by Czechia)
6. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Rec. no. 159.12 by Afghanistan, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland, Timor-Leste)
7. Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol in conformity with the Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Rec. no. 159.13 by Paraguay)
8. Demonstrate commitment to further combating torture by



ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Rec. no. 159.14 by Ukraine)

9. Make progress in the ratification of human rights instruments, in particular the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Rec. no. 159.15 by Chile)
10. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Rec. no. 159.16 by France, Japan)
11. Consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Take all necessary steps towards the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. (Rec. no. 159.17 by Argentina, Honduras, Greece)
12. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Rec. no. 159.18 by France, Switzerland)
13. Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and incorporate its provisions into national legislation, as previously recommended Ratify and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as previously recommended Consider the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Rec. no. 159.19 by Senegal, Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia)
14. Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Undertake concrete actions towards the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights



of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. Consider the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Rec. no. 159.20 by Philippines, Egypt, Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras)

### **Constitutional & legislative framework**

15. Repeal or amend sections 155, 156 and 158 of the Penal Code so it is consistent with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Rec. no. 159.76 by Denmark)

### **Equality & non-discrimination**

16. Amend the legislation that generates discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity and review the definition of marriage in the Civil Code to guarantee equal access to this right (Rec. no. 159.31 by Uruguay)
17. Adopt marriage equality legislation, extending full marriage rights to same-sex couples (Rec. no. 159.37 by Iceland)
18. Amend the Civil Code in order to recognize marriages of same-sex couples by strengthening the principles enshrined in the 2015 Constitution to protect the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community (Rec. no. 159.46 by Spain)
19. Step up efforts in the fight against segregation and discrimination of indigenous peoples and ethnic and caste minorities, including Dalits and Tibetans (Rec. no. 159.218 by Czechia)

### **Prohibition of torture & ill-treatment (including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment)**

20. Revise the draft anti-torture bill to comply fully with



international standards, including by removing the statute of limitations and providing for all five forms of reparation (Rec. no. 159.57 by Ireland) Freedom of opinion and expression & access to information

21. Eliminate all provisions that restrict freedom of expression, through any means, such as criminal provisions relating to slander or defamation (Rec. no. 159.84 by Mexico)
22. Reform the Electronic Transactions Act to eliminate the criminalization of speech (Rec. no. 159.89 by United States of America)

### **Discrimination against women**

23. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that includes a definition of discrimination against women encompassing direct and indirect discrimination and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination (Rec. no. 159.36 by Guyana)

### **Children: definition; general principles; protection**

24. Establish a special mechanism responsible for independent child rights monitoring (Rec. no. 159.205 by Estonia)

### **Sexual & gender-based violence**

25. Eliminate the current statute of limitations on reporting cases of rape and sexual violence, even in the context of conflicts (Rec. no. 159.157 by Uruguay)
26. Remove the one-year statute of limitations for rape and sexual violence to ensure that cases are brought to justice (Rec. no. 159.158 by Bahamas)
27. Eliminate the statute of limitations for rape and other sexual and gender-based violence in order to bring legislation into line with international standards. (Rec. no. 159.170 by Denmark)





28. Abolish the statute of limitations for rape, bring existing legislation on rape into accordance with international standards, and enforce legislation on domestic violence and harmful practices (Rec. no. 159.175 by Germany)

### **Freedom of thought, conscience & religion**

29. Amend article 26 of the Constitution to include the right to choose or change one's religion or belief, in accordance with article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Rec. no. 159.86 by Netherlands)
30. Remove restrictions on the right to freedom of religion or belief in the Criminal Code (Rec. no. 159.87 by Norway)

### **Labour rights and right to work**

31. Ratify the ILO Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) (Rec. no. 159.106 by Namibia)
32. Ratify the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Rec. no. 159.107 by Namibia)

### **Refugees & asylum seekers**

33. Ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, developing a formal recognition system and complying with the principle of non-refoulement (Rec. no. 159.229 by Holy See)
34. Adopt national legislation in accordance with international standards relating to the protection of refugees and put mechanisms in place to ensure respect for the principle of non-refoulement (Rec. no. 159.230 by Afghanistan)
35. Ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol (Rec. no. 159.231 by Namibia)
36. Register and verify all Tibetan, Bhutanese and other refugees followed by issuance of identity documents with the formal right to work and access services (Rec. no. 159.232 by United States of America)



37. Resume implementation of the gentleman's agreement, provide access and safe passage through its territory for Tibetan new arrivals and implement any legal agreements with China consistent with the principle of non-refoulement (Rec. no. 159.233 by United States of America).

As the government holds an obligation to implement all the recommendations accepted under 3rd cycle, the state's compliance with those recommendations is tested through the mid term reporting conducted in 2.5 years and subsequently in the upcoming fourth cycle review scheduled in 4.5 to 5 years. All in all, the ultimate goal of the review rests in improvement of the human rights situation with significant consequences for the people.



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