



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
6 May 2021

Original: English

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## Human Rights Council

### Forty-third session

24 February–20 March 2020

Agenda item 1

Organizational and procedural matters

## Report of the Human Rights Council on its forty-third session

*Vice-President and Rapporteur:* Yackoley Kokou **Johnson** (Togo)



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**Part One**  
**Resolutions, decisions and President's statement adopted by**  
**the Human Rights Council at its forty-third session**

**I. Resolutions**

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
43/1	The promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and of people of African descent against excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers	19 June 2020
43/2	Promotion and protection of human rights in Nicaragua	19 June 2020
43/3	Ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem	19 June 2020
43/4	Freedom of opinion and expression: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression	19 June 2020
43/5	Birth registration and the right of everyone to recognition everywhere as a person before the law	19 June 2020
43/6	Human rights of migrants: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants	19 June 2020
43/7	Right to work	19 June 2020
43/8	Rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues	19 June 2020
43/9	Promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity	19 June 2020
43/10	Mandate of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights	19 June 2020
43/11	The right to food	19 June 2020
43/12	Freedom of religion or belief	19 June 2020
43/13	Mental health and human rights	19 June 2020
43/14	Adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and the right to non-discrimination in this context	19 June 2020
43/15	The negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights	22 June 2020
43/16	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders	22 June 2020
43/17	Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights	22 June 2020
43/18	Promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal	22 June 2020
43/19	Promotion and protection of human rights and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	22 June 2020

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
43/20	Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment: mandate of the Special Rapporteur	22 June 2020
43/21	Promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of human rights	22 June 2020
43/22	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material	22 June 2020
43/23	Awareness-raising on the rights of persons with disabilities, and habilitation and rehabilitation	22 June 2020
43/24	Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran	22 June 2020
43/25	Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	22 June 2020
43/26	Situation of human rights in Myanmar	22 June 2020
43/27	Situation of human rights in South Sudan	22 June 2020
43/28	Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic	22 June 2020
43/29	Prevention of genocide	22 June 2020
43/30	Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan	22 June 2020
43/31	Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan	22 June 2020
43/32	Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem	22 June 2020
43/33	Right of the Palestinian people to self-determination	22 June 2020
43/34	Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief	22 June 2020
43/35	Mandate of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action	22 June 2020
43/36	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	22 June 2020
43/37	Cooperation with Georgia	22 June 2020
43/38	Technical assistance and capacity-building for Mali in the field of human rights	22 June 2020
43/39	Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Libya	22 June 2020

## II. Decisions

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
43/101	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Italy	12 March 2020
43/102	Outcome of the universal periodic review: El Salvador	12 March 2020
43/103	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Gambia	12 March 2020

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
43/104	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Plurinational State of Bolivia	12 March 2020
43/105	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Fiji	12 March 2020
43/106	Outcome of the universal periodic review: San Marino	12 March 2020
43/107	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Islamic Republic of Iran	12 March 2020
43/108	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Angola	12 March 2020
43/109	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Kazakhstan	12 March 2020
43/110	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Madagascar	12 March 2020
43/111	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Iraq	12 March 2020
43/112	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Slovenia	12 March 2020
43/113	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Egypt	13 March 2020
43/114	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Bosnia and Herzegovina	13 March 2020
43/115	Extension of mandates and mandated activities	13 March 2020
43/116	Decision adopted by the Human Rights Council on 29 May 2020	29 May 2020
43/117	Methods of work of the Consultative Group of the Human Rights Council	22 June 2020

### III. President's statement

<i>President's statement</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
43/1	Human rights implications of the COVID-19 pandemic	29 May 2020

## **Part Two**

### **Summary of proceedings**

#### **I. Organizational and procedural matters**

##### **A. Opening and duration of the session**

1. The Human Rights Council held its forty-third session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 24 February to 13 March 2020 and from 15 to 23 June. The President of the Human Rights Council opened the session.

2. In accordance with rule 8 (b) of the rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council, as contained in part VII of the annex to Council resolution 5/1, the organizational meeting of the forty-third session was held on 10 February 2020.

3. At the 1st meeting, on 24 February 2020, the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Federal Councillor and Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, Ignazio Cassis, addressed the plenary.

4. At its 15th meeting, on 2 March 2020, the Human Rights Council observed a minute of silence in memory of the late Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, Idriss Jazairy.

5. At its 22nd meeting, on 6 March 2020, the Human Rights Council observed International Women's Day. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner made a statement. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Finland (also on behalf of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and Uruguay) made a statement. At the same meeting, the representative of the non-governmental organization Center for Reproductive Rights made a statement (also on behalf of Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Planned Parenthood Federation, International Service for Human Rights, Plan International, Rutgers, Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom).

6. At its 24th meeting, on 9 March 2020, the Human Rights Council observed a minute of silence in memory of those who had lost their lives due to coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

7. At its 30th meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council decided to suspend the forty-third session of the Council on 13 March until further notice, as a precautionary measure against the COVID-19 pandemic.

8. At its 35th meeting, on 15 June 2020, the Human Rights Council decided to resume its forty-third session from 15 June.

9. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council approved the postponement of the thirty-sixth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review.

10. At its 40th meeting, on 17 June 2020, the Human Rights Council observed a minute of silence in memory of all victims of racially inspired human rights violations, systemic racism, police brutality and violence against peaceful protests.

11. On 23 June 2020, the Human Rights Council held an informal discussion on the implementation of the extraordinary measures taken in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

12. At its 47th meeting, on 23 June 2020, the Human Rights Council decided that the forty-fourth session of the Council would commence on 30 June.

13. The forty-third session consisted of 47 meetings over 22 days (see para. 35 below).

## B. Attendance

14. The session was attended by representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States of the Council, observers for States not members of the United Nations and other observers, and observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations, intergovernmental organizations and other entities, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations (see annex I).

## C. High-level segment

15. At its 1st to 8th meetings, from 24 to 26 February 2020, the Human Rights Council held a high-level segment, at which 101 dignitaries addressed the plenary, including 3 Heads of State, 2 deputy prime ministers, 61 ministers, 18 deputy ministers, 10 other government representatives and 7 representatives of observer organizations.

16. The following dignitaries, in the order that they spoke, addressed the Human Rights Council during the high-level segment:

(a) At the 1st meeting, on 24 February 2020: President of Montenegro, Milo Đukanović; Captains Regent of San Marino, Luca Boschi and Mariella Mularoni; President of the Presidential Council of the Government of National Accord of Libya, Fayed Mustafa al-Serraj; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Paraguay, Antonio Rivas Palacios; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, Heiko Maas; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Norway, Ine Marie Eriksen Søreide; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Stef Blok; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cameroon, Lejeune Mbella Mbella; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria, Alexander Schallenberg; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Jeppe Kofod; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Mukhtar Tileuberdi; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Latvia, Edgars Rinkēvičs;

(b) At the 2nd meeting, on the same day: Deputy Prime Minister of Ireland, Simon Coveney; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, Ann Linde; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, Retno Lestari Priansari Marsudi; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine, Riad al-Malki; Secretary of State for External Affairs of Angola, Tete Antonio (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries); Minister for Human Rights of Uzbekistan, Akmal Saidov; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia, David Zalkaliani; Minister of Women, Family and Human Rights of Brazil, Damares Alves; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Vadym Prystaiko; Minister for Foreign Affairs of France, Jean-Yves Le Drian; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia, Prince Faisal bin Farhan Alsaud; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal, Augusto Santos Silva; Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta, Evarist Bartolo; Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain, Arancha González Laya; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lithuania, Linas Antanas Linkevičius; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence of Belgium, Philippe Goffin;

(c) At the 3rd meeting, on the same day: Minister for Foreign Affairs of Andorra, Maria Ubach Font; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, Kang Kyung-wha; Deputy of International Affairs of the Judiciary and Secretary of the High Council for Human Rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ali Bagheri Kani; President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Peter Maurer; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Pekka Haavisto; Deputy Minister for Human Rights of Egypt, Ahmed Ihab Gamaleldin; Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar, Lolwah Rashid al-Khater; State Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan, Omer Ismail; Secretary of State for External Affairs of Angola, Tete Antonio;

(d) At the 4th meeting, on 25 February 2020: Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, Nikos Christodoulides; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation,

Sergey Lavrov; Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia, Gordan Grlić Radman; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Armenia, Zohrab Mnatsakanyan; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Liechtenstein, Katrin Eggenberger; Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Luxembourg, Jean Asselborn; Minister for Human Rights of Pakistan, Shireen M. Mazari; Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Marija Pejčinović Burić;

(e) At the 5th meeting, on the same day: Third Vice Prime Minister of Equatorial Guinea in charge of Human Rights, Don Alfonso Nsue Mokuy; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba, Bruno Eduardo Rodríguez Parrilla; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Poland, Jacek Czaputowicz; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Côte d'Ivoire, Marcel Amon-Tanoh; Minister of People's Power for Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Jorge Arreaza Montserrat; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, Gudlaugur Thor Thordarson; Minister of State in charge of Human Rights and Relations with the Parliament of Morocco, Mustapha al-Ramid; Assistant Minister for Human Rights and International Law of the United Arab Emirates, Ahmed al-Jarman; Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and the Blue Economy of Seychelles, Barry Faure; Deputy Minister for International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa, Alvin Botes; Deputy Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs of Albania, Agron Tare; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Czechia, Martin Povejšil; Special Representative for Human Rights of the European Union, Eamon Gilmore; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Adriana Mejia; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Romania, Cornel Feruta;

(f) At the 6th meeting, on the same day: Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece, Nikolaos-Georgios Dendias; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Maldives, Abdulla Shahid; Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia, Miroslav Lajčák; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, Pedro Brolo Vila; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal, Pradeep Kumar Gyawali; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, Mohamed Ali Alhakim; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Republic of Tanzania, Palamagamba Kabudi; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of North Macedonia, Andrej Zhernovski; Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova, Aureliu Ciocoi; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nigeria, Geoffrey Onyeama; Commissioner and Vice-President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Organization of American States, Joel Hernández; Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Omi Asako; Minister of State for the Commonwealth and the United Nations of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon; Commissioner for Human Rights, Humanitarian Action and Relations with Civil Society of Mauritania, Mohamed el-Hassen Ould Boukhreiss; Director General of the International Development Law Organization, Jan Beagle;

(g) At the 7th meeting, on 26 February 2020: Minister of Justice of Gabon, Antonella Ndembet; Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor of Myanmar, Kyaw Tint Swe; Minister of Justice and Human Rights, Keeper of the Seals of Mali, Malick Coulibaly; Minister for Law, Constitutional Affairs and Human Rights of Lesotho, Sixtus Habofanoe Lehana; Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs of Zimbabwe, Ziyambi Ziyambi; Minister for Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, André Lite Asebea; Minister for Foreign Relations, Skills Development, Employment and Labour Relations of Sri Lanka, Dinesh Gunawardena; Minister of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs of Mozambique, Helena Mateus Kida; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain, Abdullatif bin Rashid Alzayani; Minister for Human Rights of Honduras, Karla Cueva; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, Ramiz Hasanov; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria, Petko Doykov; Deputy Minister of Justice of Namibia, Lidwina Shapwa; Minister for Human Rights and Civic Promotion of Burkina Faso, Maminata Ouattara; Vice-Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs of India, Vikas Swarup; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Estonia, Erki Kodar; Secretary, Presidential Communications Operations Office of the Philippines, Jose Ruperto Martin Andanar; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Slovenia, Matej Marn;

(h) At the 8th meeting, on the same day: Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Director for European Union Affairs of Turkey, Faruk Kaymakçı; Director-General for Multilateral Affairs of South Sudan, Samuel Luate Lominsuk; Rector of the University for Peace, Francisco Rojas Aravena; Assistant High Commissioner for Protection at the Office

of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); Director General for Human Rights and Democracy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, Cristopher Ballinas Valdés; Commonwealth Secretary-General, Patricia Scotland; State Secretary at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Serbia, Nemanja Stevanović.

### **High-level panel discussion on human rights mainstreaming**

17. At its 3rd meeting, on 24 February 2020, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolutions 16/21 and 40/15, an annual high-level panel discussion to interact with heads of governing bodies and secretariats of United Nations agencies within their respective mandates on specific human rights themes with the objective of promoting the mainstreaming of human rights throughout the United Nations system, with a focus on “Thirty years of implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: challenges and opportunities”.

18. The President of the General Assembly and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made opening statements for the panel discussion. A member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Benyam Dawit Mezmur, moderated the discussion.

19. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support; Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organization; Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

20. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Barbados<sup>1</sup> (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Malta<sup>1</sup> (also on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay), Namibia, Portugal<sup>1</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Qatar (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Uruguay (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States);

- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, Mozambique, South Africa;

- (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Child Rights Connect, Plan International (also on behalf of Terre des hommes fédération internationale and World Vision International), Save the Children International (also on behalf of Plan International and World Vision International).

21. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Lithuania<sup>1</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden), Nepal, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Viet Nam<sup>1</sup> (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations);

- (b) Representatives of observer States: Ecuador, Greece, Lesotho, Slovenia, Tunisia;

- (c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Aid Organization, Iuventum, World Vision International.

22. Also at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made concluding remarks.

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<sup>1</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

## D. General segment

23. At the 8th meeting, on 26 February 2020, a general segment was held, during which the following addressed the Human Rights Council:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina, Bahamas, Chile, Italy, Marshall Islands;
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus, Cambodia, China, Ecuador, Israel, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam;
- (c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Development Programme(UNDP);
- (d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Organization of Islamic Cooperation;
- (e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;
- (f) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;
- (g) Invited members of civil society: Karmela Bélinki, Paloma Costa Oliviera, Ralmeg Gandaho.

24. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cyprus, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Montenegro, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

25. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, the Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

## E. Agenda and programme of work

26. At its 1st meeting, on 24 February 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted the agenda and programme of work of the forty-third session.

27. At its 9th meeting, on 26 February 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted the revised programme of work of the forty-third session.

28. At its 35th meeting, on 15 June 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted the revised programme of work of the forty-third session.

## F. Organization of work

29. At the 1st meeting, on 24 February 2020, the President outlined the speaking time for the high-level segment, which would be seven minutes for each dignitary.

30. At the 8th meeting, on 26 February 2020, the Vice-President outlined the speaking time for the general segment, which would be five minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council and three minutes for observer States and other observers.

31. At the 29th meeting, on 11 March 2020, the Vice-President referred to the procedure for the tabling of resolutions online. The Vice-President also referred to the modalities for the tabling of draft proposals after the tabling deadline. At the organizational meeting of the forty-third session, the Human Rights Council had agreed that an extension of the deadline for the submission of draft proposals would be granted only once, under exceptional circumstances, for a maximum period of 24 hours.

32. At the same meeting, the President outlined the speaking time limits for the consideration of the outcomes of the universal periodic review under agenda item 6, which would be 20 minutes for the State concerned to present its views; up to 20 minutes for States

members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and United Nations agencies to express their views on the outcome of the review; and up to 20 minutes for stakeholders to make general comments on the outcome of the review.

33. At its 35th meeting, on 15 June 2020, the Human Rights Council decided to endorse the extraordinary measures and modalities proposed by the Bureau of the Council in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. The measures included enabling the delivery of statements by pre-recorded video messages, the participation of mandate holders and experts in interactive dialogues through video links and the virtual exercise of the right of reply.

34. During the forty-third session, the speaking time for interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders was one and a half minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and other observers. The speaking time for the general debates and for the urgent debate was two and a half minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council and one and a half minutes for observer States and other observers. The speaking time for panel discussions was two minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and other observers.

## **G. Meetings and documentation**

35. The Human Rights Council held 47 fully serviced meetings during its forty-third session.<sup>2</sup>

36. A list of the resolutions, decisions and President's statement adopted by the Human Rights Council is contained in part one of the present report.

## **H. Urgent debate on racially inspired human rights violations, systemic racism, policy brutality and violence against peaceful protest**

37. At the 35th meeting, on 15 June 2020, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that, on 12 June, she had received a request from Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, to convene an urgent debate on racially inspired human rights violations, systemic racism, policy brutality and violence against peaceful protest.

38. At the same meeting, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, made a statement to introduce the proposal.

39. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council decided to hold the urgent debate at its 40th meeting, on 17 June 2020.

40. At its 40th meeting, on 17 June 2020, and at its 41st meeting, on 18 June, the Human Rights Council held an urgent debate on current racially inspired human rights violations, systemic racism, police brutality and violence against peaceful protests.

41. At the 40th meeting, on 17 June 2020, the Deputy Secretary-General (by video teleconference), the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Thomas Kwesi Quartey (by video teleconference), and Philonise Floyd (by video message) made statements for the urgent debate.

42. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, Tendayi Achiume, made a statement (also on behalf of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures) (by video message).

43. During the ensuing discussion, at the same meeting and at the 41st meeting, on 18 June 2020, the following made statements:

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<sup>2</sup> The proceedings of the forty-third session of the Human Rights Council can be followed through the United Nations archived webcasts of the Council sessions at <http://webtv.un.org>.

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia and Honduras), Bahrain, Bangladesh (by video message), Brazil, Cameroon, Central African Republic<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Group of African States), Croatia<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Ukraine), Denmark, Fiji (by video message), Germany, India, Indonesia, Indonesia (also on behalf of Chile, Denmark, Fiji, Ghana and Morocco), Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico (also on behalf of Argentina, Costa Rica, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Panama, Peru, Honduras and Uruguay), Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines (by video message), Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Somalia, Spain, Togo, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message), Sudan;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand (by video message), Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia (by video message), Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu, Zimbabwe, Holy See (by video message), State of Palestine;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Organization of American States;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Al-Haq, Alsalam Foundation, American Civil Liberties Union (also on behalf of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Child Rights Connect, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Conectas Direitos Humanos, Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland, Human Rights Watch, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Service for Human Rights, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Minority Rights Group and US Human Rights Network), Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Center for Global Nonkilling, Center for Reproductive Rights, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Global Action on Aging (also on behalf of International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations), Human Rights Watch, Ingénieurs du monde, International Commission of Jurists, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (also on behalf of International-Lawyers.org), International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iraqi Development Organization, Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights, Minority Rights Group, Partners for Transparency, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos Humanos, United Nations Watch, World Jewish Congress.

44. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil and China made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

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<sup>3</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

## **I. Selection and appointment of mandate holders**

45. At the 34th meeting, on 13 March 2020, the President of the Human Rights Council presented the list of candidates for the 19 vacancies for special procedure mandate holders.

46. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council appointed, in accordance with Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21 and its decision 6/102, 19 special procedure mandate holders (see annex V).

## **J. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Extension of mandates and mandated activities**

47. At the 34th meeting, on 13 March 2020, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft decision A/HRC/43/L.14.

48. At the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a general comment on the draft decision. In the statement, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela disassociated the member State from the consensus on the draft decision.

49. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft decision without a vote (decision 43/115).

50. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Myanmar and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements stating their positions as observer States on the adopted decision.

### **Decision adopted by the Human Rights Council on 29 May 2020**

51. On 26 May 2020, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft decision A/HRC/43/L.41.

52. The representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, submitted a general comment on the draft decision.

53. On 29 May 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft decision by silence procedure (decision 43/116).

54. At its 35th meeting, on 15 June 2020, the Human Rights Council took note of the adoption of decision 43/116.

### **Human rights implications of the COVID-19 pandemic**

55. On 26 May 2020, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft President's statement A/HRC/43/L.42.

56. The representatives of Armenia, Australia, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Mexico, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) submitted general comments on the draft President's statement. In a statement, the representative of Ukraine disassociated the member State from the consensus on paragraph 1 of the draft President's statement.

57. On 29 May 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft President's statement by silence procedure (President's statement 43/1).

58. At its 35th meeting, on 15 June 2020, the Human Rights Council took note of the adoption of President's statement 43/1.

### **Promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and of people of African descent against excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers**

59. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.50, sponsored by

Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Iran (Islamic Republic of) and the State of Palestine. Subsequently, China, Cuba, Fiji, Nicaragua, Timor-Leste and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors.

60. At the same meeting, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, orally revised the draft resolution.

61. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Australia, the Bahamas, Brazil, Cameroon, Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Eritrea, Germany, Italy, Senegal and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

62. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised. The Chief of the Programme Support and Management Services of Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) made a statement on the budgetary implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

63. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

64. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 43/1).

65. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bahrain, Bulgaria, Czechia, Japan, the Netherlands, the Philippines and Poland made statements in explanation of vote after the vote. In a statement, the representative of Czechia disassociated the member State from the consensus on paragraphs 3, 6 and 7 of the draft resolution as orally revised.

## K. Adoption of the report of the session

66. At the 47th meeting, on 23 June 2020, the Vice-President and Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council made a statement on the draft report of the Council on its forty-third session.

67. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft report (A/HRC/43/2) ad referendum and decided to entrust the Rapporteur with its finalization.

68. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Azerbaijan, China, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Russian Federation, Switzerland, Turkey and Turkmenistan made statements as observer States on the adopted resolutions. The representatives of the European Union, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and North Macedonia submitted written statements on the texts adopted by silence procedure.

69. At the same meeting, the representatives of the European Union, Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Libya and the observers for the International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of American Civil Liberties Union, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Center for Reproductive Rights, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project and International Lesbian and Gay Association) and Human Rights Watch made statements on the session.

70. Also at the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council made a closing statement.

## **II. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

### **A. Reports and oral updates of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

71. At the 10th meeting, on 27 February 2020, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement in which she provided an update on the activities of her Office.

72. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented the reports on OHCHR activities in Colombia, Guatemala, and Honduras (A/HRC/43/3/Add.1–3), the reports on Cyprus (A/HRC/43/22), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (A/HRC/43/20) and Sri Lanka (A/HRC/43/19), as well as her oral updates on Eritrea, Nicaragua, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen.

73. Also at the same meeting and the 11th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Cyprus, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Sri Lanka and Eritrea made statements as the States concerned.

74. During the ensuing general debate, at the same meetings and at the 12th meeting, on 28 February 2020, the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Australia, Austria (also on behalf of Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland), Azerbaijan<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia and Honduras), Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Chile, China<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam), Croatia<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Liechtenstein, Montenegro and North Macedonia), Czechia, Denmark, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Libya, Luxembourg<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Mexico, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Trinidad and Tobago), Marshall Islands (also on behalf of Armenia, Brazil, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland and the Republic of Korea), Mexico, Morocco<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Gabon, the Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Paraguay, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and the United Arab Emirates), Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Netherlands (also on behalf of Belgium, Canada, Ireland and Luxembourg), Nigeria, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of the European Union, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mali, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay), Slovakia, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama,

Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and the State of Palestine), Switzerland<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Austria, Liechtenstein and Slovenia), Timor-Leste<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Cuba, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe), Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Canada, Germany, Montenegro and North Macedonia), Uruguay, Uruguay (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam, Zambia;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Organization of American States;

(d) Observers for national human rights institutions: Office of the National Commissioner for Human Rights of Honduras (by video message), Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (by video message) and Office of the Human Rights Advocate (Guatemala) (by video message);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action of Human Movement, Africa culture internationale, African Green Foundation International, Alsalam Foundation, American Association of Jurists (also on behalf of Asociación Española para el Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Habitat International Coalition, Indian Council of South America, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Educational Development, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples and Right Livelihood Award Foundation), Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association internationale pour l'égalité des femmes, Association Thendral, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Center for Justice and International Law, Center for Reproductive Rights (also on behalf of International Federation for Human Rights Leagues), China Society for Human Rights Studies, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre, Franciscans International, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Global Action on Aging (also on behalf of International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations), Human Rights Watch, Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (also on behalf of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Franciscans International, Human Rights Watch, International Service for Human Rights and Minority Rights Group), International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Juventum, Liberation, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, OIDHACO, Bureau international des droits humains – action Colombie, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation,

Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Réseau international des droits humains, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, TOBE Foundation for Rights and Freedoms, World Organization against Torture, Women's Human Rights International Association, Women's International Democratic Federation, World Muslim Congress, World Peace Council, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

75. At the 12th meeting, on 28 February 2020, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Cyprus, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Myanmar, Pakistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

**B. Interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on recommendations of the independent international commission of inquiry on the protests in the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

76. At the 9th meeting, on 26 February 2020, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 40/13, the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem (A/HRC/43/21), followed by a discussion on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the independent international commission of inquiry on the protests in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

77. At the same meeting, the representative of the State of Palestine made a statement as the State concerned.

78. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Libya, Namibia, Qatar (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Algeria, China, Cuba, Egypt, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Morocco, Mozambique, Oman, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-Haq, Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Al-Haq, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights and Palestinian Centre for Human Rights), Institute for NGO Research, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Palestinian Return Centre, United Nations Watch.

79. Also at the same meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

**C. Interactive dialogue on the oral update by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea**

80. At the 9th meeting, on 26 February 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea, Daniela Kravetz, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 41/1, an oral update.

81. At the same meeting, the representative of Eritrea made a statement as the State concerned.

82. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Somalia, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Liechtenstein, Norway, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Holy See;
- (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, International Fellowship of Reconciliation;

83. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

**D. Interactive dialogue on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the root causes of the human rights violations and abuses faced by the Rohingya Muslim minority and other minorities in Myanmar**

84. At the 10th meeting, on 27 February 2020, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 39/2, a written report on the situation of human rights of the Rohingya Muslim minority and other minorities in Myanmar (A/HRC/43/18).

85. At the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar made a statement as the State concerned.

86. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the High Commissioner questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Netherlands, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Senegal, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, France, Gambia, Greece, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malaysia, Norway, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Human Rights Commission of Malaysia;
- (e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, International Commission of Jurists, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, World Jewish Congress.

87. Also at the same meeting, the High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

**E. Reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary-General**

88. At the 21st meeting, on 5 March 2020, the Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR presented thematic

reports prepared by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR and the Secretary-General under agenda items 2, 3 and 9.

89. At the same meeting and at its 22nd and 23rd meetings, on 6 March 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 3, including on thematic reports presented by the Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR (see chap. III, sect. C).

90. At the 24th meeting, on 9 March 2020, the Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination provided, on behalf of the Secretary-General, an oral update, under agenda items 2 and 4, on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report on the involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar followed by a discussion (see chap. IV, sect. A).

91. At the 26th meeting, on 10 March 2020, the High Commissioner presented oral updates on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) under agenda items 2 and 4.

92. At the same meeting and at its 27th meeting, on 10 March 2020, and 28th meeting, on 11 March, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 4, including on the oral updates presented by the High Commissioner (see chap. IV, sect. F).

93. At the 36th meeting, on 15 June 2020, the High Commissioner presented her reports and the report of the Secretary-General under agenda items 2 and 7.

94. At the same meeting and at its 37th meeting, on 16 June 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 7, including on the reports prepared by the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General (see chap. VII, sect. B).

95. At the 39th meeting, on 17 June 2020, the High Commissioner provided an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo under agenda items 2 and 10, during an enhanced interactive dialogue (see chap. X, sect. A).

96. At the 41st meeting, on 18 June 2020, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights provided an oral update on the situation of human rights in Ukraine under agenda items 2 and 10, followed by an interactive dialogue (see chap. X, sect. B).

97. At the 42nd meeting, on the same day, the Deputy High Commissioner presented the report of the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in Libya under agenda items 2 and 10, followed by an interactive dialogue (see chap. X, sect. C).

98. At the 43rd meeting, on 19 June 2020, the Director of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR presented the report of the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and the annual oral presentation of the High Commissioner on technical cooperation, both under agenda items 2 and 10.

99. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council held a general debate under agenda item 10, including on the report and presentation presented by the Director of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR (see chap. X, sect. F).

## F. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

### Promotion and protection of human rights in Nicaragua

100. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Costa Rica, also on behalf of Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.35, sponsored by Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Norway, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Germany and the Netherlands withdrew their original co-sponsorship of the draft resolution.

Subsequently, Germany, Japan, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland and Portugal joined the sponsors.

101. At the same meeting, the representatives of Australia, Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Eritrea and Peru made general comments on the draft resolution.

102. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

103. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Germany, the Netherlands, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

104. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, Uruguay

*Against:*

Eritrea, Philippines, Somalia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Angola, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, Sudan, Togo

105. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 24 votes to 4, with 19 abstentions (resolution 43/2).

106. At the same meeting, the representative of Bulgaria made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

**Ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem**

107. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.36/Rev.1, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Chile, Cuba, Namibia, Switzerland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Botswana, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal and Sweden joined the sponsors.

108. At the same meeting, the representatives of Israel and the State of Palestine made statements as the States concerned.

109. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Australia and Austria made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

110. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Australia, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chile, Eritrea, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Fiji, Togo, Ukraine

*Abstaining:*

Bahamas, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Nepal, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Uruguay

111. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 22 votes to 8, with 17 abstentions (resolution 43/3).

112. At the same meeting, the representative of the Marshall Islands made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

### **III. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development**

#### **A. Panel discussions**

##### **High-level panel discussion commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women**

113. At its 4th meeting, on 25 February 2020, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 42/14, a high-level panel discussion to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, with a particular focus on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome documents of its review conferences, as well as on achievements, best practices and challenges in this regard.

114. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; Secretary of State for Development Policy of Denmark, Trine Rask Thygesen; and Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Chen Xu, made opening statements for the panel discussion.

115. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Executive Director of UN-Women; Vice-Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Bandana Rana; and Expert on Human Rights and Gender Equality, Magalys Arocha Domínguez.

116. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia (also on behalf of Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland), Brazil (also on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Luxembourg<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Belgium and the Netherlands), Namibia, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation);

(b) Representatives of observer States: France, Montenegro, Mozambique, South Africa;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: International Development Law Organization;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Center for Reproductive Rights, International Commission of Jurists.

117. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Azerbaijan<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the European Union and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia and Honduras), Bahamas (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), Bangladesh (also on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Egypt, Eritrea, Haiti, Indonesia, Iraq, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and the United Arab Emirates), Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Djibouti<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the States members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie), Malaysia<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Maldives<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Barbados, Fiji, Haiti, Jamaica, the Marshall Islands, Seychelles, Singapore and Timor-Leste), Qatar (on behalf of the Group of Arab

States), Republic of Korea (also on behalf of Australia, Indonesia, Mexico and Turkey), Sweden<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway), Uruguay (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru);

- (b) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Make Mothers Matter, Women@theTable, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

118. Also at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made concluding remarks.

#### **Annual interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities**

119. At its 23rd meeting, on 6 March 2020 the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 37/22, its annual interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities in the form of a panel discussion. The focus of the discussion was on article 8 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, regarding awareness-raising. The debate was informed by the report of OHCHR thereon (A/HRC/43/27).

120. The High Commissioner made an opening statement for the panel.

121. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, Catalina Devandas Aguilar; President of the African Union of the Blind and member of the International Disability Alliance, Ishumael Zhou; Senior Producer of Channel 4 and Whisper, Andy Stevenson; member of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Risnawati Utami (by video message). The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

122. During first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Ecuador<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), Finland<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Guyana<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), Italy (also on behalf of Chile, Sweden and Thailand), Mexico (also on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Djibouti, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Malta, Mauritius, Morocco, New Zealand, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, the Philippines, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Viet Nam), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Qatar (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Solomon Islands<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Fiji, the Marshall Islands, Nauru and Vanuatu), United Arab Emirates<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Viet Nam<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations);

- (b) Representative of an observer State: Viet Nam;
- (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Human Rights Commission (New Zealand);
- (e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Sikh Human Rights Group;

123. During the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Italy;
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Barbados, Cambodia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Greece, Lesotho, Tunisia;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture.

124. Also at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

## B. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders

### **Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment**

125. At the 12th meeting, on 28 February 2020, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Nils Melzer, presented his reports (A/HRC/43/49 and Add.1).

126. At the same meeting, the representative of the Comoros made a statement as the State concerned.

127. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 13th meeting, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Chile (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Senegal, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belgium, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Malaysia, Maldives, Montenegro, Morocco, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-Haq (also on behalf of Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies), Center for Justice and International Law, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Defence for Children International, Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries, International Federation of ACAT, International-Lawyers.org, Iraqi Development Organization, Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos Humanos, World Organization against Torture;

128. At the same meetings, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

129. At the 13th meeting, the representatives of Brazil, India and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

### **Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities**

130. At the 13th meeting, on 28 February 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, Catalina Devandas Aguilar, presented her reports (A/HRC/43/41 and Add.1–3).

131. At the same meeting, the representatives of Canada, Kuwait and Norway made statements as the States concerned.

132. Also at the same meeting, the Canadian Human Rights Commission and the Norwegian National Human Rights Institution made statements (by video message).

133. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 16th meeting, on 3 March 2020, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Chile, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mexico (also on behalf of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Barbados, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Guyana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Lesotho, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, Paraguay, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu, Holy See;
- (c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNHCR, UNICEF;
- (d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;
- (f) Observers for national human rights institutions: National Human Rights Council (Morocco), Human Rights Commission (New Zealand) (by video message);
- (g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Alliance Defending Freedom, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, China Society for Human Rights Studies, Federation for Women and Family Planning, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, Iuventum, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Women's International Democratic Federation.

134. At the 16th meeting, on 3 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

#### **Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment**

135. At the 14th meeting, on 2 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, David R. Boyd, presented his reports (A/HRC/43/53 and Add.1–2), including a report on the expert seminar on the experience and best practices of States at the national and regional levels with regard to human rights obligations relating to the environment (A/HRC/43/54).

136. At the same meeting, the representatives of Fiji and Norway made statements as the States concerned.

137. Also at the same meeting, the Norwegian National Human Rights Institution made a statement (by video message).

138. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Chile, Ecuador<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay), Germany, India, Indonesia, Marshall Islands, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Slovenia<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Austria, Liechtenstein and Switzerland), Spain, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Botswana, Cambodia, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador,

Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Solomon Islands (also on behalf of Vanuatu), Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union

(e) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Conselho Indigenista Missionário, Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers, Earthjustice (also on behalf of Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), Franciscans International, Friends World Committee for Consultation, International Service for Human Rights, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Sikh Human Rights Group, Terre des hommes fédération internationale (also on behalf of Child Rights Connect), Universal Rights Group.

139. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

140. At the 15th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Brazil and the Philippines made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

**Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights**

141. At the 14th meeting, on 2 March 2020, the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky, presented his reports (A/HRC/43/45 and Add.1–2).

142. At the 15th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Mongolia made statements as the States concerned.

143. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: India, Indonesia, Namibia, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Iraq, Jamaica, Lebanon, Russian Federation, South Africa;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas, China Society for Human Rights Studies, Chinese Association for International Understanding, Global Welfare Association, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, Make Mothers Matter, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, World Barua Organization.

144. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

**Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief**

145. At the 15th meeting, on 2 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, Ahmed Shaheed, presented his reports (A/HRC/43/48 and Add.1–2).

146. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Netherlands and Sri Lanka made statements as the States concerned.

147. Also at the same meeting, the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights and the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka made statements (by video message).

148. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 16th meeting, on 3 March 2020, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Argentina (also on behalf of Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay), Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Denmark, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden), Pakistan, Poland, Qatar (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Senegal, Slovakia, Sudan, Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, China, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Lebanon, Malta, Montenegro, Myanmar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Holy See;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women;

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Civil Liberties Union (also on behalf of Center for Reproductive Rights, Corporación Centro de Estudios de Derecho, Justicia y Sociedad and Human Rights Law Centre), British Humanist Association, Center for Inquiry, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development), Human Rights Law Centre, International Humanist and Ethical Union, World Evangelical Alliance (also on behalf of Alliance Defending Freedom, American Civil Liberties Union, Association Points-Cœur, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Edmund Rice International, European Centre for Law and Justice, Fundación Abba Colombia, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, International Solidarity and Human Rights Institute, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, Jubilee Campaign, Transatlantic Christian Council and World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), World Jewish Congress.

149. At the 16th meeting, on 3 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

150. At the 17th meeting, on the same day, the representative of China made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

### **Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material**

151. At the 16th meeting, on 3 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, presented her reports (A/HRC/43/40 and Add.1).

152. At the same meeting, the representative of Bulgaria made a statement as the State concerned.

153. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 17th meeting, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Australia, Burkina Faso (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Chile,

Costa Rica<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), Estonia<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), India, Indonesia, Italy, Libya, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Algeria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Chad, China, Cuba, Egypt, France, Georgia, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Malta, Montenegro, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center, Caritas Internationalis, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Defence for Children International (also on behalf of Plan International and Terre des hommes fédération internationale), Edmund Rice International, Global Welfare Association, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, World Organization against Torture.

154. At the 17th meeting, on the same day, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

#### **Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism**

155. At the 17th meeting, on 3 March 2020, the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism, Ikponwosa Ero, presented her reports (A/HRC/43/42 and Add.1).

156. At the same meeting, the representative of South Africa made a statement as the State concerned.

157. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil, Burkina Faso (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Japan, Namibia, Nigeria, Somalia, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: China, Djibouti, Egypt, Lesotho, Malaysia, Portugal, United Republic of Tanzania;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women, UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, China Society for Human Rights Studies, Chinese Association for International Understanding, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Standing Voice, World Barua Organization, World Jewish Congress.

158. Also at the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

### **Special Rapporteur on the right to food**

159. At the 17th meeting, on 3 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Hilal Elver, presented her reports (A/HRC/43/44 and Add.1, 2 and 5).

160. At the same meeting, the representatives of Azerbaijan, Italy and Zimbabwe made statements as the States concerned.

161. Also at the same meeting, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission made a statement.

162. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 18th meeting, on 4 March 2020, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Libya, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Iraq, Malaysia, Myanmar, Turkey, Holy See, State of Palestine;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: FAO, UNICEF, World Food Programme;

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, FIAN International, International Educational Development, International Muslim Women's Union, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iuventum, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable.

163. At the 18th meeting, on 4 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

164. At the 17th meeting, on 3 March 2020, and at the 19th meeting, on 4 March, the representatives of Armenia, Brazil and Zimbabwe made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

### **Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights**

165. At the 18th meeting, on 4 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Karima Bennoune, presented her reports (A/HRC/43/50 and Add.1–2).

166. At the same meeting, the representatives of Maldives and Poland made statements as the States concerned.

167. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahrain, Cameroon, Indonesia, Libya, Marshall Islands, Nepal, Philippines, Qatar (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, China, Cuba, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Georgia, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Montenegro, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Solomon Islands (also on behalf of Vanuatu), Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International (also on behalf of International Service for Human Rights), Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, British Humanist Association, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de

los Derechos Humanos, Freemuse: the World Forum on Music and Censorship, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education, International PEN, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Society for Threatened Peoples.

168. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

169. At the 19th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan and China made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

#### **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders**

170. At the 18th meeting, on 4 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Michel Forst, presented his reports (A/HRC/43/51 and Add.1–3).

171. At the same meeting, the representatives of Colombia and Mongolia made statements as the States concerned.

172. Also at the same meeting, the Office of the Ombudsman of Colombia made a statement.

173. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 19th meeting, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Croatia<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Austria and Slovenia), Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Peru, Peru (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay), Philippines, Qatar, Slovakia, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Honduras, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Norway, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Human Rights House Foundation, International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Amnesty International), OIDHACO, Bureau international des droits humains – action Colombie, Peace Brigades International Switzerland (also on behalf of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom), Réseau international des droits humains, Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos Humanos, World Organization against Torture.

174. At the 19th meeting, on 4 March 2020, the representatives of Brazil, India, Mongolia and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

#### **Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism**

175. At the 19th meeting, on 4 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, presented her reports (A/HRC/43/46 and Add.1).

176. At the same meeting, the representative of Kazakhstan made a statement as the State concerned.

177. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 20th meeting, on 5 March 2020, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Bahrain, Burkina Faso (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Denmark (also on behalf of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Indonesia, Libya, Mexico (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Chad, China, Cuba, Egypt, France, Georgia, Iraq, Ireland, Maldives, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNESCO;

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Human Rights Watch, International Bar Association, International Commission of Jurists, International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Christian Solidarity Worldwide), Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Sikh Human Rights Group.

178. At the 20th meeting, on 5 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

179. At the 21st meeting, on the same day, the representative of China made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

### **Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy**

180. At the 20th meeting, on 5 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy, Joseph Cannataci, presented his report (A/HRC/43/52).

181. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Austria, Brazil (also on behalf of Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein and Mexico), Burkina Faso, Germany, Indonesia, Latvia<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Barbados, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Malta, Russian Federation, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Association Adala-Justice, Association for Progressive Communications, China Society for Human Rights Studies, International Commission of Jurists, International Human Rights Internship Program, International Muslim Women's Union, Iuventum, Liberation, Sikh Human Rights Group.

182. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

**Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context**

183. At the 20th meeting, on 5 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, Leilani Farha, presented her reports (A/HRC/43/43 and Add.1–2).

184. At the same meeting, the representatives of France and Nigeria made statements as the States concerned.

185. Also at the same meeting, the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights of France made a statement.

186. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 21st meeting, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Bahrain, Burkina Faso (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Germany, India, Indonesia, Libya, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Paraguay<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of Brazil, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama and Peru), Philippines, Spain, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Barbados, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Iraq, Maldives, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Viet Nam, Holy See, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Caritas Internationalis, Centre Europe-tiers monde, Edmund Rice International, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Lesbian and Gay Association, Make Mothers Matter, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality, World Muslim Congress.

187. At the 21st meeting, on the same day, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

188. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

**Special Rapporteur on minority issues**

189. At the 29th meeting, on 11 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Fernand de Varennes, presented his reports (A/HRC/43/47 and Add.1).

190. At the same meeting, the representative of Spain made a statement as the State concerned.

191. Also at the same meeting, the Office of the Ombudsman of Spain made a statement.

192. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Cameroon, India, Indonesia, Marshall Islands, Nepal, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Azerbaijan, China, Croatia, Ecuador, Estonia, Georgia, Guyana, Hungary, Iraq, Ireland, Malaysia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Paraguay, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Thailand;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education, Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights, Minority Rights Group, Réseau européen pour l'égalité des langues, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Sikh Human Rights Group, World Jewish Congress.

193. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

194. Also at the same meeting, the representative of China made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

### C. General debate on agenda item 3

195. At the 21st meeting, on 5 March 2020, the Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR presented the reports of the Secretary-General (A/HRC/43/23, A/HRC/43/24, A/HRC/43/25, A/HRC/43/29, A/HRC/43/65 and A/74/314), the reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/HRC/43/32, A/HRC/43/35 and A/HRC/43/72) and the reports of OHCHR (A/HRC/43/28 and A/HRC/43/34) under agenda items 2, 3 and 9.

196. At the same meeting, the Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Frank Tressler Zamorano, as the Chair of the second intersessional meeting for dialogue and cooperation on human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 37/24, the report of the intersessional meeting, held on 3 December 2019 (A/HRC/43/33).

197. Also at the same meeting, the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Emilio Izquierdo Miño, as the Chair-Rapporteur of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 26/9, the report on the working group's fifth session, held from 14 to 18 October 2019 (A/HRC/43/55).

198. At the same meeting and at its 22nd and 23rd meetings, on 6 March 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on thematic reports under agenda item 3, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan (also on behalf of Azerbaijan, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Georgia, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Turkey, Yemen and the State of Palestine), Armenia, Australia (also on behalf of Liechtenstein and the Netherlands), Azerbaijan<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia, Ecuador and Honduras), Bangladesh (also on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, the Comoros, Cuba, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen and the State of Palestine), Brazil, Cabo Verde<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Cameroon, Chile, Croatia<sup>3</sup> (also on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia,

Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Ukraine), Denmark (also on behalf of Argentina, Austria, Chile, Czechia, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Norway, Peru and Switzerland), Fiji (also on behalf of Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Ecuador, Luxembourg, Portugal, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Uruguay), Germany (also on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Maldives, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), India, India (also on behalf of Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam), Indonesia (also on behalf of Chile, Denmark, Fiji, Ghana and Morocco), Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sudan, United Arab Emirates<sup>3</sup> (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mozambique, Russian Federation, Sweden, Timor-Leste, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, Action of Human Movement, Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme en Mauritanie, African Development Association, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Agence internationale pour le développement, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum, Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas, Association Adala-Justice, Association culturelle des Tamouls en France, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association for Progressive Communications, Association internationale pour l'égalité des femmes, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association of World Citizens, Association of Youths with Vision, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association Thendral, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, British Humanist Association, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights and Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales), Canners International Permanent Committee, Center for Environmental and Management Studies, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre Europe-tiers monde, China Society for Human Rights Studies, Chinese Association for International Understanding, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre, Ecumenical Federation of Constantinopolitans, Edmund Rice International, European Centre for Law and Justice, European Union of Public Relations, FIAN International (also on behalf of Franciscans International, International Association of Democratic Lawyers and International Federation for Human Rights Leagues), Friends of the Earth International, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Human Rights Advocates, Human Rights Law Centre, Il Cenacolo, Indian Council of Education, Ingénieurs du monde, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Association of Crafts and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Bar Association (also

on behalf of Law Council of Australia), International Career Support Association, International Commission of Jurists, International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, International Educational Development, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies, International Muslim Women's Union, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Amnesty International), International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, International-Lawyers.org, Iraqi Development Organization, Iuventum, Japanese Workers Committee for Human Rights, Jeunesse étudiante tamoule, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Make Mothers Matter, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty, Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés, Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Peivande Gole Narges Organization, Rahbord Peimayesh Research and Educational Services Cooperative, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Réseau international des droits humains, Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie, Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Shivi Development Society, Sikh Human Rights Group, Society for Threatened Peoples, Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of the Environment, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality, Stichting Ezidis, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Union of Arab Jurists, Union of Northwest Human Rights Organisation, United Nations Association of China, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Universal Rights Group, Vaagdhara, Villages unis, VIVAT International (also on behalf of Edmund Rice International), World Barua Organization, World Environment and Resources Council, World Evangelical Alliance, World Federation of United Nations Associations (also on behalf of Association Points-Cœur, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Globethics.net Foundation, International Council of Jewish Women, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education, Soka Gakkai International, Teresian Association and Women's World Summit Foundation), World Muslim Congress, World Peace Council, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

199. At the 24th meeting, on 9 March 2020, the representatives of Brazil, China, Cuba, India, Iraq, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mauritania, Pakistan and the Philippines made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

#### **D. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

##### **Freedom of opinion and expression: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression**

200. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of the Netherlands, also on behalf of Canada, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.2, sponsored by Canada and the Netherlands and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mongolia, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Timor-Leste and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

201. At the same meeting, the representative of Czechia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

202. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

203. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/4).

**Birth registration and the right of everyone to recognition everywhere as a person before the law**

204. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Mexico, also on behalf of Turkey, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.3, sponsored by Mexico and Turkey and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Greece, Guatemala, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Malta, Panama, San Marino, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Togo joined the sponsors.

205. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/5).

**Human rights of migrants: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants**

206. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Mexico introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.4, sponsored by Mexico and co-sponsored by Argentina, Armenia, Chile, Ecuador, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Luxembourg, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, Guatemala, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Norway, Panama and Timor-Leste joined the sponsors.

207. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines made a general comment on the draft resolution.

208. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

209. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/6).

**Right to work**

210. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representatives of Egypt (also on behalf of Greece, Indonesia, Mexico and Romania) and Greece introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.6, sponsored by Egypt, Greece, Indonesia, Mexico and Romania and co-sponsored by Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, Chile, Cyprus, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Maldives, Montenegro, the Philippines, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Thailand, Turkey and Yemen. Subsequently, Albania, Argentina, the Bahamas, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Ecuador, Georgia, Guatemala, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Lithuania, Nepal, Pakistan, Poland, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

211. At the same meeting, the representatives of Eritrea and Indonesia made general comments on the draft resolution.

212. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

213. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/7).

**Rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues**

214. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Austria, also on behalf of Mexico and Slovenia, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.9, sponsored by Austria, Mexico and Slovenia and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malta, North Macedonia, Panama, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Sweden, Timor-Leste and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

215. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

216. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/8).

**Promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity**

217. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.10, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Austria, Belarus, Chile, China, Egypt, France, Italy, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Paraguay, the Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen. Subsequently, Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cyprus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Greece, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Malta, Mexico, Norway, Panama, the Sudan, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, Uruguay, Viet Nam and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

218. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/9).

**Mandate of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights**

219. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.11, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Belarus, Egypt, Malaysia, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen. Subsequently, Algeria, Fiji, Indonesia, Lebanon, Namibia, Viet Nam and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

220. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba orally revised the draft resolution.

221. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

222. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and Japan made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

223. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Japan, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

*Abstaining:*

Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahamas, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Peru

224. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised by 26 votes to 15, with 6 abstentions (resolution 43/10).

**The right to food**

225. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.12, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Belarus, China, Egypt, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Mexico, Monaco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen. Subsequently, Algeria, the Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cyprus, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Greece, Japan, Lebanon, Nepal, Panama, Somalia, the Sudan, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

226. At the same meeting, the representatives of Australia and Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution.

227. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

228. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/11).

**Freedom of religion or belief**

229. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Croatia, on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.18, sponsored by Croatia, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay. Subsequently, the Bahamas, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ecuador, Fiji, Israel, Japan, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland and Timor-Leste joined the sponsors.

230. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/12).

**Mental health and human rights**

231. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Portugal, also on behalf of Brazil, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.19, sponsored by Brazil and Portugal and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mozambique, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, San Marino, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey and Ukraine. Subsequently, Albania, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Nepal, Panama, the

Republic of Korea, Romania, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Uruguay and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

232. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

233. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/13).

**Adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and the right to non-discrimination in this context**

234. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Finland, also on behalf of Brazil, Germany and Namibia, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.20, sponsored by Brazil, Finland, Germany and Namibia and co-sponsored by Albania, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and Ukraine. Subsequently, Armenia, the Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czechia, Ecuador, France, Georgia, Indonesia, Ireland, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Panama, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Timor-Leste and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

235. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

236. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/14).

**The negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights**

237. At the 44th meeting, on 19 June 2020, the representative of Azerbaijan, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia, Ecuador and Honduras, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.21, sponsored by Azerbaijan, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia, Ecuador and Honduras, and co-sponsored by China and the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Chile, Guatemala and Peru withdrew their original sponsorship.

238. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Peru (also on behalf of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala and Honduras), the Sudan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made general comments on the draft resolution. In a statement, the representative of Armenia disassociated the member State from the consensus on the eighteenth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution.

239. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representatives of Australia, Brazil, Chile, Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and Mexico made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

240. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Czechia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

*Abstaining:*

Afghanistan, Chile, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Peru<sup>4</sup>

241. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 25 votes to 16, with 6 abstentions (resolution 43/15).

### **Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders**

242. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Norway introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.5, sponsored by Norway and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay. Subsequently, the Marshall Islands withdrew its original co-sponsorship. Subsequently, the Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, the Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Panama, Timor-Leste and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

243. At the same meeting, the representatives of Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Korea made general comments on the draft resolution.

244. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

245. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/16).

246. At the 46th meeting, on the same day, the representative of the Philippines made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

### **Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights**

247. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Belgium, also on behalf of Armenia, Mexico, Senegal and Thailand, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.22, sponsored by Armenia, Belgium, Mexico, Senegal and Thailand and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Turkey and Ukraine. Subsequently, Indonesia withdrew its original co-sponsorship. Subsequently, the Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Czechia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Guatemala, Ireland, Malta, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Somalia, Switzerland, Timor-Leste and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

248. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

249. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/17).

### **Promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal**

250. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Greece, also on behalf of Brazil, China, the Congo, Cyprus, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Republic of Korea and the

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<sup>4</sup> The representative of Mauritania subsequently stated that there had been an error in the delegation's vote and that it had intended to vote in favour of the draft text.

Russian Federation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.24/Rev.1, sponsored by Brazil, China, the Congo, Cyprus, Greece, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation and co-sponsored by Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, the Dominican Republic, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yemen. Subsequently, the Bahamas, Belarus, Botswana, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Israel, North Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uruguay and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

251. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

252. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/18).

#### **Promotion and protection of human rights and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

253. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Denmark, also on behalf of Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Fiji, Luxembourg, Portugal, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Uruguay, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.27, sponsored by Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Luxembourg, Portugal, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Uruguay and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, the Philippines, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine. Subsequently, Argentina, Armenia, the Bahamas, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, the Dominican Republic, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Mongolia, Nepal, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Somalia, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Togo and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the sponsors.

254. At the same meeting, the representative of Denmark orally revised the draft resolution.

255. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

256. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 43/19).

#### **Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment: mandate of the Special Rapporteur**

257. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Denmark introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.30, sponsored by Denmark and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, Ghana, Guatemala, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Timor-Leste, Tunisia and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

258. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

259. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/20).

**Promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of human rights**

260. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of China introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.31/Rev.1, sponsored by China and co-sponsored by Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Somalia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen. Subsequently, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Sierra Leone joined the sponsors.

261. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cameroon, Eritrea and the Sudan made general comments on the draft resolution.

262. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

263. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Australia, Brazil, Chile, Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), India, Japan, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, the Republic of Korea and Uruguay made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

264. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Czechia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Eritrea, Indonesia, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

*Abstaining:*

Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahamas, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Fiji, Libya, Peru

265. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 23 votes to 16, with 8 abstentions (resolution 43/21).

**Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material**

266. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representatives of Croatia (on behalf of the European Union) and Uruguay (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.32, sponsored by Croatia (on behalf of the European Union) and Uruguay (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Canada, Egypt, Fiji, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, the Philippines, Serbia, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Nepal, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Timor-Leste joined the sponsors.

267. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines made a general comment on the draft resolution.

268. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

269. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/22).

#### **Awareness-raising on the rights of persons with disabilities, and habilitation and rehabilitation**

270. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Mexico, also on behalf of New Zealand, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.34, sponsored by Mexico and New Zealand and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Czechia, El Salvador, Fiji, France Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malta, Nepal, Norway, Panama, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

271. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines made a general comment on the draft resolution.

272. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

273. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Senegal made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote. In the statement, the representative of Senegal disassociated the member State from the consensus on the fourteenth and fifteenth preambular paragraphs and on paragraphs 4 and 6 of the draft resolution.

274. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/23).

#### **Prevention of genocide**

275. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Armenia introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.26, sponsored by Armenia and co-sponsored by Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, Costa Rica, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Montenegro, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Spain, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

276. At the same meeting, the representative of Armenia orally revised the draft resolution.

277. Also at the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that amendments A/HRC/43/L.43, A/HRC/43/L.44, A/HRC/43/L.45, A/HRC/43/L.46 and A/HRC/43/L.47 to draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.26 as orally revised had been withdrawn by the sponsor.

278. At the same meeting, the representatives of Afghanistan, Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Libya, Pakistan, Qatar and Somalia made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

279. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

280. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 43/29).

281. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cameroon, India and Nepal made general comments and statements in explanation of vote after the vote on all the resolutions adopted under agenda item 3.

## IV. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

### A. Discussion on the update by the Secretary-General on the involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar

282. At the 24th meeting, on 9 March 2020, the Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 40/29 and 42/3, an oral update on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report entitled “A brief and independent inquiry into the involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar from 2010 to 2018”, on behalf of the Secretary-General.

283. At the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar made a statement as the State concerned.

284. During the ensuing discussion, at the same meeting, the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Bangladesh, Netherlands, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Sweden<sup>5</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Norway), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: China, Malaysia, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

285. Also at the same meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

286. At the 25th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Bangladesh and Myanmar made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

### B. Interactive dialogue with the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan

287. At the 24th meeting, on 9 March 2020, the Chair of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, Yasmin Sooka, presented the Commission’s report (A/HRC/43/56).

288. At the same meeting, the other two members of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, Andrew Clapham and Barney Afako, made statements.

289. Also at the same meeting, the representative of South Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.

290. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair and the other two members of the Commission questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Germany, Netherlands, Norway<sup>5</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden), Spain, Sudan;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belgium, China, Ethiopia, France, Ireland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

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<sup>5</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists (also on behalf of Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada), International Federation of Journalists, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Reporters sans frontières international.

291. At the same meeting, the Chair and the other two members of the Commission answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

### **C. Interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi**

292. At the 25th meeting, on 9 March 2020, the President of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, Doudou Diène, and the other two members of the Commission, Lucy Asuagbor and Francoise Hampson, gave, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/26, an oral briefing.

293. At the same meeting, the representative of Burundi made a statement as the State concerned.

294. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the members of the Commission questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Netherlands, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, China, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Myanmar, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Centre pour les droits civils et politiques (also on behalf of International Federation of ACAT), CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Reporters sans frontières international, United Nations Watch.

295. Also at the same meeting, the members of the Commission answered questions and made concluding remarks.

### **D. Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic**

296. At the 25th meeting, on 9 March 2020, the Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 40/17, the report of the Commission (A/HRC/43/57).

297. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

298. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 26th meeting, on 10 March 2020, the following made statements and asked the Chair and the two other members of the Commission questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Chile, Czechia, Denmark (also on behalf of Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Qatar, Spain, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belarus, Belgium, China, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Kuwait, Liechtenstein,

Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, New Zealand, Romania, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Palestinian Return Centre, Physicians for Human Rights, Reporters sans frontières international, Union of Arab Jurists, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Evangelical Alliance.

299. At the 26th meeting, on 10 March 2020, two members of the Commission, Hanny Megally and Koning AbuZayd, answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

## **E. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders**

### **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

300. At the 24th meeting, on 9 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Tomás Ojea Quintana, presented his report (A/HRC/43/58).

301. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Australia, Czechia, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Spain, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus, Cambodia, China, Cuba, France, Greece, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Norway, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Center for Global Nonkilling, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Human Rights Watch, Ingénieurs du monde, International Society for Human Rights (also on behalf of People for Successful Corean Reunification), United Nations Watch.

302. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

### **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran**

303. At the 24th meeting, on 9 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Javaid Rehman, presented his report (A/HRC/43/61).

304. At the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement as the State concerned.

305. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 25th meeting, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Australia, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Baha'i International Community, Center for Inquiry, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Ensemble contre la peine de mort, Family Health Association of Iran, International Federation of Journalists, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Rahbord Peimayesh Research and Educational Services Cooperative.

306. At the 25th meeting, on 9 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

307. At the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

#### **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar**

308. At the 26th meeting, on 10 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Yanghee Lee, presented her report (A/HRC/43/59) (by video teleconference).

309. At the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar made a statement as the State concerned.

310. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Czechia, Denmark, Indonesia, Marshall Islands, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Republic of Korea, Spain, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belarus, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Estonia, France, Greece, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, New Zealand, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam (also on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations);

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association for Progressive Communications, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, International Commission of Jurists, International Educational Development, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Physicians for Human Rights, Save the Children International.

311. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks (by video teleconference).

#### **F. General debate on agenda item 4**

312. At the 26th meeting, on 10 March 2020, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 40/20, an oral update on the progress made in the implementation of recommendations made by the group of independent experts on accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

313. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/4, an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

314. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement as the State concerned.

315. At the same meeting and at its 27th meeting, on the same day, and 28th meeting, on 11 March 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 4, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Azerbaijan<sup>5</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia, Ecuador and Honduras), Brazil, Cameroon, Croatia<sup>5</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia), Czechia, Denmark, Eritrea, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Netherlands, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Peru, Peru (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Philippines, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sudan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of Algeria, Belarus, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, South Africa and the Syrian Arab Republic);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Finland, France, Georgia, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Luxembourg, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Organization of American States;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, Action of Human Movement, Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme en Mauritanie, Africa culture internationale, African Development Association, African Heritage Foundation Nigeria, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work, Alliance Creative Community Project, Alsalam Foundation, American Association of Jurists, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association Adala-Justice, Association Dunenyo, Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Science in Africa, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association of World Citizens, Association of Youths with Vision, Association pour l'éducation et la santé de la femme et de l'enfant, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association pour la défense des droits de la femme mauritanienne, Association pour le développement humain en Mauritanie Association Thendral, Baha'i International Community, B'nai B'rith, British Humanist Association, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Canners International Permanent Committee, Caritas Internationalis, Center for Environmental and Management Studies, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre Europe-tiers monde, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre, Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent

de Paul (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd and Edmund Rice International), Conectas Direitos Humanos, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (also on behalf of Association Points-Cœur, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Edmund Rice International, Genève pour les droits de l'homme: formation internationale, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, New Humanity and VIVAT International), Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Conselho Indigenista Missionário (also on behalf of Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Right Livelihood Award Foundation and Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos Humanos), Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience, "Coup de pousse" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud, Disability Association of Tavana, Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers (also on behalf of Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, Caritas Internationalis, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Edmund Rice International, Franciscans International, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Lutheran World Federation and Soka Gakkai International), East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Edmund Rice International, Ensemble contre la peine de mort, European Centre for Law and Justice, European Humanist Federation, European Union of Jewish Students, European Union of Public Relations, France libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Genève pour les droits de l'homme: formation internationale), Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Guinée humanitaire, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Human Rights Now, Human Rights Watch, Il Cenacolo, Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Association of Crafts and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Career Support Association, International Commission of Jurists (also on behalf of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation and International Service for Human Rights), International Educational Development, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (also on behalf of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, International Commission of Jurists and International Service for Human Rights), International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Muslim Women's Union, International Service for Human Rights, International-Lawyers.org, Iran Human Rights Documentation Center, Iraqi Al-Amal Association, Iraqi Development Organization, Iuventum, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Le pont, Liberation, Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights, Minority Rights Group, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, National Secular Society, Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Pan African Federation of Agricultural Trade Unions, Prahar, Presse emblème campagne, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie, Sikh Human Rights Group, Society for Threatened Peoples, Solidarité Suisse-Guinée, Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable, Tamil Uzhagam, United Nations Association of China, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Victorious Youths Movement, Villages unis, Women's Human Rights International Association, Women's International Democratic Federation, World Barua Organization, World Environment and Resources Council, World Evangelical Alliance, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress, World Organization against Torture, World Peace Council.

316. At the 28th and 29th meetings, on 11 March 2020, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Georgia, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

317. At the 29th meeting, on 11 March 2020, the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan and Turkey made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

## G. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

### Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

318. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Sweden, also on behalf of Iceland, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.8, sponsored by Iceland, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Ukraine. Subsequently, Denmark withdrew its original co-sponsorship. Subsequently, Costa Rica, Denmark, Israel and Portugal joined the sponsors.

319. At the same meeting, the representatives of Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the Netherlands (also on behalf of Iceland, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) made general comments on the draft resolution.

320. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement as the State concerned.

321. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

322. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil, Denmark, Eritrea, Pakistan, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

323. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Pakistan, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

#### *In favour:*

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

#### *Against:*

Armenia, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Libya, Pakistan, Philippines, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

#### *Abstaining:*

Angola, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay

324. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 22 votes to 8, with 15 abstentions (resolution 43/24).<sup>6</sup>

### Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

325. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Croatia, on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.17, sponsored by Croatia, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Australia, Canada, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand,

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<sup>6</sup> The delegations of Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo did not cast a vote.

North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Costa Rica, Georgia, Honduras, Israel, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru and San Marino joined the sponsors.

326. At the same meeting, the representative of Croatia, on behalf of the European Union, orally revised the draft resolution.

327. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Australia and Japan made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

328. At the same meeting, the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made a statement as the State concerned.

329. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

330. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Eritrea and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In their statements, the representatives of Eritrea and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) disassociated the member States from the consensus on the draft resolution as orally revised.

331. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 43/25).

### **Situation of human rights in Myanmar**

332. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Croatia, on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.23, sponsored by Croatia, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Maldives, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Argentina, Bangladesh, Botswana, Ecuador, the Gambia, Georgia, Malaysia, the Marshall Islands, Mexico and the Republic of Korea joined the sponsors.

333. At the same meeting, the representative of Bangladesh made a general comment on the draft resolution.

334. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar made a statement as the State concerned.

335. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

336. At the same meeting, the representatives of Eritrea, Japan, the Philippines and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

337. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Eritrea, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, Uruguay

*Against:*

Philippines, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Senegal

338. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 37 votes to 2, with 8 abstentions (resolution 43/26).

339. At the 46th meeting, on the same day, the representative of Pakistan made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

#### **Situation of human rights in South Sudan**

340. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of Albania and Norway, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.29, sponsored by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and co-sponsored by Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, Germany, Liechtenstein, Monaco, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland. Subsequently, Australia, Belgium, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

341. At the same meeting, the representative of Czechia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

342. Also at the same meeting, the representative of South Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.

343. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

344. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/27).

#### **Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic**

345. At the 45th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, the Netherlands, Qatar and Turkey) and Qatar introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.33, sponsored by France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, the Netherlands, Qatar, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Spain, Sweden and Ukraine. Subsequently, Austria, Botswana, Costa Rica, Japan, the Marshall Islands, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

346. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland orally revised the draft resolution.

347. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Australia and Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

348. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

349. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

350. At the 46th meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Brazil, Chile and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (by video message) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

351. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, Togo, Ukraine, Uruguay

*Against:*

Eritrea, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Sudan

352. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised by 27 votes to 2, with 18 abstentions (resolution 43/28).

## **V. Human rights bodies and mechanisms**

### **A. Forum on Minority Issues**

353. At the 29th meeting, on 11 March 2020, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Fernand de Varennes, presented the recommendations adopted by the Forum on Minority Issues at its twelfth session, held on 28 and 29 November 2019 on the theme “Education, language and the human rights of minorities” (A/HRC/43/62).

### **B. Social Forum**

354. At the 29th meeting, on 11 March 2020, the Permanent Representative of Djibouti to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva and Chair-Rapporteur of the 2019 Social Forum, Kadra Ahmed Hassan, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 38/17, the report containing the conclusions and recommendations of the 2019 Social Forum, held on 1 and 2 October 2019, which had focused on the promotion and protection of the rights of children and youth through education (A/HRC/43/63).

### **C. Special procedures**

355. At the 29th meeting, on 11 March 2020, a member of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures, Javaid Rehman, presented the report on the twenty-sixth annual meeting of special rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and chairs of working groups of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, held from 17 to 21 June 2019 (A/HRC/43/64), the report on the facts and figures with regard to the special procedures in 2019 (A/HRC/43/64/Add.1 and Corr.1) and the communications report of the special procedures (A/HRC/43/77 and Corr.1).

### **D. Contribution of the Human Rights Council to the prevention of human rights violations**

356. At the 29th meeting, on 11 March 2020, the Chair-Rapporteur of the two intersessional seminars on the contribution of the Human Rights Council to the prevention of human rights violations, Yvette Stevens, presented, pursuant to Council resolution 38/18, the report of the two intersessional seminars, held on 9 and 10 April and on 8 October 2019 (A/HRC/43/37).

### **E. Reports of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee**

357. At the 29th meeting, on 11 March 2020, the Vice-President of the Human Rights Council referred to the following reports submitted by the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee: the report on the role of technical assistance and capacity-building in fostering mutually beneficial cooperation in promoting and protecting human rights, pursuant to Council resolution 37/23 (A/HRC/43/31 and Corr.1–2); and the study on utilizing non-repatriated illicit funds with a view to supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, pursuant to Council resolutions 31/22, 34/11 and 40/4 (A/HRC/43/66).

### **F. General debate on agenda item 5**

358. At its 35th meeting, on 15 June 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 5, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia, Ecuador and Honduras), Brazil, Croatia<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine), Cuba<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of India, the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Germany, India (by video message), Indonesia, Japan, Mauritania, Nepal, Netherlands, Netherlands (also on behalf of Belgium and Luxembourg), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) (by video message), Portugal<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Angola, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Georgia, Haiti, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, North Macedonia, the Netherlands, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, Seychelles, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia and Uruguay), Switzerland<sup>7</sup> (also on behalf of Norway, Sierra Leone and Uruguay), Uruguay (also on behalf of Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Chile, Costa Rica, Estonia, Fiji, Ireland, Latvia, Morocco, Mexico, Norway, Peru, Tunisia, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), State of Palestine<sup>7</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Cambodia (by video message), China, Cuba, Ecuador, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Lebanon, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia;

(c) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (by video message);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme en Mauritanie, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association pour le développement humain en Mauritanie, Association pour l'éducation et la santé de la femme et de l'enfant, Association pour les victimes du monde, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (also on behalf of East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project), Friends World Committee for Consultation, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Human Rights Watch, International Muslim Women's Union, International Service for Human Rights, Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Prahar, Tamil Uzhagam, Tourner la page, Victorious Youths Movement, World Barua Organization, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress.

359. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, Ethiopia, India (by video teleconference) and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

## **G. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Methods of work of the Consultative Group of the Human Rights Council**

360. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced draft decision A/HRC/43/L.25/Rev.1, sponsored by Iraq and the Russian Federation and co-sponsored by Belarus, China, the Dominican Republic, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Myanmar, Qatar (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

361. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bahrain and the Philippines made general comments on the draft decision.

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<sup>7</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

362. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft decision.

363. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Australia, Denmark, Germany, Japan and the Netherlands made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

364. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Denmark, a recorded vote was taken on the draft decision. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Australia, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine

*Abstaining:*

Austria, Republic of Korea, Spain, Togo

365. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft decision by 31 votes to 12, with 4 abstentions (decision 43/117).

366. At the same meeting, the representative of Uruguay made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

## VI. Universal periodic review

367. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/251, Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, Council decision 17/119 and President's statements 8/1 and 9/2 on modalities and practices for the universal periodic review process, the Council considered the outcome of the reviews conducted during the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, held from 4 to 15 November 2019.

368. In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the President stated that all recommendations must be part of the final outcome of the universal periodic review and that, accordingly, the State under review should clearly communicate its position on all of the recommendations by indicating that it either "supported" or "noted" them.

### A. Consideration of universal periodic review outcomes

369. In accordance with paragraph 14 of President's statement 8/1, the following section contains a summary of the views expressed on the outcome of the review by the State under review and by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council, and general comments made by other stakeholders before the adoption of the outcome by the Council in plenary session. The statements of the delegations or other stakeholders that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Council.<sup>8</sup>

#### **Italy**

370. The review of Italy was held on 4 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by Italy in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/ITA/1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/ITA/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/ITA/3).

371. At its 30th meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Italy (see sect. C below).

372. The outcome of the review of Italy comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/4), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/4/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

373. The delegation stated that Italy fully supported the call to action for human rights launched by the Secretary-General on 24 February 2020 at the opening of the forty-third session of the Human Rights Council. The delegation had stressed the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development during the third cycle of the universal periodic review at the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in November 2019.

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<sup>8</sup> See <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/43session/Pages/default.aspx>.

374. At the same session, the delegation had highlighted the important role of the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights of Italy (established in 1978) and, more generally, of the national mechanisms for reporting and follow-up.

375. The national mechanism for reporting and follow-up was a concrete enabler of human rights, ensuring a transparent, effective and inclusive application of international principles, standards and norms and strengthening the overall objective of the rule of law, in line with the 2030 Agenda, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 16. It had been playing a key role, including in the implementation of the recommendations of the universal periodic review and other relevant mechanisms.

376. Regarding the recommendations from the third cycle of the universal periodic review made on 4 November 2019 and the latest domestic developments, Italy had accepted 292 out of 306 recommendations received. In that regard, all the institutions concerned had reviewed the recommendations received and collaborated in the preparation of the addendum to the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. Throughout the third cycle review, civil society organizations had been invited to specific sessions organized by the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights as the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up of Italy.

377. On a substantive note, the Government of Italy reiterated its firm commitment to establish a national independent human rights institution. For instance, there was an ongoing debate in Parliament on the issue and the relevant commissions were focusing on the matter.

378. Italy was firmly committed to combating all forms of discrimination, racism, xenophobia and intolerance, including hate speech. Milena Santerini had recently been appointed as the national coordinator to combat antisemitism.

379. Italy also confirmed its engagement on gender equality and the fight against all forms of discrimination and violence against women through a variety of initiatives, including in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

380. Regarding the prevention of and the fight against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity and the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, Italy had accepted 16 relevant recommendations and taken note of the other.

381. Italy had established the National Observatory on Persons with Disabilities as the support structure of the President of the Council of Ministers for the promotion and coordination of government action on disability matters. The Observatory was in charge of the necessary requirements for the implementation of policies aimed at guaranteeing the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities and the promotion of their effective participation and social inclusion.

382. With regard to the full independence of non-governmental organizations, journalists and human rights defenders, the Italian legal system did guarantee it.

383. In relation to the recommendations on labour exploitation and the fight against *caporalato* (a form of illegal intermediation and exploitation of migrant workers in the agricultural sector), the relevant issues fell within the political priorities of public action identified in the Guidance Act of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies for the year 2020 (Ministerial Decree No. 184/2019). The Act highlighted, *inter alia*, the need to pay specific attention to the fight against undeclared work, which was particularly widespread in southern Italy, in particular concerning vulnerable categories of workers (women, children and migrants). The delegation underlined the commitment of the Government to implement further interventions aimed at addressing and preventing *caporalato*, with specific attention being paid to migrant citizens.

384. With regard to migrants, article 2 of Legislative Decree No. 286/1998 envisaged that foreigners in Italy should have their fundamental human rights recognized, in accordance with domestic law, the relevant international conventions ratified by Italy and the generally recognized principles of international law. Regarding the protection of asylum seekers and of migrant victims of trafficking and serious exploitation, there were well-established instruments to that end in Italy.

385. In relation to the recommendations noted, particularly those related to the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, according to the long-standing common position of the European Union, its member States had agreed not to sign the Convention. However, the Italian legal framework already guaranteed the rights of regular and irregular migrants.

386. Italy would submit a midterm report by November 2021.

**2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review**

387. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Italy, 12 delegations made statements.

388. Djibouti congratulated Italy for having accepted the vast majority of the recommendations received, including those made by Djibouti. It took note of the clarifications provided by Italy regarding its current legal framework to ensure the rights of all regular and irregular migrants. Djibouti hoped that the Italian legal framework complied with the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

389. Egypt thanked Italy for its detailed presentation on the recommendations received. Egypt expressed appreciation to Italy for its National Action Plan against Trafficking in and Serious Exploitation of Human Beings. It noted the protection afforded to migrants and the efforts made to integrate them into society. Egypt hoped that Italy would continue with its efforts on migration and in its fight against xenophobia and discrimination.

390. Ethiopia welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations made by Ethiopia on sustaining the support of Italy for the least developed countries to enhance their socioeconomic well-being and on continuing to enhance programmes that promoted the economic and social empowerment of women. Ethiopia noted that the universal periodic review should continue to provide an opportunity to share best practices and a platform for constructive exchanges.

391. Gabon appreciated the efforts made by Italy to reinforce its legal and institutional framework to protect and promote human rights. It welcomed the designation of a ministry in charge of equal opportunities and family affairs in Italy. Gabon congratulated Italy for its engagement and its willingness to implement the recommendations accepted. Gabon appreciated that all its recommendations had been accepted by Italy.

392. Greece welcomed the fact that Italy had accepted 292 recommendations, which represented more than 95 per cent of the total recommendations received. Greece commended Italy for having accepted the three recommendations made by Greece on establishing an independent national human rights institution, combating discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and strengthening mechanisms in charge of combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. Greece reiterated its appreciation for the strong and sincere engagement of Italy with the universal periodic review process.

393. Guyana commended Italy for its engagement in the universal periodic review process and its acceptance of 292 of the 306 recommendations received. Guyana welcomed the commitment of Italy to honour its human rights obligations and encouraged the country to continue to engage with civil society organizations to ensure the successful implementation of the recommendations accepted.

394. Solomon Islands thanked Italy for its continued constructive engagement with the universal periodic review mechanism. It recognized the policies of Italy on human rights, equality, non-discrimination, the right to life, liberty, security of the person, the right to work, just and favourable conditions of work, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. Solomon Islands commended Italy for having accepted the large majority of the recommendations received during the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, including the two recommendations made by Solomon Islands.

395. The Islamic Republic of Iran appreciated the progress made by Italy in the promotion and protection of human rights. It was grateful that Italy had supported the recommendations made by it. It wished Italy every success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

396. Iraq thanked Italy for the clear overview that it had given to the Human Rights Council about the human rights situation in the country. Iraq also thanked Italy because it had supported the recommendations made by Iraq regarding the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and the adoption of further humanitarian measures for migrants and refugees.

397. Libya thanked Italy for its active participation in the universal periodic review and for its efforts to protect and promote human rights. Libya noted the positive involvement of Italy with all the international human rights mechanisms. Libya commended Italy for its announcement to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

398. Malawi commended Italy for its implementation of recommendations accepted during the previous cycle of the universal periodic review. Malawi also commended Italy for strengthening the human rights institutions and adopting measures to protect victims of domestic and gender-based violence. Malawi also noted the adoption by Italy of the National Action Plan against Racism, Xenophobia and Other Related Forms of Intolerance and wished to reiterate the call for the inclusion of people of African descent as a special group that suffered from racial discrimination in the Plan.

399. Morocco welcomed the increased number of normative and structural measures adopted by Italy to reinforce the promotion and protection of human rights in the country. Aware of the efforts made by Italy in the area of migration, Morocco noted with satisfaction that Italy was taking integration into account as a key concept in the fields of asylum and regular migration.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

400. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Italy, eight other stakeholders made statements.

401. The Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty noted that the undertakings made by Italy did not cover the recommendations made on prison conditions and alternative measures to detention, nor the recommendation made by Zambia to bring the special detention regime into line with international human rights standards. It stated that those who were convicted and sentenced for serious crimes could not access alternative measures to detention unless they cooperated with the authorities, which was considered incompatible with human dignity by the European Court of Human Rights and by the Constitutional Court of Italy in 2019. It asked Italy to give effect to the judgments of both Courts, thus restoring full compliance with the rule of law.

402. The Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, speaking also on behalf of the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development and Caritas Internationalis, commended Italy for having accepted nearly all the recommendations. It expressed concern at the persisting challenges faced by migrant children and children belonging to Roma communities, especially access to education. It recommended that Italy enhance its measures to reduce inequalities for migrant children and children belonging to Roma communities and continue its efforts to promote awareness-raising campaigns on non-discriminatory practices related to migrant and Roma children. It also expressed concern about the rise of femicide and gender-based violence, as well as about legislation on the integration process of migrants. It recommended that Italy amend the law. It regretted the decision of Italy not to adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

403. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom welcomed the fact that Italy had accepted most of the recommendations, including those on improving gender equality and gender-based discrimination and violence, promoting women's participation in

decision-making processes and their access to sexual and reproductive health, improving their conditions in the labour market and tackling trafficking in persons. It urged a prompt implementation of those recommendations in the context of a comprehensive policy to advance gender equality and end all forms of discrimination and violence. It regretted that Italy had not accepted the recommendation to consider revising the framework regulating the control of firearms, given the correlation between their use and femicide. It welcomed the fact that Italy had accepted two recommendations on arms transfers, but regretted that it had not accepted the recommendation made in paragraph 148.7 of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review.

404. Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII welcomed the wish of the Government of Italy to establish an independent national human rights institution and recommended that Italy speed up the process to implement it. It expressed concern about discrimination against Roma and Sinti and their social inclusion. It recommended that Italy put an end to evictions and guarantee, in particular, the right to family unity, educational continuity and existing paths to inclusion, as well as implementation of the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the recommendations made by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and the European Union institutions on the social inclusion of Roma and Sinti. It urged the Government of Italy to review legislation to regulate migration and sea rescue and hoped that Italy would speed up the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. It also urged the Government of Italy to implement the recommendations contained in the European Parliament resolution of 26 February 2014 on sexual exploitation and prostitution and its impact on gender equality, with reference to the so-called “Nordic model” to combat slavery of women into prostitution. It looked forward to the restoration and strengthening of the National Observatory for Children as a matter of the utmost importance.

405. The World Evangelical Alliance referred to the provisions of regional legislation on territorial planning in Lombardy and Veneto that had led to more than 25 places of worship being forcibly closed down and the creation of a series of obstacles that made the construction and reallocation of places of worship for religious minorities extremely difficult. It pointed out that Muslim prayer houses were also affected. It asked Italy to modify or repeal the regional legislation and to bring it into conformity with freedom of religion or belief as enshrined in international law and the Constitution.

406. Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain expressed concern about the lack of practical steps taken towards creating a national human rights institution. It expressed concern that the enactment of the freedom of information act did not have a clear path of implementation. It stated that it was essential to fight deep-rooted corruption and anti-transparency practices within high-level government offices. It recommended that Italy refrain from misusing criminal law against non-governmental organizations that rescued people in the Mediterranean and engage in maritime search and rescue operations. It was also concerned about the lack of implementation by Italy of the European Union Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders.

407. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l’homme commended Italy for its progress in establishing a national human rights institution and a commission to combat racism, in family reunification and fostering family life and in combating corruption and protecting the rights of migrants and other minorities. It noted and expressed concern about the increase in hate speech and xenophobic remarks made by political leaders. It encouraged Italy to organize consultations on the issue of reforming its Criminal Code, in order to ensure that racist and hate speech were further criminalized within the country. It called upon Italy to do more to combat trafficking in persons and modern forms of slavery among migrants and refugees, and to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

408. The National Secular Society expressed concern about child abuse connected with the Catholic Church. It referred to the concluding observations on the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports on Italy adopted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child. It stated that the child protection guidelines issued by the Italian Bishops’ Conference only mentioned a moral obligation to report child abuse. It urged that the recommendations of the Committee

on the Rights of the Child be broadened. It recommended that mandatory reporting of abuse should include a criminal offence for people in institutions who knew of or had reasonable grounds to suspect child abuse and who failed to report the abuse to external agencies. It noted that the destruction of records of abuse should be prohibited and that civil law and procedures should be revised in order to provide much more substantial reparations to victims.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

409. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 306 recommendations received, 292 had enjoyed the support of Italy and 12 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another two recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations had been accepted and which parts had been noted.

410. The delegation thanked the delegations and civil society representatives that had taken the floor during the adoption of the outcome of the review. The delegation expressed its sincere gratitude to the secretariat of the universal periodic review mechanism, Conference Services and the interpreters for their work and constant support in facilitating such effective and efficient proceedings.

411. Italy had accepted approximately 95 per cent of the recommendations received in November 2019, since it firmly believed in the universal periodic review process. Italy intended to promptly follow up on the recommendations from the third cycle of the universal periodic review and would spare no efforts to increase multi-stakeholder and result-oriented action. To that end, the role of the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights as the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up was highlighted again.

412. With the twofold aim of meeting growing international expectations with regard to human rights reporting and follow-up and consistent human rights mainstreaming throughout national policies and legislation, the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights, which embodied the four key capacities of national mechanisms for reporting and follow-up, namely engagement, coordination, consultation and information management, and was the main coordination body of Italy for integrated reporting on recommendations by the United Nations human rights mechanisms, intended to scale up its relevant action.

#### **El Salvador**

413. The review of El Salvador was held on 4 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by El Salvador in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SLV/1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SLV/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SLV/3).

414. At its 30th meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of El Salvador (see sect. C below).

415. The outcome of the review of El Salvador comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/5), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/5/Add.1).

**1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

416. The delegation stated that the third cycle of the universal periodic review of El Salvador had been a positive experience. El Salvador had demonstrated openness during its third review and was aware of the challenges that must be overcome to fully guarantee human rights. It recognized that the universal periodic review allowed for dialogue among countries to further mutual collaboration.

417. In the framework of the dialogue, El Salvador had examined the recommendations received. It thanked the troika composed of Burkina Faso, Japan and Mexico for their support. El Salvador also expressed satisfaction at the recognition received from various States regarding the progress that it had made in the field of human rights.

418. The recommendations received by El Salvador had also been subjected to an internal consultation process, with the participation of the three fundamental State bodies and various national institutions. Through that process, each recommendation had been examined and evaluated under a human rights-based approach. El Salvador recognized the need to articulate national efforts in pursuit of the State's commitment to ensure the effective enjoyment of the human rights of the Salvadoran population.

419. After examining the recommendations received, it had been noted that a series of recommendations were in line with the obligations set out in the constitutional and legal framework of El Salvador, as well as with State policies, plans and programmes that were being implemented. El Salvador expressed its commitment to continue to make progress in the implementation of the 152 recommendations that had been fully accepted.

420. El Salvador also expressed its commitment to continue to promote the internal debate on the ratification of international instruments, in accordance with the procedure established by its Constitution. Likewise, El Salvador would continue working to reduce inequality, especially among vulnerable groups, for which inclusive and equal opportunity strategies were being developed.

421. El Salvador recognized the quality of the recommendations received and the spirit of cooperation of the States that had made them. The universal periodic review should be seen as a mechanism that encouraged progress in the promotion and protection of human rights in each country.

422. It was necessary to join the efforts of all the national actors who had participated in the process, such as Salvadoran civil society organizations and the Office of the Human Rights Advocate, which played an important role in continuing to promote the advancement of human rights in El Salvador.

423. Furthermore, the consolidation of representative democracy, progress in the rule of law and full respect for human rights were the fundamental basis of the State's action in favour of the guarantees that the Constitution and laws of the republic ensured for its citizens.

424. El Salvador was aware of its national challenges, since there were recommendations that would require further dialogue, negotiation and the construction of agreements among the different sectors and actors in national life.

425. El Salvador remained committed to continuing to make progress on the recommendations received, for which it would monitor their level of implementation and reorient the action needed for that purpose. The report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review was an important tool to guide the human rights agenda of El Salvador, in particular, for the Government of President Nayib Bukele. Objectives had already been outlined for the next four years, including a policy on early childhood – officially managed by the First Lady, Gabriela Rodríguez de Bukele – which had benefited from the advice of friendly countries. It resulted from efforts articulated among various State sectors aimed at providing life opportunities to Salvadoran children in relation to health, education, security, art and culture, as well as providing care to pregnant women.

426. El Salvador expressed its appreciation to the secretariat of the universal periodic review mechanism for its efficient work and coordination.

**2. General comments made by the national human rights institution of the State under review**

427. The Office of the Human Rights Advocate (by video message) noted the urgent need to adopt legislative measures to harmonize domestic legislation with international standards and treaties and to comply with the recommendations of the treaty bodies. Despite some progress, there were still concerns: the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment had not been ratified yet, nor were there specific guidelines for incorporating international human rights standards in the design, execution, adoption and monitoring of public policies; and the actions of the President on 9 February 2020 – namely, sending a military force into the Legislative Assembly – were an attempt to circumvent the rule of law. The establishment of a permanent and representative mechanism for coordinating the actions of State institutions was urgent, in order to avoid duplication and allow resources to be used in a more efficient way. Concrete mainstreaming measures should be taken in all public activities, particularly in favour of vulnerable groups.

**3. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review**

428. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of El Salvador, 12 delegations made statements.

429. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland noted the events in the Legislative Assembly on 9 February 2020 and the actions taken to reduce tensions. It stressed that the effective functioning of democratic institutions was key for the rule of law, security and human rights. It welcomed the support for the recommendations on the selection of national candidates for United Nations treaty bodies and on trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and girls. It regretted the lack of support for one recommendation on decriminalizing abortion and on access to sexual and reproductive health services for women and girls. It was concerned that abortion was punishable by imprisonment.

430. UNFPA acknowledged the progress made. It expressed its commitment to support El Salvador to overcome the challenges identified in the universal periodic review reports regarding discrimination and violence against women, including femicide; the strengthening of the judiciary to deal with cases of sexual violence and femicide; the prevention of maternal mortality, suicide among adolescents and pregnancies resulting from sexual abuse, including teenage pregnancies; better access and use of contraceptives; the incorporation of a comprehensive sexual education curriculum; the promotion of sexual and reproductive health services; and the protection of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

431. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reiterated its concerns about discrimination against vulnerable groups, shortages in the health system, the increase in school dropout rates and violence against women. It emphasized its recommendation to protect the human rights of vulnerable groups and urged El Salvador to put an end to discrimination against indigenous peoples and guarantee the restitution of their lands.

432. Barbados acknowledged the challenges faced in making allocations and praised the resources already committed to address issues highlighted in the previous review. It was confident that work would continue to strengthen human rights for all, particularly women, children, indigenous peoples and people of African descent.

433. Belgium noted the acceptance by El Salvador of some of its recommendations on reinforcing the rule of law and combating impunity in cases of violent crimes, on policies aimed at creating a safe environment for journalists and human rights defenders and on allocating resources to the jurisdiction specialized in crimes against women and to the specialized institutional support units for women in the police force. It inquired about the measures taken to implement them. It noted the lack of acceptance of one recommendation on wrongful detention and conviction of women after a miscarriage and invited El Salvador to reconsider its position.

434. Brazil congratulated El Salvador on the development of the National Policy on Access to a Violence-Free Life for Women, the creation of the Specialized Court for a Life Free of

Violence and Discrimination for Women and the adoption of the Act on Equality, Equity and Elimination of Discrimination against Women. It welcomed the amended Family Code, which had eliminated child marriage. It took note of the measures to promote the rights of persons with disabilities. It urged El Salvador to further strengthen measures to combat child prostitution and the sale and sexual exploitation of children.

435. Burkina Faso noted the progress achieved in promoting the effective enjoyment of human rights, in particular, the rights of women and children. It encouraged El Salvador to continue its efforts to overcome the numerous challenges in promoting and protecting human rights.

436. China commended El Salvador for its work to eradicate poverty, its plans and programmes to improve health and the environment and its programmes targeted at vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, women, children and refugees.

437. Egypt commended El Salvador for its progress in promoting social and economic rights, mainly the rights to education, health and work and its increased interest in the rights of young persons. It encouraged El Salvador to pursue progress in the protection and promotion of human rights and to continue its cooperation with the universal periodic review mechanism.

438. Guyana was encouraged by the commitment of El Salvador to strengthen human rights legislation, by harmonizing domestic legislation with international human rights standards. It urged the country to continue to work with international, regional and bilateral partners to address issues of social and economic development, especially those affecting women, children, indigenous peoples and migrants.

439. Haiti took note that El Salvador had noted two recommendations made by Haiti on combating corruption and violence against women and girls. It acknowledged, nevertheless, the efforts made to fight against corruption and impunity. It encouraged El Salvador to continue actions to create a more secure environment for women and girls.

440. Libya commended the efforts made by El Salvador, especially in the ratification of international covenants and harmonization of domestic laws. It also commended El Salvador for its increasing interest in promoting social, economic and cultural rights and justice and in combating impunity.

#### **4. General comments made by other stakeholders**

441. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of El Salvador, six other stakeholders made statements.

442. Franciscans International congratulated El Salvador for having accepted the majority of the recommendations related to the right to water. However, it noted that El Salvador still did not have legislation regulating the right to water and regretted the lack of effective related public policies. More than 1.5 million inhabitants had been affected because of the lack of water, as a consequence of the pollution, including the presence of toxic algae. It was concerned at the continued lack of implementation of the 2017 law prohibiting metal mining and appealed to El Salvador to adopt a legal framework to recognize the right to water. It stressed the necessity to adopt a treaty on transboundary water and to cooperate with neighbouring countries for the effective governance and administration of natural waters and the prevention of pollution.

443. The International Bar Association encouraged El Salvador to take action to overcome the concerns expressed by the delegations and, in particular, take measures to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization and to protect women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. It regretted that the law on comprehensive reparation for victims, which ensured truth and justice, had not yet been adopted. It stated that a bill that would promote impunity for those responsible for serious human rights violations committed in the past should be avoided. It noted that, on 9 February 2020, the rule of law had been broken by the Government, which had taken temporary control of the Legislative Assembly

with the support of the armed forces and the police. It invited the Human Rights Council to continue to monitor El Salvador and urged the country to strengthen the rule of law and democracy.

444. The Alliance Defending Freedom regretted that El Salvador had not supported the recommendation to reject calls to further liberalize abortion, while reaffirming and implementing laws and social programmes that promoted family life, supported mothers and protected the right to life of unborn children in all circumstances. It questioned why that recommendation was rejected. It encouraged the Government to redouble its efforts to support women through a healthy pregnancy, childbirth and motherhood experience and to continue to promote a society in which no human life was considered of a lesser dignity and worth than others.

445. Asociación HazteOir.org stated that El Salvador recognized as a human person all human beings from the time of conception and that it had suffered pressure from international bodies, other States and non-governmental organizations to decriminalize abortion or to ensure that it was considered a right. It called upon El Salvador and the international community not to request abortion based on the cases of women who had been allegedly imprisoned because of miscarriages or obstetric emergencies. It called upon El Salvador not to listen to the appeals made by those who wished to promote abortion and recommended that El Salvador respect and guarantee the right to life at any stage and in any circumstances without discrimination.

446. Action Canada for Population and Development regretted that El Salvador had not taken enough measures to implement recommendations related to the rights of women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and that such a situation continued to infringe the human rights of various groups and communities. According to the organization, despite the fact that El Salvador had accepted recommendations to combat violence against women, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and human rights defenders, the country had not accepted any recommendations on making amendments to legislation, such as the gender identity laws; enacting legislation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; strengthening the role of the Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women; or decriminalizing abortion. It stated that such an approach was contradictory and that El Salvador should take legislative measures to be consistent in its responses to the recommendations accepted.

447. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation was concerned about the continuing violence and stigmatization of human rights defenders, particularly defenders of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex persons and women, and the environment. It regretted that El Salvador had not accepted to adopt legislation to protect human rights defenders. It regretted the impunity of those responsible for the attacks on environmental defenders and the participation of business groups, which saw their interests affected by the defence of the environment. It was also alarmed by continued attacks, including threats against and the intimidation and murder of journalists, particularly against those who had reported corruption, and the lack of an adequate protection mechanism. It called upon El Salvador to provide civil society organizations, journalists, and human rights defenders with a safe environment.

## **5. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

448. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 207 recommendations received, 152 had enjoyed the support of El Salvador and 55 had been noted.

449. The delegation thanked States and civil society organizations for the recommendations made during its third periodic review and took note of the new recommendations made during the adoption of the outcome of the review, which would guide all sectors in taking the best options. The delegation was aware that implementing the recommendations was needed in a society that was democratic and fully aware of human rights. El Salvador reaffirmed its engagement to continue to consider the recommendations received in the light of its own realities. It would appreciate to receive further suggestions and recommendations.

## **Gambia**

450. The review of the Gambia was held on 5 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by the Gambia in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/GMB/1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/GMB/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/GMB/3).

451. At its 30th meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Gambia (see sect. C below).

452. The outcome of the review of the Gambia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/6), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session.

### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

453. The delegation extended an apology on behalf of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of the Gambia for not being present before the Human Rights Council for the adoption of the report. The Minister had not travelled to Geneva, in accordance with the communication of the secretariat of the Human Rights Council discouraging travelling to Geneva due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

454. The delegation expressed the sincere gratitude of the Government of the Gambia to OHCHR for its initiatives to strengthen the work of the universal periodic review mechanism. The Gambia considered the mechanism to be one of the most important mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and was therefore happy to fully cooperate and engage with it.

455. The Gambia welcomed the support that it had received during the review. The challenges the country was facing in relation to its law enforcement and justice systems required critical transformative interventions.

456. The universal periodic review mechanism challenged the Gambia to live up to the highest standards in ensuring human rights for all, as provided for in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

457. Of the 222 recommendations received during the review, the Gambia had expressed its support for 207 recommendations and had noted 15 recommendations. In relation to the 15 recommendations that had been noted, the Gambia would continue to work towards supporting them, in full collaboration and cooperation with OHCHR.

### **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review**

458. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Gambia, 12 delegations made statements.

459. The Congo hailed the Gambia for its renewed dynamism in supporting the promotion and protection of human rights. It congratulated the Gambia for expressing its support for most of the recommendations received during the review, including those made by the Congo, which related to the protection of children and girls.

460. Cuba expressed its appreciation to the Gambia for supporting the recommendations made by Cuba. It wished the Gambia success in the implementation of national policies related to gender equality and the rights of persons with disabilities.

461. Egypt noted the cooperation of the Gambia with the Human Rights Council and the universal periodic review mechanism. It commended the Gambia for the efforts made to put in place a legal and institutional framework for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to promote the rights of women and to foster their political and social empowerment. Egypt noted the efforts to combat violence against women. It welcomed the efforts made to promote the rights of children and persons with disabilities, combat torture, improve the conditions in detention facilities and provide space for freedom of expression. Egypt also welcomed the cooperation of the Gambia with international and regional human rights mechanisms.

462. Ethiopia welcomed the continued engagement of the Gambia with the universal periodic review mechanism and the fact that the Gambia had supported the recommendations made by Ethiopia during the review. It stated that the universal periodic review mechanism provided an opportunity for sharing best practices and a platform for constructive engagement.

463. Gabon expressed its appreciation for the willingness displayed by the Gambia to cooperate with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms. It noted with satisfaction the determination of the Gambia to ensure the promotion and protection of the human rights of vulnerable groups, notably women, children and persons with disabilities. It also noted that the national report contained information on several measures in support of the empowerment of women and education of girls, including those living with disabilities.

464. Solomon Islands thanked the Gambia for its continued engagement with the universal periodic review mechanism and commended it for supporting various recommendations. Solomon Islands welcomed the legislative reforms and the ongoing constitutional review, which demonstrated the Government's continued commitment to human rights and its desire to improve the well-being of its people. Based on the recommendations that had been supported, the Gambia would make improvements to its legal framework on gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls and the protection of women and children from harmful practices.

465. Iraq thanked the Gambia for its active involvement in the universal periodic review process. It stated that the support demonstrated by the Gambia for the recommendation made by Iraq reflected the resolve of the Government to promote human rights.

466. Libya thanked the Gambia for its effective participation in the universal periodic review process. It commended the Gambia for its commitment to respect its human rights obligations and for upholding fundamental freedoms, which was evident from the efforts made in areas of democracy and the rule of law, despite the many challenges faced.

467. Malawi welcomed the continued engagement of the Gambia with the universal periodic review process. It noted that the Gambia had supported 207 of the 222 recommendations that had been made and appreciated the constructive and open engagement by the Gambia during the review. It applauded the Gambia for its commitment to install a new and resilient architecture to uphold the highest standards of human rights, justice and the rule of law, and for prioritizing the national development plan for 2018 to 2021.

468. Mauritania appreciated the efforts of the Gambia to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with international human rights standards. The cooperation of the Gambia with the United Nations and the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council was a reflection of the country's commitment to international human rights standards and fundamental freedoms.

469. Morocco noted the adoption of several pieces of legislation to implement the recommendations from the previous cycle of the universal periodic review. It also noted the efforts to strengthen the legislative framework to promote the appointment of women to decision-making positions. It welcomed the implementation of the Government's policy on the empowerment of women in the political, economic and social spheres.

470. Djibouti congratulated the Gambia for its constructive dialogue and for supporting a large number of recommendations received during the third cycle of the universal periodic review, including the two recommendations made by Djibouti.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

471. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Gambia, four other stakeholders made statements.

472. Conscience and Peace Tax International complimented the Gambia for abolishing the death penalty and for bringing an application before the International Court of Justice on the alleged violation of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. It encouraged the Gambia to allocate resources to address peaceful settlement of disputes, particularly when the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission had completed its work. It encouraged the Gambia to revise article 37 of the draft constitution, which reportedly permitted killing in cases of riot, escape or arrest, recalling that the use of force could only be legitimate if proportionate, non-violent and non-maiming.

473. Action Canada for Population and Development stated that the situation of members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex communities remained dire. It expressed disappointment that, despite the Government's commitment to repeal laws that criminalized HIV transmission and consensual same-sex conduct and to halt the prosecution of same-sex couples for consensual sexual acts, the Gambia continued to only note recommendations addressing discrimination and violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity and expression.

474. United Nations Watch urged the United Nations to call on the Gambia to end gender-based violence. The Gambia should also end female genital mutilation and child marriage. United Nations Watch highlighted statistics from UNICEF, according to which more than 75 per cent of women aged between 15 and 49 years had been subjected to female genital mutilation, and 30 per cent of women aged between 20 to 24 years were first married or in a union when they were minors. Compared with men, women enjoyed less access to higher education, justice and employment and were less represented in public life and in executive positions.

475. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme commended the Gambia for its democratization and reconciliation processes and the implementation of recommendations from the previous cycle of the universal periodic review, including the moratorium on the death penalty, following the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It also called upon the Gambia to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture. It urged the Gambia to increase its efforts to combat sexual and gender-based violence and discrimination, to further strengthen its constitutional and legal framework for the protection of human rights and address, in particular, the rights of women and children.

### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

476. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 222 recommendations received, 207 had enjoyed the support of the Gambia and 15 had been noted.

477. The delegation thanked all delegations and civil society organizations for their participation, as well as the President and secretariat of the Human Rights Council and Conference Services at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

478. The Gambia would continue to work towards supporting the 15 recommendations that had been noted, with the full support of OHCHR and the international community.

479. The delegation reaffirmed the commitment of the Gambia to upholding international human rights standards.

### **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**

480. The review of the Plurinational State of Bolivia was held on 5 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/BOL/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/BOL/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/BOL/3).

481. At its 30th meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Plurinational State of Bolivia (see sect. C below).

482. The outcome of the review of the Plurinational State of Bolivia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/7), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/7/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

483. The delegation highlighted that the universal periodic review was an opportunity to illustrate the different policies that the Plurinational State of Bolivia had adopted for the protection of human rights. For that reason, the delegation stressed that the Plurinational State of Bolivia had received, in a constructive spirit, the 238 recommendations addressed to it and had assumed the challenge of implementing them.

484. After the presidential succession and the process of dialogue that had taken place to bring peace to the country, the Plurinational State of Bolivia was proceeding on a fully democratic path and the Government had created spaces for dialogue to generate peace and respect for the differences and diversities that existed in the country.

485. Following numerous allegations of fraud regarding the elections of 20 October 2019, the Organization of American States had carried out, at the request of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, an audit of the electoral process. Its findings had highlighted a number of irregularities that put the integrity of the electoral results into question. The then President and Vice-President of the country voluntarily had resigned and sought political asylum in Mexico. The then President and First Vice-President of the Senate and the then President of the Chamber of Deputies had also resigned. That was why, in accordance with the process established by the Constitution, on 12 November 2019, the Second Vice-President of the Senate, Jeanine Añez Chávez, had assumed the Presidency of the Plurinational State of Bolivia by constitutional succession.

486. Since taking office, the Government, with the agreement of broad sectors of Bolivian society, indigenous peoples, social movements and political parties, had focused on bringing peace and reconciliation to the country and organizing new free and transparent elections. That process had led to the unanimous approval by the Legislative Assembly, more than two thirds of which was composed of representatives of the former President's party, of the law calling for general elections.

487. Such events demonstrated that there had not been any breach of the constitutional order in the country and that the resignation of the former authorities had been a consequence of the discovery of electoral fraud and of the subsequent peaceful protests of the Bolivian people.

488. The delegation urged the international community to contribute to the achievement of the objectives outlined in the call for general elections: a free and transparent electoral process carried out by a new independent Supreme Electoral Court. The commitment of the Government to contribute to the start of a new political and social cycle in the country was reflected in the announcement to allocate 10 per cent of the State budget to the health sector and to increase the budget assigned to the judiciary, with the objective of strengthening judicial independence and access to justice.

489. The addendum to the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review submitted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia outlined the progress, achievements and challenges regarding the recommendations received. The document had been drafted after broad consultations with public institutions and civil society within the framework of the Inter-institutional Coordination Forum for the Drafting, Submission and Defence of Reports by the Plurinational State of Bolivia. Of the 238 recommendations received, the Plurinational State of Bolivia had decided to accept 206, take note of 31 and partially accept 1.

490. The delegation stated that compliance with the recommendations noted did not depend solely on the State's will and detailed the reasons for its position on those recommendations.

491. Regarding the recommendation contained in paragraph 115.39 of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, the Plurinational State of Bolivia had accepted the part of the recommendation regarding judicial independence. However, with regard to the reference to judges, the electoral body was autonomous and independent and electoral judges were ordinary judges, temporarily appointed, during electoral processes.

492. The delegation also noted that the recommendations in paragraphs 115.6, 115.71, 115.142, 115.143 and 115.144 referred to policies, plans or programmes and stated that the Plurinational State of Bolivia would make the necessary efforts to have documents framed in the National Planning System. Regarding the recommendations in paragraphs 115.11, 115.67, 115.77, 115.82, 115.152, 115.155, 115.156, 115.157, 115.225, 115.227 and 115.229, the delegation stated that they would require a legislative process, the duration of which could not be foreseen.

493. As regards the recommendations in paragraphs 115.30 and 115.31, which referred to the national mechanism for the prevention of torture, the Service for the Prevention of Torture was an independent and autonomous body. Regarding the recommendation in paragraph 115.49, there was no legal norm that violated the rights of persons with disabilities to gain access to justice.

494. Regarding the recommendations in paragraphs 115.57 and 115.59, the Truth Commission had concluded its work on 20 December 2019. With regard to the recommendation in paragraph 115.79, the Government did not exert pressure or carry out surveillance on reporters and journalists. On the contrary, it guaranteed the full exercise of all rights, especially freedom of expression.

495. The recommendations in paragraphs 115.101, 115.102 and 115.103 were related to the possibility to change gender identity and efforts would be made to foster a democratic discussion on the issue. Regarding the recommendations in paragraphs 115.153, 115.154, 115.155 and 115.156, the Plurinational Constitutional Court had abolished the requirement to obtain judicial authorization to have a legal abortion when the pregnancy was a consequence of rape, statutory rape, incest or abduction or when the life or health of the woman was in danger.

496. As regards the recommendations in paragraphs 115.209, 115.213, 115.217 and 115.218, the Constitution expressly prohibited forced labour and child exploitation. In addition, Act No. 1139 of 1 December 2018 had repealed the provisions allowing children under the age of 14 years to engage in employment.

497. The Plurinational State of Bolivia reaffirmed its commitment to protect and promote human rights and to consolidate a culture of peace and democracy in the country.

**2. General comments made by the national human rights institution of the State under review**

498. The Office of the Ombudsman stated that the conduct of the Government had led to systematic human rights violations, which had resulted in 35 persons being killed, 833 being wounded and 1,504 being detained. It highlighted the existence of political and judicial persecution against the former authorities through the abusive use of criminal charges, such as those of sedition, terrorism and breach of duties. It also reported the persecution of journalists who disagreed with “official information” and stressed that the national mechanism for the prevention of torture was not independent. It requested that the special rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council urgently visit the Plurinational State of Bolivia and that OHCHR re-establish itself in the country. It also called upon OHCHR to promptly issue its report on human rights violations in the post-electoral conflict.

**3. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review**

499. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, 12 delegations made statements.

500. UN-Women welcomed the efforts made by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to promote the national machinery for women’s rights, but noted that gender gaps persisted in political and economic areas. It encouraged the Government to provide the necessary budget to strengthen relevant institutions and advance the rights of women. It also recommended that the Plurinational State of Bolivia address the issue of unpaid care work and increase women’s access to the formal labour market.

501. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that, during the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in November 2019, it had commended the extraordinary achievements of the Plurinational State of Bolivia in the area of human rights and had congratulated the President of the country on his electoral victory. It regretted that now the country was not led by its legitimate President and that numerous Bolivian households mourned the loss of their loved ones. It expressed its firm conviction that democracy would soon be restored.

502. Belgium commended the Plurinational State of Bolivia for having accepted the recommendations to further implement legislation guaranteeing sexual and reproductive health and rights for women and girls and eradicating child labour without exceptions. However, it noted that a third recommendation made by Belgium – to set up government policies creating a safe and respectful environment for the work of human rights defenders, especially women human rights defenders and environmental defenders – had not been accepted and invited the Plurinational State of Bolivia to reconsider its position.

503. Botswana commended the Plurinational State of Bolivia for its work on ensuring women’s rights and strengthening measures to combat violence against women and children. It welcomed the country’s continued cooperation with OHCHR and the human rights mechanisms. It noted the acceptance by the Plurinational State of Bolivia of many of the recommendations and wished it success in implementing them.

504. Burundi welcomed the policies adopted by the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to reduce drastically the unemployment rate in the country and increase the national minimum wage. It also congratulated the Government on the policies adopted to reduce poverty and welcomed the adoption of a law on a unified health system, which would improve access to health services for all.

505. Egypt welcomed the progress of the Plurinational State of Bolivia in promoting social, economic and cultural rights in accordance with the socioeconomic development plan of the country. It commended the Plurinational State of Bolivia for its recognition of indigenous rights and its efforts to promote pluralism and diversity in society and encouraged the country to do more to promote human rights.

506. Haiti noted the change in the situation of the Plurinational State of Bolivia since the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in 2019 and commended the country for having accepted the recommendations made by Haiti on ensuring

the religious freedom of Christians, strengthening the socioeconomic development of Afro-Bolivians and promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls. It encouraged the Plurinational State of Bolivia to continue its efforts in those areas.

507. The Islamic Republic of Iran appreciated the policies and measures implemented by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to combat racism and discrimination and to reduce maternal and infant mortality. It noted with pleasure that the Plurinational State of Bolivia had accepted all its recommendations and underscored the importance of increasing access to education and health.

508. Iraq thanked the Plurinational State of Bolivia for the information provided about the human rights situation in the country. It appreciated that the recommendations made by Iraq on reporting to treaty bodies, combating trafficking in persons and improving the political participation of women had been accepted and stated that such an attitude reflected the commitment to human rights of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

509. Libya thanked the Plurinational State of Bolivia for the efforts it had made throughout the universal periodic review process and commended the Government for the work done to improve the socioeconomic situation in the country, eradicate poverty, combat racism and abolish child labour. It recommended the adoption of the report.

510. Namibia recognized the important measures taken by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples, which included the implementation of various policies for the protection of indigenous languages. It encouraged the Plurinational State of Bolivia to further promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples by ensuring their right to free, prior and informed consent.

511. Pakistan commended the Plurinational State of Bolivia for having accepted the majority of the recommendations received. It also appreciated the efforts of the State to make effective the rights to health and food for all its citizens and its commitment to reduce malnutrition and infant mortality.

#### **4. General comments made by other stakeholders**

512. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

513. The American Association of Jurists highlighted the progress achieved by the previous Government in the area of human rights. It noted that the audit of the 2019 electoral process carried out by the Organization of American States was not credible and that the new de facto Government was persecuting members of the opposition, human rights defenders and journalists. It expressed concern that, within that context, free elections would not be guaranteed on 3 May 2020 and urged the State to investigate the killings that had occurred during the post-electoral demonstrations of October 2019.

514. The Swedish Association for Sexuality Education congratulated the Plurinational State of Bolivia for having accepted recommendations on sexual and reproductive rights, but underlined the important challenges identified in the recommendations noted, which reflected rights protected by the Constitution. It considered that the recognition of the right of same-sex couples to have a family was a step in the right direction in combating discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and urged the Plurinational State of Bolivia to decriminalize abortion. It exhorted the authorities to put the recommendations of the universal periodic review at the centre of public policy and expressed its readiness to contribute to the implementation of such recommendations.

515. Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales highlighted the serious human rights situation in the country. It reported cases of arbitrary detention, social and political leaders being killed, torture and other ill-treatment, racial discrimination against indigenous peoples, censorship and intimidation of human rights defenders perpetrated by the armed forces and the police. It stressed that the repression following the enactment of Supreme Decree No. 4078, which exempted the armed forces from criminal responsibility for their actions, had resulted in 35 persons being killed, 833 being wounded and 1,504 being arbitrarily detained, including a journalist, and that indigenous women had been particularly affected.

516. The International Planned Parenthood Federation welcomed the support of the Plurinational State of Bolivia for recommendations addressing sexual and reproductive rights. It called upon the Plurinational State of Bolivia to implement comprehensive sexual education as a strategy to combat the high rates of teenage pregnancy, sexual violence, clandestine abortions and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. It welcomed the support of the State for the recommendation in paragraph 115.151 of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on eliminating existing obstacles to gain access to an abortion in the cases provided for in law, but regretted that the recommendation in paragraph 115.155, on eliminating the requirement to file a complaint to gain access to legal abortion in the case of rape, had been noted.

517. Centre pour les droits civils et politiques urged the Plurinational State of Bolivia to ensure the independence of the national mechanism for the prevention of torture and underlined that it had supported a similar recommendation in the previous cycle of the universal periodic review. It urged the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend Act No. 351 and its regulatory decree in order to ensure a safe and enabling environment for civil society, as well as legislation on indigenous peoples to ensure their right to free, prior and informed consent. It also urged the Plurinational State of Bolivia to protect environmental defenders and enact a law on access to public information.

518. Centre catholique international de Genève, Edmund Rice International and Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco expressed, in a joint statement, their concern about the increase in violence against children, adolescents and women. They recommended that the Plurinational State of Bolivia continue strengthening the institutional framework for the protection of children, adolescents and women victims of violence, including by ensuring adequate budget allocations to establish shelters at the local level and by promoting the economic empowerment of women.

519. Plan International exhorted the Plurinational State of Bolivia to develop awareness-raising campaigns aimed at combating early marriage and all forms of sexual violence. It urged the State to implement recommendations on preventing all forms of violence against women and girls, strengthening the judicial response to victims and combating impunity. It also called for an increase in the budget of the Office of the Ombudsman for Children and Adolescents and the repeal of article 309 of the Criminal Code.

520. Centre Europe-tiers monde stated that, after the elections in October 2019, there had been a violation of the Constitution. It stressed that Supreme Decree No. 4078, exempting the armed forces from criminal responsibility, had been followed by serious human rights violations, intimidation against the media, police violence and political and judicial persecution of individuals who disagreed with the current Government. National and international journalists had also been attacked and 54 community radio stations had been closed down by paramilitary groups. It urged the interim Government to re-establish constitutional order and the Human Rights Council to activate appropriate mechanisms to monitor the situation.

521. The International Association of Democratic Lawyers and the American Association of Jurists stated, in a joint statement, that those credited for the progress recognized in the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review were now harassed and repressed and that the former Minister of Justice, who had headed the delegation of the Plurinational State of Bolivia at the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group, had to seek diplomatic protection. They stressed that public officials had been arbitrarily detained, opposition members had been accused of sedition and terrorism and 80 political leaders had been forced into exile. They were also concerned about the role that the Organization of American States had played in the crisis following the 2019 elections. It urged the Plurinational State of Bolivia to immediately end all forms of persecution against political opponents and guarantee the political participation of all political actors.

522. Action Canada for Population and Development praised the Plurinational State of Bolivia for its acceptance of the recommendations on sexuality and gender but was concerned that relevant topics were absent from the universal periodic review dialogue and that some of the responses to recommendations had been vague. It noted that the secular character of the State was constantly being violated, leading to setbacks in the field of human rights. It

regretted the vagueness of the responses of the State to the recommendations noted on same-sex marriage and decriminalization of abortion and urged the State to provide a clear and consistent answer to them.

##### **5. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

523. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 238 recommendations received, 206 had enjoyed the support of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and 31 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another recommendation, indicating which parts of the recommendation had been accepted and which parts had been noted.

524. The delegation thanked all delegations that had taken the floor and stated that it had taken note of their statements. It reiterated that the Plurinational State of Bolivia was respectful of its human rights obligations and clarified that it had enacted Supreme Decree No. 4100 to ensure comprehensive integral reparation to those affected in the peace process that had taken place in the country after October 2019.

525. With regard to combating violence against children and women, a national alert had been declared in 2020, which had also been designated as the year to fight against such violence.

#### **Fiji**

526. The review of Fiji was held on 6 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by Fiji in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/FJI/1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/FJI/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/FJI/3).

527. At its 31st meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Fiji (see sect. C below).

528. The outcome of the review of Fiji comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/8), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/8/Add.1).

##### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

529. The delegation stated that Fiji placed great importance on the universal periodic review process and appreciated the immense value of a peer review that was constructive and informed by the experiences of other States. Fiji was pleased to see that the number of States participating in the review of Fiji had doubled since the previous cycle.

530. The delegation stated that human rights was a catalyst for transformative change and that it recognized that the universal periodic review mechanism and process was a vehicle through which such change took place. Following its second cycle review, Fiji had abolished the death penalty, ratified all core human rights instruments, become a State party to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially

Women and Children, and passed legislation aimed at incorporating the rights afforded by the Convention into domestic laws and policies.

531. Following the third cycle review, Fiji had received strong and constructive recommendations, including on the integration of human rights in climate policy, building resilience and responding better to disasters and strengthening legislation to protect, promote and preserve the human rights of women, children, persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, and indeed the whole population.

532. It had received concrete recommendations on accelerating training on gender and human rights for law enforcement agencies, strengthening policies for the protection of children, ensuring that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons were included in national policies on hate crime and hate speech and ensuring consistency between domestic law and constitutional rights and freedoms.

533. Those were important recommendations that would transform Fiji progressively and help in the advancement of its human rights journey. Fiji did not pretend to have all the answers to its challenges. However, it did recognize the important role of the peer review process in helping it to achieve progress and furthering substantive equality and justice.

534. The delegation thanked the Human Rights Council and all the States that had participated in the review. Fiji had begun and would continue the important work of implementing the recommendations accepted and continued to count on States' support in that regard.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review**

535. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Fiji, 12 delegations made statements.

536. Vanuatu commended Fiji for the establishment of a robust legislative and policy framework to mitigate and adapt to climate change and to build a strong and resilient society in the face of the negative effects of climate change and natural disasters.

537. Solomon Islands recognized the efforts to implement human rights obligations under various international conventions, including efforts to address the impacts of climate change through numerous adaptation mechanisms. It welcomed the acceptance by Fiji of many of the recommendations made by Solomon Islands and wished Fiji success in improving the lives of its people through the promotion and protection of human rights.

538. Afghanistan appreciated the full support of Fiji for recommendations made by Afghanistan to strengthen mechanisms to protect the victims of trafficking and continue efforts aimed at disaster preparedness. It acknowledged the lead that Fiji had taken to adopt policies aimed at protecting citizen's rights in the face of climate change and natural disasters. It hoped that Fiji would continue to consider the recommendation of Afghanistan to incorporate special provisions for the protection of refugee and asylum-seeking children and introduce a provision on family reunification into its Immigration Act.

539. Barbados stated that the commitment of Fiji to raise awareness of climate change and its impact on the enjoyment of human rights must be commended. It took note of the efforts and the commitment made to continue to address the challenges faced by women and girls as they sought to enjoy full and equal societal participation, free of discrimination and violence.

540. Botswana welcomed the strong commitment of Fiji to tackle climate change at the international and national levels, including through the adoption of the comprehensive National Adaptation Plan, which ensured an inclusive, systematic and strategic approach to climate adaptation and building disaster resilience. It took note of the efforts made by Fiji in the extensive work carried out to ensure conformity with the 2013 Constitution, particularly on ensuring the independence and impartiality of the judiciary.

541. China appreciated efforts to promote economic and social development, cope with the negative impact of climate change, carry out poverty alleviation and welfare programmes,

develop education and health care and protect the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.

542. Cuba urged Fiji to continue to make efforts to ensure the well-being of its population in the face of the threats of climate change and natural disasters and to strengthen the accessibility and quality of health services.

543. Egypt noted efforts to further promote and protect human rights, particularly in the face of climate change and natural disasters, and the special attention Fiji paid to vulnerable groups, in particular persons with disabilities. It appreciated that Fiji had accepted the vast majority of the recommendations, including those made by Egypt.

544. Guyana applauded the continued commitment of Fiji to comply with its human rights obligations and the universal periodic review mechanism. It encouraged Fiji to continue to work with national stakeholders to ensure the full implementation of recommendations accepted.

545. Haiti appreciated the acceptance by Fiji of the two recommendations made by Haiti on the use of mining revenues for further economic and social development and the implementation of a universal basic income in order to reduce inequalities. It recognized the progress made by Fiji in the promotion and protection of human rights both domestically and in its capacity as a member of the Human Rights Council.

546. The Islamic Republic of Iran acknowledged the challenges that Fiji was facing, particularly natural disasters related to climate change and their adverse impact on endeavours to promote and protect human rights in the country. It took note of the efforts made to strengthen the social protection system in order to ensure that people who were suffering directly from climate change would receive sufficient support.

547. Libya welcomed the efforts of Fiji to sign human rights treaties. It noted that Fiji was persevering in fighting structural discrimination.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

548. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Fiji, four other stakeholders made statements.

549. The International Planned Parenthood Federation thanked Fiji for its willingness to engage in an open and constructive dialogue with civil society throughout the universal periodic review process. It celebrated the commitment of Fiji to strengthen measures to protect victims of violence against women and girls through the full implementation of relevant legislation and awareness-raising campaigns. It was pleased with the commitment of Fiji to improve access to health services for vulnerable populations, inclusive mental health services and sexual and reproductive health services. It welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations to implement national programmes and policies to improve education and health systems for women, children and persons with disabilities. It thanked Fiji for the work carried out in partnership with UNFPA to revise the current family life education curriculum and recommended that it be aligned with the international technical guidance on sexuality education and that a national budget be allocated for its implementation in both mainstream and special schools. While the revised family life education curriculum was yet to be finalized, it stated that the Reproductive and Family Health Association of Fiji willingly offered itself as a partner to assist the Ministry of Education in the training of teacher trainers to provide updated family life education and to assist mainstream and special schools in the delivery of the curriculum. That was an important tool in strengthening the work of the Government to address violence against women and girls, as well as in contributing to the reduction of adolescent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections among young persons.

550. The International Service for Human Rights welcomed the acceptance by Fiji of the recommendations of Switzerland and Albania on human rights defenders and stated that, since the second cycle of the universal periodic review, conditions had improved. Human rights defenders now operated in a relatively free environment. Nevertheless, it stated that there had been reports of peaceful protesters being arbitrarily arrested and journalists harassed and intimidated. The rights to freedom of expression and assembly continued to be limited and more needed to be done to ensure an enabling environment for defenders. It

echoed the recommendations calling for Fiji to repeal laws and policies that restricted the fundamental rights to the freedoms of expression, assembly and association, including sections of the Public Order (Amendment) Decree, the Media Industry Development Decree, the Electoral Act 2014 and the Online Safety Act. It also highlighted the rights of defenders working for the promotion and protection of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and urged Fiji to incorporate sexual orientation into anti-discrimination laws and take measures to reduce the targeting and harassment of those defenders.

551. The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative urged Fiji to implement the recommendations on the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, including the ratification of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and finalize the adoption of the national action plan. It strongly recommended that Fiji develop a national strategy to address violence, discrimination and hate crimes against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex community and to increase the budgetary allocation for strengthening the participation of marginalized communities, including persons with disabilities in times of natural disasters. It stated that it wanted a Fiji that guaranteed fundamental freedoms and respect for journalists and human rights defenders. That included recasting all laws restricting freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association, such as the Media Industry Development Decree, Public Order (Amendment) Act and the seditious provisions under the Crimes Act. It stated that it wanted the Government to commit to mitigate the impacts of extractive mining through monitoring policy implementation, specifically the environmental impact assessment, effectively providing environmental, social and economic safeguards for affected communities. It noted that the Government had reaffirmed its support for creating a national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up of human rights recommendations, and it anticipated civil society involvement.

552. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation welcomed the fact that recommendations pertaining to freedoms of expression, assembly and association had been accepted, including those on ensuring that criminal and speech-related legislation was not misused to suppress criticism. It stated that seditious provisions in the Crimes Act and the Public Order (Amendment) Act had been used to target journalists, activists and critics of the Government. The Media Industry Development Decree had had a chilling effect on the media and press freedom. It was disappointed that specific recommendations to amend or repeal those repressive laws had not been accepted. The right to peaceful assembly had been arbitrarily restricted with the use of the Public Order (Amendment) Act, particularly against trade unions. It welcomed the fact that Fiji had accepted recommendations to ensure that criminal status would not be used to curtail workers' rights, but regretted that Fiji had not accepted other recommendations to promote and protect freedom of assembly by revising such restrictive laws. It encouraged Fiji to genuinely support the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and to bring local legislation into line with international law and standards. The universal periodic review presented an opportunity for Fiji to make, at the national level, the same commitment to civic space and human rights that it had demonstrated in its engagement with and leadership within the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms. It urged Fiji to take the opportunity to create and maintain an enabling environment for civil society in accordance with the rights enshrined in international human rights law.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

553. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 242 recommendations received, 207 had enjoyed the support of Fiji and 35 had been noted.

554. The delegation thanked all the delegations that had participated in the review of Fiji and noted that the increase in the number of delegations that had spoken showed an increase in interest in the human rights situation of Fiji. The universal periodic review process was an important part of the Human Rights Council's agenda on prevention. Fiji was encouraged by the number of recommendations on integrating climate policy with human rights, showing a growing acceptance that, in moving forward in adopting climate policy, domestically there was a need for taking into account the rights of all persons, especially those disproportionately affected by the effects of climate change.

555. Fiji appreciated the constructive recommendations of civil society and acknowledged that it had to work harder on the participation of all members of society in the evolution of human rights and, in particular, on integrating lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex issues into national human rights policy. In response to comments by representatives of civil society on specific legislation, the delegation stated that Fiji had a strong and vibrant judiciary, empowered under the Constitution to test the relations between rights and limitations, especially in relation to hate speech.

### **San Marino**

556. The review of San Marino was held on 6 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by San Marino in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SMR/1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SMR/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SMR/3).

557. At its 31st meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of San Marino (see sect. C below).

558. The outcome of the review of San Marino comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/9), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/9/Add.1).

### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

559. The delegation of San Marino was unable to travel to Geneva due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council read the speech on behalf of the delegation.

560. The universal periodic review of San Marino had taken place on 6 November 2019 when its administration could only deal with ordinary matters due to the dissolution of Parliament. General elections had taken place on 8 December 2019 and the new Government had been formed on 28 December 2019. That was the reason why San Marino had decided not to reply immediately to the recommendations submitted to it by the member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and to examine them carefully with the new Government that had just taken office. In January 2020, all recommendations had been examined by the new Government and, on 10 February, San Marino had provided its replies in the addendum sent to the secretariat.

561. During the review of San Marino, a total of 109 recommendations had been submitted by 45 delegations. Their recommendations had allowed San Marino to reflect broadly on issues, to which the country paid great attention and which were on its daily agenda. Each recommendation had been carefully examined and 72 of them had been accepted, while 1 recommendation had been partially accepted with an explanation.

562. San Marino had provided some clarifications on the recommendations noted and additional information on some recommendations accepted or considered already implemented.

563. With regard to the international instruments to which some delegations had recommended accession, the Government had decided to accept the recommendation on

ratification of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, which would be studied in the coming months for possible accessions thereto. San Marino had decided to accept the recommendation on the ratification of the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court. The Agreement had been ratified by Parliament on 20 February 2020. The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) had been ratified by San Marino on 18 January 2016 and the law transposing and implementing that Convention had been adopted in May 2016.

564. San Marino was not currently in a position to envisage early accession to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, but it was committed to carrying out an in-depth study of the two Conventions in order to assess possible accessions thereto. On the contrary, there were no plans to ratify, in the near future, the other international instruments recommended for ratification, that is the Optional Protocol to 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, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Protocol thereto and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) of the International Labour Organization.

565. San Marino had also accepted all recommendations relating to the submission of reports to the treaty bodies, although it was aware of the enormous delay that it had accumulated. In the coming months, the country would seriously and carefully tackle that issue, in order to put in place a system that would allow it to make up the accumulated delays in a few years.

566. The many recommendations on the establishment in San Marino of an ombudsman or a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles had all been accepted and, in the coming years, the country would assess the best way to establish that body. On the contrary, it was decided not to accept the recommendation concerning the establishment of an independent body specializing in the fight against racism and racial discrimination as the fight against discrimination was already covered by the Commission for Equal Opportunities and the establishment of a new human rights body would be considered in the coming years.

567. San Marino had not accepted a number of recommendations concerning the tightening of anti-discrimination legislation since its legislative framework for combating all forms of discrimination was considered adequate, with some room for improvement, and the prohibition of discrimination based on any personal condition was already an integral part of its Constitution. Likewise, it was not considered necessary to specifically include gender identity among the grounds of discrimination, since article 4 of the Constitution, stating that “all shall be equal before the law, without any distinction based on ... personal ... status”, prohibited any form of unequal treatment or discrimination.

568. For the time being, the recommendations on decriminalization of abortion had been noted as the debate in the country was ongoing, also in the light of some popular legislative initiatives that promoted exactly the opposite. The relevant parliamentary debate should take place in 2020.

569. With regard to women’s participation in political life, it should be pointed out that the system in San Marino already provided for various measures to increase the representation of women in political life and that, following the latest general elections, there had been an increase in the presence of women in Parliament. However, there was always room for improvement and San Marino confirmed its commitment to continuously improve the conditions necessary to achieve greater participation of women in political life and decision-making positions. However, San Marino had taken note of the recommendations that called for an increase in the presence of women in Parliament or in the Government, since San Marino had considered those recommendations unacceptable as they were formulated.

570. San Marino did not plan to introduce a procedure to process asylum applications since, in recent years, the number of applications submitted had been very limited. For that reason,

San Marino preferred to grant an extraordinary stay permit for humanitarian and social protection reasons as an instrument to protect foreigners who applied to San Marino when, for various reasons, they were not in a position to return to their countries. In that regard, the applications would be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

571. With regard to the recommendation on the participation in humanitarian initiatives, the Government was willing to assess the actions to be taken on a case-by-case basis, as had already happened in 2016 with the country's accession to the Humanitarian Corridors project of the Community of Sant'Egidio. However, it was not in a position to commit to permanently supporting such projects.

572. San Marino had also taken note of the recommendations relating to the fight against trafficking in persons. However, since there were currently no cases in San Marino, the adoption of a specific regulatory framework on that matter was not considered necessary. San Marino would prefer to devote attention and resources to the administrative activities already established to monitor the situation.

573. There had not yet been an in-depth debate on the adoption of children by same-sex couples and it had therefore been preferred to take note of the recommendations on the issue.

574. San Marino had only partially accepted the recommendation in paragraph 119.101 of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. Indeed, the Government did not consider it necessary to set up a special section for minors since that task was already carried out by specialized judges within the courts. However, the possibility of establishing a counselling centre for separated parents with children would be seriously considered.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review**

575. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of San Marino, six delegations made statements.

576. Cyprus expressed its appreciation for the continued engagement of San Marino with the universal periodic review process and for its overall contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights. Cyprus was completely aware of and understood the difficulties stemming from the capacity problems that small States endured when preparing and submitting reports either for the universal periodic review or for treaty bodies. It commended San Marino for having accepted the majority of the recommendations received.

577. Iraq expressed appreciation to San Marino for having accepted its recommendations regarding cooperation with international human rights mechanisms, the submission of reports to treaty bodies and the establishment of an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. It expressed the hope that San Marino would consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

578. Libya commended San Marino for its efforts to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities with a view to integrating them into society and ensuring respect for their human dignity. Libya also applauded the efforts of San Marino to ratify and accede to international human rights instruments.

579. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the commitment of San Marino to promote and protect human rights, offering open cooperation with the universal periodic review mechanism. It highlighted the creation of the emergency solidarity fund to respond in a timely manner to the social and economic emergencies of individuals and families in difficulty. It recognized the efforts of the Government of San Marino to fulfil its human rights obligations.

580. Burkina Faso welcomed the acceptance by San Marino of a large number of recommendations, in particular those relating to combating violence against women and children. It invited San Marino to take all necessary measures for the effective implementation of the recommendations accepted.

581. China commended San Marino for its efforts in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, developing education and health services and protecting the rights

of vulnerable groups, including women, children, persons with disabilities and migrant workers. China welcomed the acceptance by San Marino of the recommendations made by China and expressed the hope that San Marino would continue to promote human rights and strengthen the basis for ensuring the enjoyment of human rights and protecting the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

582. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of San Marino, one other stakeholder made a statement.

583. The Center for Global Nonkilling stated that, with the review of San Marino, it celebrated for the first time the discovery of a non-killing country. During its investigation on the situation of the right to life in San Marino, it had discovered no murder, no recorded suicide and no traffic fatality in the previous five years in the country. That was a laudable achievement that deserved congratulations and celebrations, but also proper attention in order to maintain and expand such an achievement. That also showed that progress in the protection and the enjoyment of the right to life was feasible, measurable and accessible to everyone.

### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

584. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 109 recommendations received, 72 had enjoyed the support of San Marino and 36 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another recommendation, indicating which parts of the recommendation had been supported and which parts had been noted.

585. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council, reading out the statement on behalf of the delegation of San Marino, noted that San Marino was committed to carefully considering all the suggestions made. The recent visit of the Head of State to the Human Rights Council and the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review had shown the commitment of San Marino to the process.

### **Iran (Islamic Republic of)**

586. The review of the Islamic Republic of Iran was held on 8 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/IRN/1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/IRN/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/IRN/3).

587. At its 31st meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Islamic Republic of Iran (see sect. C below).

588. The outcome of the review of the Islamic Republic of Iran comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/12), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/12/Add.1).

**1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

589. The delegation stated that the current international climate characterized by greed, egotism, unilateralism, xenophobia and self-centred whims was hostile to nurturing genuine human solidarity to protect human rights. In that regard, the Islamic Republic of Iran was struggling to contain the COVID-19 pandemic and the capacity of the country had been weakened by the unilateral sanctions of the United States of America. The Human Rights Council should not ignore that situation as such unilateral sanctions affected the fundamental rights of the whole population.

590. The delegation also expressed concern about human rights being increasingly abused for political purposes and geographical gains.

591. Against that background, the universal periodic review mechanism, to which the Islamic Republic of Iran paid great importance, had become more important. It had been actively participating and cooperating with the mechanism since its establishment.

592. The Islamic Republic of Iran had received 329 recommendations, which had been carefully examined with the participation of all relevant institutions and civil society. After extensive consultation and consideration of national laws and international commitments, the Islamic Republic of Iran had accepted 188 recommendations in whole or in part. It had not accepted 123 recommendations. In addition, it had noted 18 recommendations because they had been found to contradict the country's Constitution and laws or violate Islamic values, cultural norms and the principles recognized in international human rights law.

593. Based on the Constitution, the Islamic Republic of Iran was a religious democracy. The promotion of human rights was a fundamental principle in the country. In the previous four decades, the Islamic Republic of Iran had made tremendous progress in different domains, such as improving democratic institutions, civil and political rights, education, poverty eradication, women and children's rights, the rights of persons with disabilities and health and sanitation.

594. The country had always tried to develop its cooperation with OHCHR and with treaty bodies. It had also cooperated constructively with the special procedure mandate holders of the Human Right Council. Furthermore, it had engaged in bilateral dialogue with interested countries, aimed at promoting and protecting human rights.

595. In relation to the subject of the right to life, the delegation made it clear that, based on domestic law and international commitments, deprivation of life was only considered for the most serious crimes. As such, the Islamic Republic of Iran had amended its national law on the punishment of drug traffickers in 2017, which had led to a 90 per cent reduction in the death penalty being used.

596. With regard to a number of recommendations related to the rights of children, a bill to protect children and adolescents had been adopted together with other important measures, which constituted an important step in protecting children. Another example of an improvement in the country's human rights situation was that child offenders could only be held in correctional centres for a maximum of five years and the death penalty would not be enforced if the perpetrators were under the age of 18 years.

597. Torture and ill-treatment were prohibited according to the Constitution and Islamic teachings and values. They were also prohibited according to national criminal law and international commitments. Those responsible for ill-treatment had to take responsibility for their actions and be held accountable according to the law.

598. The guidelines to protect and promote human dignity and human values in the judicial process, which had been approved in 2019, were an example of the measures aimed at enhancing accountability. Due process, the independence of judges, access to lawyers and fair trials, the prohibition of arbitrary detention and torture, and equality before the law had been strengthened.

599. Regarding the recommendations on women's rights, after the Iranian Revolution and even during the uprisings that led to its success, women had been pioneers. They had been active in many policymaking processes and national policy planning. In that regard, the

delegation referred to the documents on promoting women and family life, the law on transferring nationality to the children of Iranian women who had married foreigners, the protection plan and securing the dignity and safety of women against violence, which formed part of the regulations and laws that had been developed and approved at the national level.

600. Currently, 50 per cent of the country's student population were women, 30 per cent of the jobs that required high levels of education were reserved for women and 37 per cent of physicians were women. Women held 18 per cent of managerial roles, which was supposed to increase to 30 per cent in the following year. Women held high-ranking official positions, such as the Deputy President, the Adviser to the President, the Head of the Judiciary, Members of Parliament, ambassadors and judges. The Government was determined to continue its efforts to strengthen women's rights, both in law and in practice.

601. Concerning the rights of religious minorities, in accordance with article 3 of the Constitution, political and social freedoms, public participation in determining political, economic, social and cultural policies, the prohibition of unjust discrimination and the provision of fair opportunities for everyone, in all material and intellectual fields, were stipulated and guaranteed. There were no restrictions or exceptions before the law and all citizens were equally protected by the law. The rights of religious and ethnic minorities, as well as social and political minority groups, were enshrined in the Charter on Citizenship Rights and all government departments were required to respect them. The law on dispute settlement and conciliation stipulated that religious minorities could have their own dispute resolution councils. The adoption of the law on the presence of religious minorities in the councils, the criminalization of insulting religions recognized in the Constitution and the allocation of five parliamentary seats for religious minorities had been notable achievements in that area.

602. Civil rights, including freedom of expression and access to information, freedom of assembly and of association and political and social participation were explicitly guaranteed, thus providing, in practice, for an atmosphere conducive to the effective activities of journalists, reporters, the media and non-governmental organizations.

603. The delegation further noted the establishment of a centre for the dissemination of and free access to information, the government guidelines on securing free access to information, the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers on securing peaceful assemblies and associations, the Charter on Political Dialogue and the guidelines on developing the participation of non-governmental organizations in securing citizens' rights in the bureaucratic system.

604. Regarding recommendations on terrorism, both the Iranian authorities and people had constantly been victims of terrorism. The delegation expressed concern about the support for terrorism and extremism, the promotion of violence and insecurity, and the disruption of stability and the security of nations through the creation of terrorist groups in a number of countries, especially in West Asia.

605. The Islamic Republic of Iran believed that strengthening the universal periodic review mechanism and following the principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations, in accordance with the principles of multilateralism, would promote human rights.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review**

606. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 11 delegations made statements.

607. The Russian Federation welcomed the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran had supported the two recommendations made by the Russian Federation on enhancing and harmonizing its national legislative system with its international human rights obligations under the human rights treaties to which the Islamic Republic of Iran was a party. It also welcomed the cooperation of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the treaty bodies and its openness to collaborate with the universal periodic review. It stated that illegitimate unilateral sanctions were violating the fundamental rights and interests of the Iranian people.

608. China commended the Islamic Republic of Iran for its efforts to eradicate poverty, enhance social security and protect the rights of vulnerable groups. It noted that the unilateral

sanctions imposed on the country were having a major impact on the enjoyment of human rights by the Iranian people. It urged that such sanctions should be lifted immediately in order not to cause further harm to human rights, as the country was in the midst of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. It expressed the hope that the country would continue to achieve social and economic development to provide a solid basis for the enjoyment of all human rights.

609. Sri Lanka appreciated the support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the five recommendations it had made during the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in November 2019. It also noted with appreciation the efforts of the Government to host refugees and asylum seekers by providing basic social services in the fields of education, health care and housing and supporting livelihoods. Furthermore, it welcomed the progress that had been achieved, including the high rate of enrolment of children in primary and secondary schools, women's empowerment by ensuring their opportunities for higher education, government employment and entrepreneurship, increased life expectancy at birth through implementation of the plan on developing health, the reduction in the mortality rates of infants, children and pregnant mothers, and control of non-communicable diseases.

610. The Syrian Arab Republic commended the Islamic Republic of Iran for its proactive efforts to increase health-care services by building medical care facilities in rural and urban areas. It also welcomed the efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to combat COVID-19. Furthermore, it appreciated the efforts by the Government to address the negative impacts of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of the fundamental human rights of its people.

611. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland expressed deep concern about the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran and its continued refusal to give the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran access to the country. It noted that the most deadly crackdown against the citizens of the Islamic Republic of Iran in decades had occurred in November 2019. It also expressed concern about the continuing discrimination against religious minorities in the country. While welcoming the temporary release of several thousand detainees due to COVID-19, it pledged support to United Nations agencies to assist the country in combating the pandemic. However, it echoed the concerns of the Special Rapporteur about detainees, especially dual-nationals, and urged the country to release them on humanitarian grounds. It regretted that the Islamic Republic of Iran had not supported the three recommendations that it had made.

612. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela commended the Islamic Republic of Iran for its full cooperation in the universal periodic review. It also welcomed the steadfast commitment of the country to protect human rights. It noted that, despite the illegal unilateral sanctions by the United States of America, the country had achieved a high level of development. It also welcomed the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the second cycle of the universal periodic review.

613. Afghanistan appreciated the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran had supported the recommendations made by Afghanistan to set up a national human rights institution and to protect the rights of refugees. It also expressed the hope that the Islamic Republic of Iran would give full support to the recommendation to ensure that children of registered refugees and unregistered foreigners were provided with birth certificates.

614. Belarus noted that the Islamic Republic of Iran had supported the recommendations to further strengthen national capacity to promote and protect human rights, taking into consideration the views of the treaty bodies. It expressed the hope that the country would implement the recommendations received during the third cycle in the light of national interests and needs.

615. Belgium welcomed the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran had supported the recommendation of Belgium to fully ensure the freedoms of expression, assembly and association by creating a conducive environment for women human rights defenders and lawyers. In that regard, it asked what concrete measures the Government intended to take to implement that recommendation. It also expressed regret that the country had not supported its two other recommendations: the first concerned raising the minimum age of marriage and eradicating early and forced marriages; and the second was related to the abolition of the

death penalty, at least for crimes committed by persons under the age of 18 years. Considering the importance of those recommendations, it urged the Islamic Republic of Iran to review its positions on them.

616. Botswana welcomed measures to protect the rights of persons with disabilities and reduce the working hours of women, and the draft bill on the national human rights institution. It also noted the human rights training and education in different sectors.

617. The Philippines appreciated that the Islamic Republic of Iran had supported its recommendations related to the economic participation of women, climate change and training of duty bearers on human rights. It also welcomed the committed efforts of the country to ensure universal access to education with an emphasis on education for girls and vulnerable groups.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

618. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Islamic Republic of Iran, nine other stakeholders made statements.

619. The Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of the Environment expressed concern about the human rights of Iranians, especially the right to a healthy environment, which had been extensively violated. It called upon the Human Rights Council to be wary of unilateral attempts made by some countries to violate human rights in third States, including the Islamic Republic of Iran. In that regard, it urged the States that had attended the sessions of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review to condemn any such measures.

620. The Disability Association of Tavana welcomed the adoption of the Law on the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by the Islamic Republic of Iran. It called upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to provide insurance coverage for persons with disabilities and to promote further the right to education for persons with disabilities, especially in rural regions. It also appealed to the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue its cooperation with OHCHR.

621. The Baha'i International Community regretted that the Islamic Republic of Iran had rejected every recommendation it had received regarding the persecution of Baha'is. It called attention to the continuing incarceration of Baha'is since 1979. It stressed that the Baha'i faith continued to be denied in the Islamic Republic of Iran and was not recognized as an official religion in the country. It invited the Islamic Republic of Iran to follow up on the recommendations of the universal periodic review.

622. Lawyers for Lawyers, in a joint statement with the International Bar Association, welcomed the decision of the Islamic Republic of Iran to accept some of the recommendations related to the rights of lawyers. However, it expressed concern about reported cases of harassment or even conviction of lawyers, which had been perpetrated on improper grounds. Furthermore, it expressed apprehension about the restrictions imposed on those accused of internal and external security offences in relation to the appointment of a lawyer.

623. The World Jewish Congress expressed scepticism towards the pledge of the Islamic Republic of Iran to safeguard the rights of religious minorities while remaining alarmed by its persistent mistreatment of minorities. It stressed that followers of the Baha'i faith were still not represented at the parliamentary level and that Baha'is had often been subjected to gross violations of human rights. It called upon the Human Rights Council to condemn the ongoing persecution by the Islamic Republic of Iran of its own people.

624. The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, while applauding the support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for a number of recommendations regarding socioeconomic and cultural rights and the right to health, remained sceptical about the tangible implementation of such recommendations, due to unilateral coercive measures, to which the Islamic Republic of Iran had been subjected. It invited the Government to intensify consultations with non-governmental organizations and civil society and urged the members of the Human Rights Council to be wary of the consequences of such unilateral coercive measures on the ability of the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement recommendations.

625. Human Rights Watch regretted the rejection by the Islamic Republic of Iran of a number of recommendations concerning the ratification of core human rights treaties. In particular, it expressed concern about the rights of Iranian women who continued to be discriminated against at several levels in society. It also expressed concern about the use of torture in the country, as the Islamic Republic of Iran had rejected any recommendation regarding the investigation and criminalization of torture. Moreover, it expressed regret about the rejection by the Islamic Republic of Iran of recommendations on the protection of the right of assembly in the aftermath of the November 2019 protests.

626. Rahbord Peimayesh Research and Educational Services Cooperative expressed concern about the negative impact that comprehensive sanctions were having on the enjoyment of the right to education for Iranian students. It noted that Iranian students had been affected on several levels, which had, in turn, had an impact on their perceptions about social insecurity. It underscored that the short- and long-term effects of sanctions had irreversible consequences on the right to education, the right to development and other fundamental rights of Iranian citizens.

627. The Center for Inquiry emphasized that most human rights continued to be violated in the Islamic Republic of Iran as demonstrated by the frequent incarceration of, and life sentences handed out to, those holding different world and religious views. It urged the Government to invest more in the health system, especially as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and to stop the persecution of free thinkers.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

628. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 329 recommendations received, 143 had enjoyed the support of the Islamic Republic of Iran and 186 had been noted.

629. The delegation stated that the Islamic Republic of Iran was determined to continue its efforts to promote and protect human rights. The country had made huge improvements in promoting and protecting human rights, despite all the odds, including the unilateral sanctions that were having negative impacts on the enjoyment of many human rights by the Iranian people, including the rights to health and education, women and children's rights and the right to development. In particular, the delegation drew the attention of the Human Rights Council to the fact that the right to health had become the primary casualty of the unilateral sanctions by the United States of America. The Islamic Republic of Iran was committed to implementing the recommendations that it had accepted.

#### **Angola**

630. The review of Angola was held on 7 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Angola in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/AGO/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/AGO/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/AGO/3).

631. At its 31st meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Angola (see sect. C below).

632. The outcome of the review of Angola comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/11), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive

dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/11/Add.1).

**1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

633. The delegation introduced the position of Angola on the recommendations received.

634. Angola had accepted 259 recommendations out of the 270 recommendations that it had received and had noted the remaining 11.

635. Recommendations accepted addressed issues that included: compliance with international obligations, ratification and accession to international instruments, reforming the country's legal framework in accordance with human rights principles, national human rights institutions and structures, cooperation with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, the right to development, the environment and business and human rights, ensuring fundamental freedoms and safeguarding the right to equality and non-discrimination, the administration of justice and combating corruption, the right to work, access to health and education and the protection of vulnerable groups.

636. The recommendations and observations received had been both constructive and in line with national programmes and priorities, specifically those enshrined in the National Development Plan 2018–2022 and aimed at strengthening institutions related to the rule of law, improving the Human Development Index ranking and promoting and protecting rights, freedoms and guarantees.

637. The delegation provided additional information on specific recommendations accepted by Angola. Recommendations on the adoption of the National Human Rights Strategy (made by, among others, Azerbaijan, Botswana, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Gabon, Georgia, Libya, Mauritania and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) and the drafting of a national action plan to prevent and combat trafficking in persons (made by the Central African Republic, the Congo, Georgia, Iraq, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Nepal, Paraguay, Senegal, Tunisia and the United States of America) had already been addressed as the Cabinet of Ministers had approved, in February 2020, those instruments.

638. The National Human Rights Strategy would be the new political framework to strengthen the capacity of Angola to promote, defend, monitor, correct, report and denounce attacks on human rights, in an objective manner. According to the presidential decree that had adopted that strategy, human rights were now considered part of the remit of national defence, which would warrant a periodic assessment by the National Security Council.

639. The National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Trafficking in Persons set out targets and means to address effectively and efficiently that global threat. As such, it would involve many different sectors with a view to ensuring that victims were provided with adequate protection and an opportunity to reintegrate into society. Angola counted on the support of the international community for the successful implementation of the Plan.

640. The delegation of Angola also provided additional information concerning the 11 recommendations that had been noted.

641. Regarding the establishment of a national human rights institution that was in line with the Paris Principles, the Office of the Ombudsperson of Angola was a public, independent entity, the aim of which was to defend the rights, freedoms and guarantees of citizens and to ensure, through informal avenues, that the justice system and public administration functioned in accordance with the law. The Office's statute was in conformity with the Paris Principles regarding its competences, responsibilities and mandate, as set out in the Constitution. The Office performs, de facto, the role of a national human rights institution, as was the case in other countries.

642. As for the recommendation to issue a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, the country had received several requests for a visit, which would be responded to in due course. In addition, Angola would continue to invite special rapporteurs to visit the country based on its need for assistance from those mechanisms.

643. Concerning accession to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, a working group had been created, by Presidential Order No. 239/14 of 22 December 2019, to assess its compatibility with the legal framework of Angola. Angola was a member of the United Nations and a party to the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption. It was also a founding member of the Kimberley Process on the buying and selling of diamonds, having held the presidency and vice-presidency of that mechanism, which aimed to prevent natural resources from becoming a source of funding for unlawful businesses or conflicts, while respecting and guaranteeing the human rights of citizens working in mining operations and areas.

644. Angola had signed the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and indicated that it was examining the compatibility of the Statute with its legal system and Constitution. A number of discrepancies between the Statute of the Court and the Constitution had been identified, which prevented its immediate ratification. Additionally, Angola supported the position of the African Union on the International Criminal Court.

645. The delegation indicated that all of the recommendations mentioned would continue to receive the attention of Angola during the next four years and beyond and thanked all of those who had participated in the review.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review**

646. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Angola, 11 delegations made statements.

647. The Sudan expressed appreciation for the efforts of Angola to promote and protect human rights, highlighting the fact that Angola had accepted a large number of the recommendations received. It thanked Angola for having accepted its recommendations and recommended the adoption by the Human Rights Council of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Angola.

648. UNFPA commended Angola for having accepted recommendations on gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls and reproductive rights. It stated that it would continue to work with Angola to eliminate preventable maternal mortality and morbidity. It would also support the Government to disseminate and implement its recently approved national youth policy and continue to support the leadership role Angola was taking in promoting adolescent sexual reproductive health within the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries. It remained a committed partner in responding to the drought in southern Angola and in the preparations for the population and housing census planned for 2024.

649. China welcomed the active engagement of Angola in the universal periodic review and commended its efforts to develop education and health care, protect the rights of women, children with disabilities and vulnerable groups and eliminate poverty. China thanked Angola for having accepted its recommendations and expressed the hope that Angola would continue to step up efforts to reduce poverty and to raise people's living standards and would continue to increase educational resources and improve education in rural areas.

650. Afghanistan noted with appreciation that Angola had accepted 259 of the 270 recommendations received, including the recommendations Afghanistan had made on protecting asylum seekers and ensuring inclusive education. Afghanistan recommended the adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review by the Human Rights Council by consensus.

651. Botswana recalled that, during the review, it had noted a number of strategies adopted by Angola to promote and protect human rights, including the National Human Rights Strategy, the strategic plan to prevent and combat corruption and the integrated municipal programme for rural development and the fight against poverty. Botswana commended Angola for having accepted the majority of the recommendations received, including those that it had made.

652. Brazil welcomed the measures recently adopted by Angola regarding access to justice and encouraged the Government to continue its efforts to provide legal support to all citizens. Brazil acknowledged the commitment of Angola to the universal periodic review and the

international human right system and highlighted the country's recent ratification of a large number of core international human right instruments. It also welcomed the enactment of the new Penal Code and the National Human Rights Strategy. It renewed its willingness to continue to cooperate with Angola in the promotion and protection of human rights.

653. Burkina Faso applauded the efforts of Angola to ensure the effective enjoyment of human rights in the country, particularly the measures taken to combat violence against women and girls, notably by criminalizing female genital mutilation in the new Penal Code adopted in 2019. It encouraged Angola to step up efforts to implement the recommendations accepted and called upon the international community to provide the country with support in that regard.

654. Burundi welcomed the efforts made and measures taken by Angola to promote and protect the human rights of its people, notably through the implementation of recommendations accepted during the previous cycle of the universal periodic review. Burundi applauded the National Human Rights Strategy and the strategic plan to prevent and combat corruption, indicating that it was an admirable effort and effective measure in fighting against organized crime. Burundi also highlighted the adoption by Angola of the National Policy for Gender Equality and Equity and applauded the measures taken to eradicate female genital mutilation in the new Penal Code.

655. Cabo Verde applauded the Government's cooperation with treaty bodies through the regular submission of reports, and the acceptance of visits by special rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council and of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. It highlighted the positive results obtained in fighting extreme poverty and encouraged Angola to implement the National Development Plan 2018–2022 and the National Human Rights Strategy 2019–2022 by giving priority to measures to support vulnerable groups, such as women, children and persons with disabilities. It also encouraged the authorities to implement measures to improve legal aid and to strengthen the national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles.

656. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela applauded the Government's efforts to implement recommendations from the second cycle of the universal periodic review. It noted positively the increase in the representation of women in public life and, in particular, that there were now many women in high-ranking positions, highlighting that 40 per cent of Members of Parliament, 40 per cent of diplomats and 38 per cent of judges were women. It encouraged the Government to pursue its sound economic policies, which supported the most vulnerable sectors of the population.

657. The Congo thanked Angola for the additional information provided and applauded its efforts to promote and protect human rights. It commended Angola for having accepted the majority of the recommendations received and expressed the belief that their implementation would strengthen the rule of law in the country. It recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Angola by consensus.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

658. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Angola, six other stakeholders made statements.

659. The International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development and Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco thanked Angola for having accepted the majority of the recommendations received. They expressed their appreciation for the measures taken by the Government to reduce child mortality, but noted that the country still had a very high child mortality rate: in 2018, it was 55 deaths for each 1,000 live births. They thanked Angola for having accepted recommendations on the inclusion of children with disabilities, but expressed concern about persisting discrimination against persons with disabilities and albinism, and a lack of State support for their inclusion. They recommended that Angola: take effective measures to further reduce child mortality by improving the quality of health services; and promptly adopt effective measures to promote inclusion and combat discrimination against children with

disabilities and albinism, in particular by providing more State support to families with children with disabilities and carrying out public awareness campaigns, especially in schools.

660. The Lutheran World Federation commended the Government of Angola for its constructive engagement in the universal periodic review. It encouraged the Government to prioritize the implementation of recommendations accepted on a number of rights, including the rights to life and the highest standard of health, the rights of women and girls, ethnic minorities, indigenous groups and refugees, land rights, the rights to a sustainable livelihood and adequate housing, and business and human rights in the extractive industry. It called upon Angola to: continue working closely with all national stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of those recommendations; set up an independent human rights institution; and declare a state of emergency to address the situation concerning the right to food in the south of the country. It also called upon the international community to provide the necessary technical and material support to Angola to realize those rights.

661. The International Service for Human Rights noted with satisfaction the acceptance by Angola of several recommendations aimed at ensuring the work of human rights defenders in a safe and supportive environment. It commended the efforts of Angola to establish a national human rights institution and encouraged the Government to ensure that it was compliant with the Paris Principles and fully mandated and resourced to monitor the situation of human rights in Angola. It remained concerned that the authorities continued to clamp down on protests and use excessive force against peaceful protesters. It called upon Angola to: abolish or amend all laws and policies that limited the actions of civil society and human rights defenders, including the social communication legislative package and criminal libel laws used to coerce civil society into self-censorship; and put an end to the arbitrary arrest and detention of human rights defenders, release all those detained for exercising their human rights and provide victims with a remedy in accordance with international standards.

662. Ingénieurs du monde commended Angola on its campaign “together against pregnancy and early marriage in Angola” and draft national strategy to fight that scourge, but indicated that those steps were insufficient. Noting that, according to UNICEF, 30 per cent of girls in Angola were married before the age of 18, it urged Angola to amend the Family Code of 1988 to abolish any exceptions to the prohibition of child marriage. It stated that the adoption of Act No. 12/19 in 2019 on freedom of religion, belief and worship was a positive step, but indicated that it was not enough and that Muslims and other minorities continued to face hurdles in attaining official recognition and therefore could not worship freely. It indicated that, in the previous year, more than 2,000 Christian churches had been closed in Angola and as many as 2,000 more faced closure in the wake of a new law requiring them to register with the Government.

663. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation welcomed the acceptance, in the present cycle, of 14 recommendations focusing on civic space. It stated, however, that Angola had not implemented 19 of the 20 recommendations relating to civic space made in 2014. It indicated that several pieces of restrictive legislation that, in the past, had been used against human rights defenders and journalists critical of the Government, including provisions on criminal defamation in the Penal Code, remained in place. It expressed concern about restrictions on peaceful assembly, in particular, the arrest of protestors and indicated that, in certain regions, notably the Province of Cabinda, intimidation, arbitrary arrests and judicial harassment of human rights defenders were systematically used to prevent protests from taking place. It called upon the Government of Angola to take proactive measures to address those concerns and implement recommendations to create and maintain, in law and in practice, an enabling environment for civil society.

664. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l’homme applauded the efforts of Angola to promote and protect human rights, as well as the improvements in governance since the previous cycle, which had led to a reduction in poverty and an increase in the Human Development Index ranking and life expectancy. It expressed its appreciation for a number of sensitive recommendations that had been implemented, notably on accession to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, decriminalizing homosexuality and the adoption of a new Penal Code that strengthened the protection of the principles of equality and non-discrimination. It remained concerned about the persistence in the previous few years of arrests and expulsions of

migrants from different African countries, many of whom had reported having suffered violations of their rights. It requested that Angola show greater tolerance and compassion for its African brothers and sisters and carry out adequate investigations into those allegations, bringing to justice the perpetrators of such acts. It invited Angola to accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

665. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 270 recommendations received, 259 had enjoyed the support of Angola and 11 had been noted.

666. The delegation reiterated its thanks to all those who had participated in the review and adoption, including the Presidency and the Bureau of the Human Rights Council, the secretariat and the interpreters. Angola expressed its belief that actions speak louder than words and promised to continue its fight for the promotion, protection, defence and realization of all human rights at the national, regional and international levels.

#### **Kazakhstan**

667. The review of Kazakhstan was held on 7 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Kazakhstan in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/KAZ/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/KAZ/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/KAZ/3).

668. At its 31st meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Kazakhstan (see sect. C below).

669. The outcome of the review of Kazakhstan comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/10), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/10/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

670. The delegation noted the importance of the universal periodic review in the promotion and protection of human rights principles and the collective progress towards protecting, promoting and respecting human rights.

671. The President of Kazakhstan had introduced the concept of a “listening State” to ensure that the Government was responsive to and responsible for its people. To implement that concept, a National Council of Public Trust composed of civil society representatives had been created.

672. Of the 245 recommendations received, Kazakhstan had supported 214 and noted 31. With regard to their implementation, progress would be reflected in the inter-agency action plan that had been developed by the Government in consultation with civil society actors and other stakeholders.

673. With regard to the right to life, Kazakhstan had decided to accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, which was in recognition of the recommendations made during the third cycle of the universal periodic review.

674. Kazakhstan had decided to review its law on peaceful assemblies and the relevant articles in the Criminal Code.

675. With regard to protecting the rights of women and children, in particular from discrimination and domestic violence, changes had been introduced to the relevant national laws to harshly penalize those who committed violence, trafficking in persons and other serious crimes against individuals, especially women and children. Kazakhstan had decided to accede to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention).

676. With regard to the participation of women and young persons in political processes, the President of Kazakhstan had announced measures to increase the participation of those groups in decision-making processes. In addition, Parliament was considering legislation that required political parties to include a minimum of 30 per cent of women and young persons.

677. The delegation highlighted the preparation of draft legislation to lower the barriers to establish political parties, reducing the requirement to form a party from 40,000 members to 20,000.

678. In addition to committing to recommendations on implementing the International Labour Organization's Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention 1948 (No. 87), the lower chamber of Parliament had passed a draft bill to amend the law on trade unions and other related legislation aimed at eliminating the mandatory affiliation requirements for trade unions and introducing provisions on international cooperation. The draft bill had been submitted to the upper chamber of Parliament.

679. With regard to non-governmental organizations, the Government had prepared legislative amendments aiming at the elimination of some existing reporting requirements and the simplification of the registration process.

680. With regard to the Sustainable Development Goals, the delegation reiterated the commitment of Kazakhstan to their implementation and stated that those goals had been integrated (up to 80 per cent) into the Government's strategic programmes.

681. With regard to gender-based discrimination, although national laws already prohibited such discrimination, the Government was considering further legal mechanisms to enhance protection, mentioning that a draft law on family and gender policy was under consideration.

682. With regard to the rights of migrants, refugees and stateless persons, the delegation underlined the efforts made by the Government to address migration and statelessness, in close cooperation with UNHCR. In particular, in November 2019, Parliament had amended the laws on birth registration to provide for the registration of every child born in Kazakhstan regardless of the legal status of the mother. In addition, legislative amendments to regulate migration processes that took into account international best practices had been submitted to Parliament. The delegation mentioned the recommendation made to Kazakhstan to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and stated that the changes introduced into the legislative framework provided adequate protection for migrant workers and their families.

683. With regard to the recommendations to accede to the Rome Statute and join the International Criminal Court that had been noted by Kazakhstan, the Government was studying them and a decision would be taken based on the findings of that study.

684. In conclusion, the representative of Kazakhstan highlighted the Zhusan and Rusafa humanitarian missions to bring back 516 Kazakh citizens, mainly women and children, from conflict zones in the Middle East. Those missions had been commended in the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.

**2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review**

685. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Kazakhstan, 13 delegations made statements.

686. Sri Lanka commended Kazakhstan for having accepted 214 of the 245 recommendations received. It also welcomed the legislative amendments adopted in November 2019 aimed at improving access to birth registration procedures and seeking to ensure that every child was registered at birth. Sri Lanka hoped that the enactment of the draft law on family and gender policy issues would strengthen protection for women against all forms of discrimination.

687. UN-Women commended Kazakhstan for its efforts to advance gender equality and women's empowerment and for its leadership role in Central Asia. As a leader, it urged Kazakhstan to criminalize all forms of violence against women, ratify the Istanbul Convention, adopt legislation to combat sexual harassment in the workplace and ensure that the definition of rape in the Criminal Code was in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. With regard to women's economic empowerment, it urged the Government to abolish the list of jobs not open to women and to provide social protection benefits for women involved in unpaid care work. It also urged Kazakhstan to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and expand access to sexual and reproductive health services for women with disabilities and HIV/AIDS. It encouraged Kazakhstan to strengthen the legal protection of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex persons and build a dialogue with them.

688. UNICEF commended Kazakhstan for having accepted many recommendations on the rights of children and, in particular, its commitment to address all forms of violence against children and to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children. It also commended Kazakhstan for having accepted to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. It regretted that Kazakhstan had only noted the recommendation to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, which would have granted protection to migrant children against violence, exploitation, abuse and trafficking.

689. UNFPA commended Kazakhstan for its progress in advancing gender equality, for its decision to ratify the Istanbul Convention and for prioritizing prevention against domestic violence. It hoped that the multi-sectoral response to gender-based violence could be expanded to additional regions of the country. It also acknowledged the efforts made by the Government to ensure protection and better integration of, and equality of opportunities for, persons with disabilities. It encouraged Kazakhstan to pay particular attention to violence against women and girls with disabilities and to ensure that sexual and reproductive health and rights were protected in law and in practice, based on the principle of leaving no one behind and the concept of the "listening State" proclaimed by the President of Kazakhstan. It encouraged the involvement of persons with disabilities in the development of the programmes affecting them.

690. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela acknowledged the efforts of Kazakhstan to deliver on its human rights commitments. It highlighted that Kazakhstan guaranteed free and compulsory secondary education, according to the principle of the right of everyone to quality education. It was pleased with the measures to help citizens to find jobs, such as employment quotas for persons with disabilities, which had increased by up to 4 per cent. It encouraged Kazakhstan to continue to promote its social plans and programmes, especially its educational policy.

691. Viet Nam thanked Kazakhstan for having accepted its two recommendations on promoting gender equality, women's empowerment and the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It congratulated Kazakhstan for placing great emphasis on implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and protecting the rights of women and children, especially from discrimination and domestic violence. Viet Nam stated that Kazakhstan had demonstrated its strong commitment to promote human

rights by adopting major constitutional reforms and strengthening the legislative and judicial branches of the country.

692. Afghanistan noted with appreciation the support of Kazakhstan for its recommendations to continue efforts to provide equal access to health-care services. Afghanistan thanked Kazakhstan for having explained its national legislation on non-refoulement and hoped that it would consider the recommendation to implement additional measures to protect failed asylum seekers and those not formally recognized as refugees from refoulement.

693. Belarus noted with satisfaction that Kazakhstan had accepted the vast majority of the recommendations, including the ones made by Belarus on further strengthening national capacities regarding the promotion and protection of human rights and on increasing efforts in the sphere of social, economic and cultural rights in the context of the implementation of the corresponding long-term State programmes. Belarus reiterated the successes of Kazakhstan, including in the areas of education, health care and social care and wished it success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

694. Burundi noted with satisfaction the ratification in 2015 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and complemented Kazakhstan on its strategies to reduce prison overcrowding. Burundi welcomed the fact that Kazakhstan observed the moratorium on the death penalty and congratulated the Government of Kazakhstan for the various measures taken to combat trafficking in persons, including the creation of an inter-institutional commission to that end. It commended the policies adopted by the Government to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and improve the quality of judicial services.

695. China commended the efforts of Kazakhstan to promote and protect human rights. China thanked Kazakhstan for having accepted its recommendations and hoped Kazakhstan would continue to promote sustainable economic social development, improve lives and protect the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children and persons with disabilities. China supported the efforts of Kazakhstan in combating terrorism and extremism.

696. Cuba acknowledged the large number of recommendations accepted by Kazakhstan, including the ones made by Cuba. It urged Kazakhstan to continue to work on updating legislation and policies for the protection of children and young persons, as well as on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

697. Egypt thanked Kazakhstan for the update submitted to the Human Rights Council regarding the recommendations accepted. Egypt welcomed the legislative and administrative reforms aimed at increasing sanctions against those responsible for trafficking in persons, violence against children and corruption. Egypt commended the ongoing judicial reform in Kazakhstan and welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Government's efforts aimed at gender equality and the representation of women in Parliament and political life.

698. The Islamic Republic of Iran thanked Kazakhstan for its update. It encouraged Kazakhstan to continue its efforts to ensure social security and provide equal opportunities for persons with disabilities. It thanked Kazakhstan for having accepted the majority of the recommendations, including those made by the Islamic Republic of Iran. It wished Kazakhstan every success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

699. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Kazakhstan, six other stakeholders made statements.

700. The International Bar Association, in a joint statement with Lawyers for Lawyers, stated that lawyers in Kazakhstan had been subjected to improper interference and harassment by, among others, the Ministry of Justice, members of the law enforcement agencies, investigative bodies, the judiciary, as well as the Bar Association itself. Lawyers working on sensitive cases were reportedly often pressured and intimidated to drop those cases. The right to have access and privately consult with their detained clients was often restricted. According to the organizations, the disbarment of Amanzhol Mukhamedyarov and

Erlan Gazumzhanov for expressing critical positions was a disproportionate sanction with a chilling effect on the whole profession. The organizations urged Kazakhstan: to uphold its commitment and take immediate measures to guarantee the full independence of lawyers and their effective protection against any form of undue interference in their work; to reinstate the licences of the lawyers Amanzhol Mukhamedyarov and Erlan Gazumzhanov; and to respect and promote the role of the Bar Association in protecting its members from prosecution and improper restrictions and infringements.

701. Action Canada for Population and Development welcomed the adoption of recommendations calling for a zero-tolerance policy on acts of torture and violence, with a particular emphasis on protecting the rights of women and children, and the commitment to put in place policies and programmes aimed at entrenching women's right to equality and preventing domestic violence against women and children. It was encouraged by the acceptance by Kazakhstan of a recommendation on the incorporation of comprehensive sexual education in schools and out of schools. It was concerned by the continued refusal by Kazakhstan to accept recommendations on taking action to eliminate discrimination and violence on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity and expression. It urged Kazakhstan to ensure that sexual and reproductive health services, including contraception and abortion, were available to all women and young persons over the age of 16 without requiring parental consent or any other kind of third party authorization.

702. The International Commission of Jurists welcomed the acceptance by Kazakhstan of recommendations to uphold the rule of law and to protect the independence of the legal profession and the judiciary. It regretted that Kazakhstan had only noted and not explicitly supported the recommendation to take immediate measures to ensure the effective protection of lawyers, media workers, bloggers and human rights defenders against any form of harassment. Based on its research, it regretted to announce that the assertion of Kazakhstan that the recommendations accepted were being implemented was not correct. It considered that the independence of the legal profession was being actively undermined in the country. It expressed particular concern regarding the actions of the Bar Association initiated by the Ministry of Justice, including the cases of Amanzhol Mukhamedyarov and Erlan Gazumzhanov. To implement the recommendations accepted by Kazakhstan, it called upon the authorities to stop all harassment of lawyers through disciplinary proceedings, readmit the lawyers unduly dismissed and reform the law on advocacy in accordance with international standards on the independence of the legal profession.

703. The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, in a joint statement with Amnesty International, welcomed the acceptance by Kazakhstan of recommendations on eradicating torture and ill-treatment and strengthening the independence and mandate of the national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. It welcomed the fact that Kazakhstan had accepted recommendations to amend article 174 of the Criminal Code to ensure its compliance with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, but regretted that the key recommendations on the rights to peaceful assembly and association had been merely noted. It stated that non-governmental organizations faced undue restrictions and stringent reporting requirements under legislation introduced at the end of 2015, as well as frequent tax inspections. Criminal and administrative codes provided for deprivation of liberty for breaching the law on holding assemblies, including for participating in illegal demonstrations. It remained concerned about the lack of protection for those exercising freedom of expression. It urged Kazakhstan to immediately and unconditionally release Maks Bokaev and to respect and protect the right to freedom of expression online and offline. It regretted that Kazakhstan had not accepted recommendations to adopt comprehensive legislation against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and stated that Kazakhstan must also follow through on its commitment to implement recommendations from the previous cycle of the universal periodic review to prohibit discrimination against women. It called upon Kazakhstan to accept the remaining recommendations and to create a concrete time-bound action plan in consultation with civil society and all stakeholders.

704. The International Lesbian and Gay Association stated that Kazakhstan had received 10 recommendations urging it to adopt comprehensive legislation against discrimination that included an explicit prohibition of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender

identity. It appreciated the fact that Kazakhstan had accepted a recommendation on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex human rights defenders. However, 10 other recommendations calling for protection against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity had only been noted. It stated that the national legislation on equality provided an inadequate definition of discrimination, did not establish a clear course of action for women experiencing discrimination and did not provide remedies in cases of discrimination and, thus, Kazakhstan was not meeting its obligation under article 2 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It stated that there was no explicit prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity under national law, despite the Government's response that the existing legislation provided for the principles of non-discrimination based on the grounds of sex. It stated that it stood ready to work with the Government of Kazakhstan on the implementation of and follow-up to all recommendations in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity.

705. The Alliance Defending Freedom commended Kazakhstan for the tentative steps taken to strengthen respect for freedom of religion and belief since the previous review cycle. It welcomed the establishment of a joint expert working group on religious freedom, as well as the Government's commitment to further develop dialogue with civil society organizations. It stated that, despite the acceptance by Kazakhstan of several recommendations aimed at further promoting interfaith dialogue and upholding respect for freedom of religion or belief, it was disappointed with the decision not to endorse calls to revisit the 2011 law on religious activity and religious associations. It called for the abolition of the laws on religion requiring mandatory registration for religious organizations. It called upon Kazakhstan to reconsider its response to the related recommendations and to continue to move forward along the path to greater religious freedom and pluralism in society.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

706. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 245 recommendations received, 214 had enjoyed the support of Kazakhstan and 31 had been noted.

707. The delegation thanked States, United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations for their inputs and comments and reiterated the importance of the universal periodic review process for Kazakhstan. During the review, progress made, best practices and possible improvements had been discussed. There were areas that needed further development and Kazakhstan would dedicate all the necessary resources and efforts to address them.

708. In particular, the delegation highlighted the establishment of the national preventive mechanism of Kazakhstan in 2013 as a response to recommendations from the universal periodic review. The Government was currently examining ways to enhance and increase the independence of that mechanism. The number of institutions visited by the national preventive mechanism had grown from 400 in 2014 to more than 3,200 in 2019, including children's social institutions.

709. Kazakhstan would continue the existing open dialogue with the United Nations and its mechanisms. That position had been confirmed by Kazakhstan in 2009 when it had issued an open invitation to all special procedure mandate holders. Kazakhstan would also continue its meaningful contribution to build collective multilateral efforts to promote peace and protect fundamental human rights.

#### **Madagascar**

710. The review of Madagascar was held on 11 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Madagascar in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/MDG/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/MDG/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/MDG/3).

711. At its 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Madagascar (see sect. C below).

712. The outcome of the review of Madagascar comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/13), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/13/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

713. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, at the request of the delegation of Madagascar, he would directly pass the floor to the national human rights institution of Madagascar, followed by member and observer States and other stakeholders.

#### **2. General comments made by the national human rights institution of the State under review**

714. The National Independent Commission on Human Rights of Madagascar (by video message) focused on three issues, namely the improvements in the conditions of detention, the increase in acts of popular revenge and women's right to life. Conditions of detention continued to be dire, but at least the death of detainees due to poor health caused by malnutrition had become exceptional, a result that should be welcomed. That result remained tenuous, however, as long as prison overcrowding continued, fuelled by pretrial detention, which was still widely used by judges. Just recently, a human rights defender had been placed in pretrial detention on charges of fraud. Regarding the proliferation of acts of popular revenge, across the country, especially in the case of homicide, overexcited crowds had demanded that the police or gendarmerie forces who had arrested the alleged perpetrators hand them over for lynching. Such a situation was due to mistrust of the judiciary, reinforced by the recent provisional release of a former Member of Parliament after being tried and sentenced to five years' imprisonment without probation. In that context, the sanctioning of 11 magistrates for corruption was not enough to restore lost confidence.

#### **3. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review**

715. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Madagascar, 13 delegations made statements.

716. Egypt applauded Madagascar for its commitment to the Human Rights Council and the mechanisms thereof and welcomed its accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Egypt also commended Madagascar for its reinforcement of legislation on human rights and its reform of the justice system to combat corruption. Egypt wished Madagascar success in implementing the recommendations accepted and recommended the adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Madagascar.

717. Ethiopia noted with appreciation the acceptance by Madagascar of the recommendation made by Ethiopia on the implementation of a strategic plan consistent with the Africa Programme on Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems. Ethiopia stated that it was of the view that the universal periodic review would continue to provide an opportunity for sharing best practices and a platform for constructive

exchanges. Ethiopia wished Madagascar every success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

718. Gabon noted with satisfaction that special attention had been paid to the rights of vulnerable people, including women, children, migrants and prison inmates. In that context, measures to eradicate trafficking in persons, child labour and the enslavement of migrant workers were priorities in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Other measures were also being taken to combat prison overcrowding, in particular Madagascar had created a one-stop service for processing cases at the Court of Cassation, increased the number of court hearings, increased the number of sessions of the Criminal Court and built or renovated a number of prisons. In view of those tangible efforts, Gabon encouraged Madagascar to continue along those lines and wished it every success in implementing the recommendations accepted. Gabon recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Madagascar.

719. Haiti thanked the Government of Madagascar for having accepted two of its three recommendations. These were the recommendation in paragraph 121.24 of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on ensuring that mining activities contributed to sustainable development and the social and economic development of the country; and the recommendation in paragraph 121.25 on bilateral fishing agreements, which should contain measures for protecting the marine ecosystem and small fishing communities. Haiti regretted that Madagascar had only taken note of the recommendation in paragraph 122.16, which called upon the Government to take effective measures to combat corruption. Haiti encouraged the people and the Government of Madagascar to spare no effort in combating the negative effects of climate change and reducing socioeconomic inequality. Haiti commended the firm position of Madagascar regarding the protection of the traditional family as an institution. Haiti recommended the adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review by consensus.

720. Iraq thanked the delegation of Madagascar for its participation in the universal periodic review process. Iraq stated that it had participated actively in the discussions on the human rights situation in Madagascar during the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and had presented three recommendations, namely: on combating racism, including by raising awareness to prevent stigmatization of people living with HIV; investigating allegations of torture and prosecuting the perpetrators; and encouraging the National Independent Commission on Human Rights to adhere to the Paris Principles. Iraq expressed its appreciation to Madagascar for having accepted those recommendations and recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Madagascar. Furthermore, Iraq thanked Madagascar for having accepted most of the recommendations and hoped that it would implement them in line with its international obligations.

721. Libya thanked Madagascar for its effective participation in the universal periodic review. It commended the efforts made by Madagascar to improve the situation of human rights, especially with regard to judicial procedures. Libya recommended the adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Madagascar and wished the delegation every success.

722. Malawi commended Madagascar for its commitment in the implementation of significant recommendations from the previous cycle of the universal periodic review. It specifically encouraged Madagascar to continue to strengthen initiatives aimed at preventing and protecting children against child labour, sexual exploitation and forced marriage. Malawi called upon the Government of Madagascar to continue to take all necessary measures to combat all forms of discrimination against women in order to improve access to health, education and social services. Malawi wished Madagascar every success in implementing the recommendations accepted and supported the adoption of the outcome of the review of Madagascar.

723. Morocco expressed its gratitude to Madagascar for the progress made in measures aimed at ensuring gender equality, notably the new Nationality Code, which allowed Malagasy women to transmit their nationality to their children regardless of their marital status. Aware of the efforts made by the Government of Madagascar in the promotion and

protection of human rights, Morocco welcomed with great satisfaction the enhanced role of the National Independent Commission on Human Rights. Morocco supported the adoption of the outcome of the review of Madagascar and wished the delegation every success in implementing all of the recommendations accepted.

724. Namibia stated that it firmly believed that investing in social protection was essential in ensuring that no one was left behind in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. It therefore commended the Government of Madagascar for having introduced a social protection emergency plan, which was aimed at, among others, improving access to health care and education for those most in need in Madagascar. Namibia was pleased to note that Madagascar had accepted the recommendation that it had made to provide adequate financial resources for the effective implementation of the National Social Protection Policy. Namibia wished Madagascar all the best in implementing the recommendations accepted and supported the adoption of the outcome of the review of Madagascar.

725. The Philippines recognized the commitment and constructive approach of Madagascar to the universal periodic review process. It welcomed the measures taken concerning the protection of the rights of migrants and combating trafficking in persons, and recognized the establishment and strengthening of the national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. The Philippines noted the adoption by Madagascar of legislative frameworks, in particular, on combating gender-based violence. The Philippines supported the adoption by the Human Rights Council of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Madagascar and wished Madagascar every success in the implementation of all the recommendations accepted.

726. Senegal welcomed the concrete initiatives carried out by Madagascar to improve the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Those had resulted in the signing of international commitments, in particular the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the measures taken at the institutional and normative levels. Senegal stated that the efforts made by the Malagasy authorities in the area of human rights were visible in several areas, and had been illustrated by the social and economic progress achieved and the actions taken in favour of health, the elimination of poverty and access to education. Senegal wished Madagascar success in implementing the recommendations accepted and invited the Human Rights Council to adopt the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Madagascar.

727. UNICEF, on behalf of the Gender and Human Rights Thematic Group of the United Nations System in Madagascar, congratulated the Government for its commitment to the universal periodic review process, including its support for the majority of the recommendations received. It welcomed the significant progress made by the country in the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular: the repatriation of victims of trafficking; improvements in the rights of detainees; the establishment of institutions such as the National Independent Commission on Human Rights; the adoption of a national anti-corruption strategy; the decriminalization of press crimes; the abolition of the death penalty; and the adoption of the law against gender-based violence. However, it called upon Madagascar to build on those achievements by reconsidering, as quickly as possible and in a positive manner, the recommendations that the State had not accepted and, in particular, those relating to: ratification of international treaties; national reconciliation; protection of human rights defenders; access to sexual and reproductive health information, services and products; and the fight against early marriage. It stated that the United Nations system in Madagascar reiterated its determination to support Madagascar in the follow-up and implementation of all the recommendations stemming from international mechanisms for the protection of human rights.

728. UNFPA congratulated Madagascar on its participation in the universal periodic review process and its acceptance of recommendations in a number of fields, in particular: strengthening legislation against gender-based violence; measures to prevent and combat early marriage; protecting the rights to sexual and reproductive health; and reducing maternal mortality. It stated that Madagascar was among those countries with a high prevalence rate of child marriage, which undermined the empowerment and autonomy of girls. It therefore sought to draw the attention of the Government to the particular relevance of

recommendations on that topic, the effective implementation of which would enable women and girls to fully enjoy their rights to health and to a better life. It encouraged national and international partners, in particular civil society, the private sector, the media and technical and financial partners, to support the Government in its actions in favour of education and the empowerment of young girls and sensitization of traditional and religious communities on the consequences of child marriage. It reiterated its availability to support the Government of Madagascar in the follow-up and implementation of the recommendations resulting from the universal periodic review.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

729. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Madagascar, four other stakeholders made statements.

730. The Center for Global Nonkilling stated that it was with deep sadness that its organization acknowledged the decision of Madagascar to merely note the recommendation on the ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. It asserted that the prevention of genocide was a matter pertaining to the dignity of humanity and to its capacity to give a true and lively meaning to its universal and common history. It reiterated its call for the universal ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and called upon all States that had not yet done so to disregard local considerations regarding ratification of the Convention and to join all the other nations in a universal effort to make genocide a crime of the past. It also called upon Madagascar to reconsider its position and ratify the Convention, without further delay. It stated that the progress of humanity, for both present and future generations, was in the hands of the present generation.

731. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation welcomed the acceptance by Madagascar of 22 recommendations focusing on civic space. However, its submission to the universal periodic review had documented that, since the last review, Madagascar had only partially implemented 2 recommendations and had not taken concrete steps to implement another 20 recommendations made in 2014, which also related to civic space. It welcomed the acquittal of investigative journalist Fernand Cello by the Fianarantsoa Appeals Court nearly two years after his arrest on charges pertaining to the theft of a chequebook. That acquittal was a necessary step in respecting the rights of journalists and media houses. However, concerns remained over the media code that imposed heavy fines for offences such as contempt, defamation and insulting government officials. In addition, flaws in the criminal justice system allowed the judiciary to rule under the influence of the executive. Pretrial detention, including of human rights defenders and journalists, was prevalent and used as a strategy to force them to self-censor. It asserted that freedom of assembly also continued to be restricted as authorities used public order as a justification to ban protests by civil society groups. It expressed concerns regarding the high levels of prosecution, intimidation and harassment of human rights defenders, particularly those advocating for environmental and land rights. It called upon the Government of Madagascar to take proactive measures to address those concerns and implement recommendations to create and maintain, in law and in practice, an enabling environment for civil society.

732. United Nations Watch expressed concerns about persistent corruption in Madagascar, which undermined all other improvements in the promotion of human rights and democracy. It noted that, according to the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, Madagascar had reaffirmed its fight against corruption and its commitment to promoting integrity, accountability and transparency. However, it stated that, according to the latest Corruption Perception Index by Transparency International, Madagascar had been placed near the bottom of the rankings, namely 158 out of 180 countries. In a 2017 report, the International Monetary Fund had found that corruption in Madagascar led to reduced macroeconomic and political stability. Freedom House had noted that investigation of, and prosecution for, corruption by the underfunded Independent Anti-Corruption Bureau of Madagascar were infrequent and rarely targeted high-ranking officials. It recalled the zero-tolerance stance on corruption announced by the President of Madagascar in February 2020 and highlighted that, within the proposed 2020 fiscal budget, there were reportedly 196 million euros budgeted with no specified destination. It asserted that such opacity provided

a wide-open door for embezzlement. It concluded that the inadequate commitment of the Government to abolish corruption continued to hinder the advancement of human rights and called upon the Human Rights Council to pay closer attention to transparency, or the lack thereof, noting that an ineffective Government would be unable to implement its commitments, especially those on human rights protection.

733. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme congratulated Madagascar for its acceptance of the majority of the recommendations and its successful peaceful electoral process in 2018–2019. It noted that the country had embarked on substantial reforms for the effective implementation of the recommendations from the second cycle of the universal periodic review. It welcomed the enactment of laws to ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, to establish the National Independent Commission on Human Rights and the National Reconciliation Council, to fight against gender-based violence and to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It also appreciated the launch of a national awareness campaign to combat acts of popular revenge. However, it also expressed concern about persisting poor conditions of detention, prison overcrowding, lack of hygiene and food in the prisons and the exploitation and abuse of detainees by prison guards. It urged Madagascar to redouble its efforts to eradicate corruption, the exploitation of children in mines, sexual violence, illiteracy, social disparities, exclusion and poverty in rural areas. It also invited Madagascar to develop a national strategy aiming at the rational and sustainable exploitation of natural resources in accordance with the principles of the Sustainable Development Goals.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

734. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 203 recommendations received, 174 had enjoyed the support of Madagascar and 29 had been noted.

735. In conclusion, the delegation expressed its appreciation to the Human Rights Council for having conducted the universal periodic review of Madagascar, through which its Government had been able to demonstrate the efforts that it had deployed in the implementation of human rights during the four previous years. Indeed, Madagascar had submitted its third report to the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in November of 2019 and, as a result, had received 203 recommendations, of which 163 had been accepted, 11 had been noted and the other 29 had been marked for examination in accordance with domestic legislation and Malagasy cultural mores.

736. The challenges were certainly numerous, the field of human rights being very broad, but the Government of Madagascar wished to reiterate its firm will to continue its efforts to ensure the rights of “all humans in all ways” for its whole population. Madagascar would even dare to count to that end on the support and cooperation of all stakeholders, national and international. The delegation thanked the technical partners in Madagascar for working with the Government and welcomed their further cooperation.

737. The delegation also thanked the States that had addressed their recommendations to the Government in order to improve the human rights situation in Madagascar. Madagascar took into consideration those recommendations, in accordance with its national legislation and the resources and priorities of the Government.

#### **Iraq**

738. The review of Iraq was held on 11 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Iraq in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/IRQ/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/IRQ/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/IRQ/3).

739. At its 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Iraq (see sect. C below).

740. The outcome of the review of Iraq comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/14), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/14/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

741. The delegation stated that the Government of Iraq renewed its commitment to promote and respect human rights, in constructive cooperation among the relevant State institutions, international human rights organizations and civil society organizations.

742. The universal periodic review mechanism was at the centre of Human Rights Council mechanisms and the Government of Iraq would continue to support its principles of dialogue, objectivity, non-selectivity and voluntary acceptance and implementation of recommendations that contributed to the promotion and protection of human rights in all countries.

743. On 11 November 2019, Iraq had submitted its third report to the universal periodic review mechanism. During the interactive dialogue of the review, Iraq had received 298 recommendations from 111 countries, of which it had supported 245, noted 48 and partially supported 5, following intensive consultations between the executive and legislative bodies of Iraq.

744. Iraq would develop a national human rights plan, in consultation with the relevant executive, legislative and judicial authorities, in order to implement the recommendations accepted before the fourth cycle of the universal periodic review.

745. Iraq expressed its willingness to continue its cooperation with OHCHR in Baghdad, within the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq and the United Nations Office for Project Services, to help draft the national plan before submitting it to the national committee tasked with the preparation and submission of the report to the Council of Ministers for ratification.

746. Concerning the recommendations noted, while the Government realized that human rights were interrelated and indivisible, it believed that due consideration should be given to the importance of respecting the social nature and privacy of Iraqi society, which was strongly rooted in tribal and religious values and traditions.

747. Regarding the partially supported recommendations, the position of the Government was based on the Constitution, which guaranteed the rights of all citizens without discrimination and prohibited all forms of torture. Allegations of human rights violations would be immediately investigated. A moratorium on the death penalty could not be envisaged at the current time in the light of the exceptional circumstances in Iraq. The partial support of Iraq for those five recommendations did not represent an endorsement of the recommendations that it had noted.

748. Iraq had reviewed the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review despite the many challenges, such as the presence of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, which continued to control large swathes of Iraqi territory and commit the worst crimes against the Iraqi population. Despite the challenges, the Government had continued to work

with international organizations in order to clear large areas of mines and explosives, which had led to the return of more than 85 per cent of those who had been displaced.

749. The Government had enacted several policies aimed at reducing violence against women, eradicating poverty and promoting the rights of children and persons with disabilities. The Government had worked in partnership with civil society organizations in the formulation of human rights policies and had protected their right to participate in accordance with Act No. 12 of 2010 on non-governmental organizations, the result of which was that currently more than 3,800 non-governmental organizations freely operated in Iraq.

750. The delegation stressed the ongoing efforts to strengthen the effectiveness and independence of the judiciary with respect to the separation of powers. The judiciary was currently investigating and prosecuting crimes committed by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant against all sections of the Iraqi population. Iraq collaborated with several countries to train its judges and prosecutors and provided training to law enforcement officials in collaboration with allied countries or through OHCHR.

751. Iraq had witnessed demonstrations by its citizens who had exercised their constitutional right to express their legitimate demands for the Government to provide services and fight corruption and their dissatisfaction with some of the policies adopted by successive Governments of Iraq.

752. The delegation expressed its deep regret and sorrow for the victims among its population, who carried the legacy of the country's great history and civilization. In order to respond to the public's demand, the Government had investigated allegations of violence in order to hold those responsible to account, submitted a new draft election law that aimed to meet the aspirations of the demonstrators and restructured the work of the Independent High Electoral Commission to ensure its independence. Despite that, and the passing of economic and social reform packages to ensure that citizens enjoyed their rights, the Government had submitted its resignation on 30 November 2019.

753. Iraq, which had suffered decades of dictatorship and oppression, was undergoing democratic transformation and institution-building, including for elections and the peaceful transition of power, but was committed to respect its constitutional obligations and its international obligations in the field of human rights. The President of Iraq had once again conducted days of consultations to appoint an independent and acceptable national figure to form a new government, the core programme of which would be to hold early elections and initiate a process of institutional reforms.

754. Iraq renewed its commitment to work with the international human rights mechanisms. It had declared that it would voluntarily submit a midterm report on the universal periodic review.

755. The Government realized that there was still much to do in order to improve and guarantee the human rights of its citizens. It recognized that those rights had already been integrated in its Constitution and many of its laws. Nonetheless, the subject of human rights remained among the highest priorities in its domestic and foreign policies. Such a priority was crucial in building a country that respected and preserved the rights and dignity of its people.

756. Many countries were fully aware of the security challenges faced by the Government of Iraq, including the war to eradicate terrorism being fought on behalf of the international community, which had an impact on the implementation of policies aimed at promoting human rights in Iraq.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review**

757. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Iraq, 13 delegations made statements.

758. The Islamic Republic of Iran commended Iraq for having made efforts to promote and protect human rights in the country by, among others, holding accountable the perpetrators of serious crime related to sexual violence, abduction, murder and terrorism. It thanked Iraq

for having accepted many of the recommendations received, including those made by the Islamic Republic of Iran. It wished Iraq success in the implementation of those recommendations and recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Iraq.

759. Jordan appreciated the positive engagement of Iraq with the Human Rights Council, which reflected its commitment to promote and protect human rights. It noted positively the acceptance by Iraq, despite the great challenges that it would have to overcome, of the majority of the recommendations received, including those made by Jordan. It wished Iraq success in its efforts to promote and protect human rights.

760. Kuwait commended Iraq for having accepted the majority of the recommendations received, including those made by Kuwait on implementing a national development plan to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and on promoting the rights of persons with disabilities. It commended the efforts made by Iraq to accede to human rights instruments and mechanisms. It also expressed its appreciation to Iraq for the efforts to empower women and protect children.

761. Libya thanked Iraq for its active engagement in the universal periodic review and welcomed its intention to exert all efforts to implement the recommendations, in spite of the instability and security challenges that it faced. That testified to the positive engagement of Iraq in the universal periodic review and its firm commitment to improve its human rights situation.

762. Mauritania expressed gratitude for the positive engagement of Iraq in the universal periodic review and for having accepted most of the recommendations received. Mauritania commended the work of Iraq to improve its human rights system and to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms. It also commended Iraq for having abided by international instruments and conventions. The continuous work of Iraq to cooperate with international organizations underscored its commitment to promote and protect human rights.

763. Morocco congratulated Iraq for its continuous work with the universal periodic review mechanism and expressed satisfaction with the progress of Iraq and its role in ending the influence of corruption in the country, along with the efforts made to protect and promote human rights. Morocco wished Iraq every success in implementing the recommendations accepted.

764. Oman congratulated Iraq on its universal periodic review and its methodology used to interact therein. The outcome of the review of Iraq reflected a real interactive dialogue. Oman expressed its gratitude to Iraq for its positive reaction to the recommendations made by Oman.

765. Pakistan thanked Iraq for having presented an update on the recommendations accepted. It commended Iraq for having accepted the majority of the recommendations, including those made by Pakistan. It appreciated the commitment of Iraq to the empowerment of Iraqi women and took note of its efforts to establish a ministry for women and development and a supreme council for women. Pakistan wished Iraq success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted and recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the outcome of its review by consensus.

766. The Philippines commended Iraq for having accepted 245 of the 298 recommendations received during its review. It thanked Iraq for having accepted the three recommendations made by the Philippines on combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children, poverty reduction plans and strategies, and the national human rights institution. It recognized the continued efforts of Iraq to advance the rights of vulnerable groups, including children, women and persons with disabilities. The Philippines supported the adoption by the Human Rights Council of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Iraq.

767. The Russian Federation noted with satisfaction that Iraq had supported most of the recommendations, including the ones made by the Russian Federation on the implementation of a national strategy to eliminate violence against women and on the need to take measures to protect the rights of religious minorities. It underscored the constructive approach shown by Iraq throughout the universal periodic review process. It noted that, despite the

complicated situation in the country, Iraq was taking the necessary measures to protect and promote human rights. Iraq had shown willingness to cooperate with international monitoring mechanisms.

768. Saudi Arabia thanked Iraq for its addendum in which it clarified its position on the recommendations presented during the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, which reflected the intention of Iraq to cooperate with the human rights mechanisms. Saudi Arabia noted positively the efforts of Iraq to continue to promote human rights in accordance with international standards.

769. Sri Lanka was pleased to note that Iraq had accepted 245 recommendations, including the 3 recommendations made by Sri Lanka, and partially supported another 5 of the 298 recommendations received. It commended the creation of institutional structures for the empowerment of Iraqi women and the adoption of policies and strategies to reduce violence against women and improve women's reproductive health. Sri Lanka welcomed the reactivation of the national human rights plan and the establishment of human rights institutional infrastructure to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations.

770. The Sudan commended the cooperation of Iraq in the third cycle review and its efforts to promote and protect human rights despite the challenges that it faced. The acceptance by Iraq of such a high proportion of the recommendations received reflected the importance that it afforded to human rights concerns. It also thanked Iraq for having accepted the recommendations that it made.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

771. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Iraq, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

772. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom regretted that Iraq had noted recommendations to withdraw reservations made to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, particularly those on articles 2 and 16 on discriminatory laws and practices and equality in family matters, particularly with regard to marriage, divorce, custody and inheritance, and the recommendation on the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It deeply regretted that Iraq had only partially supported recommendations on investigating and ending violence against the LGBTIQ+ community. It stated that the crackdown by the Iraqi police and security forces on peaceful protestors who had taken to the streets since early October 2019 was very alarming. The death toll had reached almost 600 people and the targeted killing and abduction of activists and peaceful protestors had continued.

773. The Minority Rights Group stated that the adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review came at a time of instability and great challenges for the state of human rights in Iraq, including for minorities, women and human rights defenders. Since the previous cycle of the universal periodic review, millions of people had been subjected to violent attacks and protracted displacement, while political exclusion and socioeconomic marginalization continued to affect mass civilian populations, including minorities and young persons. It welcomed the commitment of Iraq to strengthen the protection of minorities and combat discrimination. It urged Iraq to take concrete measures to rebuild infrastructure, reinstating services in retaken areas, and resolve territorial disputes, to allow for the return of displaced minorities to their areas of origin.

774. Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland commended Iraq for having acknowledged, in their recent submission to the Human Rights Committee, the right to life of all people regardless of their sexual orientation. It was concerned by recent statements from Iraqi officials that denied the acknowledgment of that right. Members of the LGBT+ community had been the target of organized killings for decades, yet no one had been brought to justice. It stated that the Government of Iraq had continued to overlook those crimes. It urged Iraq to publicly condemn the murders of LGBT+ citizens and hold murderers accountable regardless of the identities of their victims.

775. The Center for Inquiry stated that the recent developments in Iraq were alarming and the universal periodic review had showed that many countries were greatly concerned about the human rights situation in the country and rightly so. It stated that, in the recent demonstrations, hundreds of peaceful protesters had been killed. Teargas cartridges had been fired directly at groups and, on some occasions, even live ammunition had been used. It stated that apostates and those who had always been irreligious continued to be taken to court if they made their conviction public. The anti-blasphemy legislation was being used to silence and persecute individuals who questioned aspects of religion in a peaceful and civilized manner. It called upon Iraq to ensure that the rights to freedom of expression and freedom of religion or belief were upheld.

776. The World Jewish Congress noted the accession of Iraq to UNESCO conventions on the protection of cultural heritage and stated that Iraq had once been home to a flourishing Jewish community, tracing its history back to the sixth century B.C.E. It called upon Iraq to preserve Jewish heritage sites in the country, such as places of worship and pilgrimage, and to recognize them as integral parts of the nation's culture. It urged Iraq to acknowledge its responsibility towards forgotten refugees. It stated that Iraq had an obligation to ensure the protection and fundamental rights of all its minorities and that none of its citizens would be subjected to transgressions and injustices.

777. The British Humanist Association called upon Iraq to implement the recommendation made by a number of States to guarantee freedom of religion or belief for all religious and non-religious groups, enact legislation to outlaw religious discrimination and ensure that instances of such were fully investigated. It stated that blasphemy, a criminal offence prohibited by the Penal Code, was used to discriminate against religious dissenters in Iraq. It called upon Iraq to fulfil its obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to protect the right of religious and non-religious minorities to freedom of religion or belief, including by repealing its blasphemy law.

778. The World Evangelical Alliance was concerned by the fact that, since 2003, Iraq had failed to grant legal recognition to the evangelical churches and their affiliation with the Endowment of the Christians, Yazidi and Sabean Mandaean religions. It recommended that Iraq officially recognize the evangelical churches in Iraq and grant them affiliation with the said endowment. It also recommend that current and future legal frameworks in Iraq fully promote and protect the equal rights of all citizens, irrespective of race, religion or other status. It urged Iraq to implement recommendations relating to the human rights of displaced persons.

779. Human Rights Watch took note of the commitment of Iraq to implement recommendations by developing a national human rights plan in consultation with national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations. It remained concerned by the situation on the ground, including: numerous incidents of security forces using excessive force against protesters since October 2019, leading to hundreds dead and thousands wounded, due process violations in the courts and minimal accountability for the perpetrators of abuse by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant. It stated that, despite the support of Iraq for recommendations from the previous two cycles to combat impunity for acts of torture and extrajudicial killings and exclude as evidence at trial confessions obtained through torture, it continued to receive reports that security forces were routinely using torture to extract confessions.

780. Christian Solidarity Worldwide welcomed the numerous calls made to Iraq to respect the right to peaceful protest and cease the use of violence against protesters. It was concerned by reports of paramilitary groups attacking civilians in Iraq. It urged Iraq to crackdown on such groups swiftly, prioritizing the protection of vulnerable communities. It welcomed recommendations urging Iraq to combat corruption. It urged Iraq to increase efforts to combat terrorism. It remained concerned by reports of child marriage in Iraq. According to the Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform, 24 per cent of girls in Iraq were married before the age of 18 and 5 per cent were married before the age of 15.

781. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation stated that Iraq had accepted a number of recommendations relating to civic space, including those on protecting journalists,

media professionals and human rights defenders from all use of violence and threats by security forces and guaranteeing the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly in law and practice. It stated that reports had indicated that almost 700 people had been killed during the protests since October 2019 and more than 2,800 arrested. It urged Iraq to amend the legal framework currently restricting civic space, immediately and unconditionally release all protestors and bring to justice those responsible for the extrajudicial killing of protesters and journalists in Iraq.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

782. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 298 recommendations received, 245 had enjoyed the support of Iraq and 48 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another five recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations had been accepted and which parts had been noted.

783. The delegation expressed its gratitude to member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and to non-governmental organizations for their constructive interventions, which would enjoy careful consideration by the relevant Iraqi institutions.

784. The delegation said that it viewed the universal periodic review mechanism as one of the most important international mechanisms because it represented an opportunity to conduct a periodic review of the human rights records of all countries without any selection or distinction.

785. The delegation stated that the Government of Iraq would seriously consider all the concerns presented during the session and that the Government considered the promotion of the human rights and basic freedoms of its citizens as a priority. The Government would continue to protect the work of human rights defenders and civil society organizations and ensure their participation.

#### **Slovenia**

786. The review of Slovenia was held on 12 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by Slovenia in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SVN/1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SVN/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/SVN/3).

787. At its 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Slovenia (see sect. C below).

788. The outcome of the review of Slovenia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/15), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/15/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

789. The delegation thanked the States that had participated and made recommendations during the third cycle of the universal periodic review of Slovenia. The universal periodic

review process was an important peer review mechanism, having an important impact on human rights protection at the national level.

790. The recommendations from the universal periodic review had been important tools in bringing about change on the ground. On 12 November 2019, Slovenia had received 215 recommendations, of which the Government had immediately supported 58. Members of an interministerial working group had examined the recommendations received and prepared a proposal for the Government to adopt concerning its position on the recommendations. The Government had adopted the proposed position and sent it to OHCHR.

791. Slovenia had supported a total of 182 recommendations and noted 33 recommendations. The Government considered that many of the recommendations accepted had already been implemented or were in the process of being implemented.

792. The Government had informed national human rights institutions and civil society organizations about the universal periodic review of Slovenia that was held in November 2019 and about the recommendations received during the interactive dialogue. The relevant documents had been made available on the web page of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to ensure transparency.

793. The follow-up to the recommendations would be ensured in full coordination with all ministries and governmental institutions and in dialogue with the Human Rights Ombudsman, the Advocate of the Principle of Equality and human rights non-governmental organizations. The National Interministerial Commission for Human Rights had placed the review of the implementation of the recommendations on its agenda as a standing item.

794. The delegation presented some additional information concerning several areas that were covered by recommendations and considered by the Government as being in the process of being implemented. The Ministry of Justice was conducting an analysis of the impact of the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance on criminal law.

795. Slovenia would continue to promote gender equality. In 2019, Slovenia had introduced amendments to the Equal Opportunities for Women and Men Act to increase the percentage of the underrepresented gender in the composition of government bodies and local authorities and in the management of bodies governed by public law. Slovenia would strive for continued progress in the implementation of strategies aimed at achieving gender equality in all spheres of economic, political and social life, regarding, in particular, employment and equal pay.

796. Under the Criminal Code, domestic violence was a criminal offence. In 2016, the Domestic Violence Prevention Act had been amended in order to improve existing preventive and protection measures, defining stalking as a form of domestic violence and broadening the definition of a family member. A new resolution on the national programme for the prevention of domestic violence and violence against women 2020–2025 had been drafted. Moreover, the Ministry of Justice was conducting an analysis of possible changes to the legal definition of rape.

797. Regarding equal access to education, according to the Elementary School Act, children who were foreign citizens or stateless persons and who resided in Slovenia had the right to compulsory elementary school education under the same conditions as citizens of Slovenia. Persons granted international protection had the same rights as citizens of Slovenia to preschool, primary, secondary, higher and university education, as well as adult education.

798. Slovenia had ensured universal access to health services, including to emergency health care. The public primary health-care system had provided access to preventive and curative health care free of charge to all children and adolescents up to the age of 19.

799. Regarding non-discrimination measures, Slovenia already had sector-specific legislation, constituting an integrated approach against all forms of discrimination. The Protection against Discrimination Act included a definition of severe forms of discrimination, namely multiple discrimination, mass discrimination, continuous or repeated discrimination, and discrimination that had or might have consequences for the discriminated person that

would be difficult to remedy in terms of damage caused to the person's legal status, rights or obligations, particularly if it affected children or other vulnerable persons.

800. The delegation reiterated the Government's commitment to non-discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. The Protection against Discrimination Act provided for the protection of all persons against discrimination, irrespective of different personal circumstances. According to the Civil Union Act, a civil union between same-sex couples should have the same legal consequences as a marriage with the exception of matters pertaining to adoption by both partners and the right to biomedically assisted procreation.

801. Concerning recommendations on the protection of national minorities, the Government considered that existing legislation adequately guaranteed persons belonging to national minorities the right to non-discrimination, free expression of their national affiliation and the protection of their culture, as well as the right to use their language and script. The Government would, however, endeavour to enhance dialogue with members of all national minorities in order to facilitate the full enjoyment of their rights.

802. The National Programme of Measures for Roma for the period 2017–2021 included comprehensive measures to improve further the situation of Roma and achieve their social inclusion. In cooperation with relevant ministries, the competent Government Office for National Minorities had already commenced activities to draft a new comprehensive national programme of measures for Roma for the period 2021–2030. The Government had taken several measures to improve the living conditions of its Roma population, especially regarding their access to drinking water and sanitation. The right to drinking water had already been and would continue to be granted to all citizens and inhabitants under the same conditions.

803. Slovenia was paying full attention to the rights of migrants. In 2019, the Government had adopted a comprehensive strategy on migration, addressing the integration of migrants as a vulnerable group.

804. Concerning hate speech, the Government had advocated a zero-tolerance policy regarding such speech. Public institutions were expected to carry out their functions to prevent and sanction hate speech and hate crime. The Government had given priority to prevention. The ministries had implemented numerous programmes, including educational activities aimed at preventing public incitement to hatred and intolerance. The Criminal Code of Slovenia criminalized hate speech in article 297 (public incitement to hatred, violence and intolerance). The Mass Media Act and the Audiovisual Media Services Act stipulated the prohibition of incitement to inequality and intolerance.

805. The delegation reiterated the continued full support of Slovenia to the universal periodic review process as a unique peer review mechanism, bringing changes and delivering results at all levels. The Government would devote the utmost attention to the implementation of the recommendations received. The Government had already decided to submit a midterm report. As a candidate for the Human Rights Council for the period of 2026–2028, Slovenia had pledged to work for the advancement of human rights in international human rights forums, including through active engagement in the universal periodic review process.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review**

806. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Slovenia, 12 delegations made statements.

807. Pakistan commended Slovenia for having accepted the majority of the recommendations made during the universal periodic review held in November 2019. Pakistan noted with appreciation the efforts of Slovenia to promote and protect the rights of women and, in particular, its endeavours in combating violence against women and domestic violence.

808. The Russian Federation noted with satisfaction that Slovenia had supported the majority of the recommendations, including those made by the Russian Federation regarding the protection of the rights of migrants and minorities. It noted the measures taken by

Slovenia to combat domestic violence and to ensure protection for vulnerable groups, including women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.

809. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the measures adopted by Slovenia to implement the recommendations accepted during the second cycle of the universal periodic review. It noted with satisfaction that Slovenia had supported the recommendations made by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to combat all forms of discrimination, including against migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, and persons with disabilities.

810. Afghanistan noted with appreciation that Slovenia had accepted all three recommendations made by Afghanistan. The delegation welcomed the fact that Slovenia had supported recommendations to implement a national programme for equal opportunities for women and men, ensure access to fair asylum procedures and combat hate crime and hate speech. Afghanistan commended Slovenia for its allocation of additional funding for the prevention of trafficking in persons.

811. Cabo Verde commended Slovenia on its effective implementation of recommendations from the previous cycle and on the major progress achieved in the protection of human rights. Cabo Verde noted the ratification of additional international human rights instruments, the cooperation of Slovenia with the United Nations treaty bodies and the improvement of the legal framework. Cabo Verde encouraged Slovenia to strengthen measures to combat discrimination against vulnerable groups, minorities and migrants and trafficking in persons.

812. China appreciated the efforts of Slovenia to eradicate poverty, ensure the rights of women and children and combat trafficking in persons. China thanked Slovenia for having accepted the recommendations made by China. It hoped that Slovenia would guarantee the right to education of Roma and take effective measures to ensure the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.

813. Djibouti commended Slovenia for its constructive dialogue and its acceptance of the majority of the recommendations received during the third cycle. Djibouti was particularly pleased by the acceptance by Slovenia of two recommendations made by Djibouti.

814. Egypt commended Slovenia for the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and for measures to reduce poverty and social exclusion and to ensure young persons' access to the labour market. Egypt called upon Slovenia to increase efforts to combat hate speech and to increase protection for refugees and migrants.

815. Ethiopia welcomed the acceptance by Slovenia of recommendations made by Ethiopia to improve access to health care for all and continue to implement the national mental health programme for 2018–2028. Ethiopia stated that the universal periodic review should continue to provide an opportunity for sharing best practices.

816. The Islamic Republic of Iran noted that only one of the recommendations made by its delegation had been supported by Slovenia. However, the Islamic Republic of Iran remained hopeful that Slovenia would improve the human rights situation of all people in the country, including migrants and minorities, through the prohibition of racist, xenophobic and Islamophobic rhetoric in public spheres.

817. Libya commended Slovenia for its efforts to promote a policy of tolerance and to reject hate speech and incitement to violence, which was a criminal offence.

818. Nepal commended Slovenia for the measures adopted to promote equal opportunities for men and women and ensure greater social inclusion. It noted the measures taken to ensure access to health care and education. Nepal thanked Slovenia for having accepted the majority of the recommendations received, including those made by Nepal.

### **3. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

819. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 215 recommendations received, 182 had enjoyed the support of Slovenia and 33 had been noted.

820. The delegation thanked the Human Rights Council for the comments and remarks made during the adoption of the outcome of its review and assured the Council that the Government would examine them with due diligence.

821. Slovenia believed that the universal periodic review mechanism offered an excellent opportunity to advance the protection and promotion of human rights standards, both nationally and internationally. The delegation reiterated the commitment of the Government to implement the recommendations accepted. Some of the recommendations had already been implemented or were in the process of being implemented. The Government would adopt further measures to contribute to the implementation of the remaining recommendations. In that process, the Government would continue to work closely with the other two branches of power – parliamentary and judicial – and with the national human rights institutions and civil society.

### **Egypt**

822. The review of Egypt was held on 13 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by Egypt in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/EGY/1 and Corr.1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/EGY/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/EGY/3).

823. At its 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Egypt (see sect. C below).

824. The outcome of the review of Egypt comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/16), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/16/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

825. Egypt reaffirmed its belief in the universal periodic review process as a platform for constructive dialogue, sharing best practices and strengthening States' abilities to fulfil their obligations, without politicization or selectivity.

826. The 2014 Constitution established respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as the foundation of the political system and made laws related to the rights contained therein supplementary to it. Equality before the law and the rule of law were peremptory norms (*jus cogens*). The Constitution also affirmed the importance of partnership with civil society, a matter that the Government highly valued, as reflected in the consultations on drafting the national report and considering recommendations from the universal periodic review.

827. Having consulted the National Council for Human Rights, 87.37 per cent of the recommendations had been accepted: 270 had enjoyed support; 24 had already been implemented; 31 had been partially supported; and 30 had not been supported. Two had been categorically rejected for having contained politicized and incorrect allegations hostile to Egypt and its people, in breach of the principles of the universal periodic review. Fifteen had been inaccurately formulated and deemed factually incorrect. Explanations of position were contained in document A/HRC/43/16/Add.1. The newly created Supreme Standing

Committee on Human Rights would draw up the necessary policies and measures for implementation and follow-up. Civil society partnership was key in that regard.

828. Most recommendations provided important guidance for the national human rights strategy in the coming years.

829. Positions on international human rights instruments and reservations thereto were periodically reviewed against the Constitution and internationally recognized human rights. The Constitution stipulated that all international treaties had the force of law upon ratification. Those who claimed that their rights had been violated were free to take legal action. Human rights treaties once ratified had a special status, and the rights and freedoms contained therein enjoyed the protection assigned to constitutional rules.

830. The Constitution specified unequivocal guarantees, thereby making human rights non-derogable. The National Council for Human Rights was entitled to report violations of human rights. Any infringement of the right to liberty or other constitutionally safeguarded rights was an imprescriptible crime. Efforts were under way to reinforce institutional and legislative structures and to review laws to ensure their compliance with the Constitution and obligations under international human rights law.

831. Egypt was keen to cooperate with treaty bodies, the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms. A special procedure mandate holder had visited at the end of 2018 and invitations had been extended to six more, who were yet to propose dates. In order to ensure proper preparation, other visit requests would be considered subsequently. Egypt was also keen to maintain regular contacts with mandate holders and to respond to their communications. It attached special attention to encouraging the cooperation of civil society with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, and rejected intimidation or reprisals against civil society representatives.

832. All recommendations on capacity-building and enhancing human rights culture had been accepted. Egypt expressed enthusiasm to cooperate with OHCHR, in accordance with their agreement of 2018.

833. National legislation was replete with fair trial guarantees. Egypt was committed to respecting the separation of powers and to strengthening the independence of the judiciary, as essential elements in protecting human rights. Those charged with the same crime were tried together, but there were no mass sentences. Alternatives to pretrial detention were applied. Egypt had accepted all the recommendations on judicial procedures and guarantees, except those that were factually incorrect.

834. The death penalty was imposed, as in many countries worldwide, for the most serious crimes, which was consistent with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Guarantees were in place to carefully balance the rights of society and the individual right to life, ensuring all fair trial standards and protection from violations or ill-treatment. Verdicts were automatically reviewed by a higher court, in accordance with the Constitution and law.

835. Many controls existed to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, which constitutionally formed imprescriptible crimes. The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) were all observed. All detention facilities were subject to supervision by the Public Prosecution, which immediately investigated allegations to verify their accuracy, hold the perpetrators accountable, combat impunity and protect victims.

836. Corporal punishment of children was outlawed in all circumstances. The Child Law ordained the commutation of sentences and prohibited imposing the death penalty, or life or aggravated imprisonment, on children. Only minors over 15 years old were tried alongside adults if they were charged with the same criminal offence. However, the Child Law safeguards were still applicable to them. Sentences handed down by a court of first instance could be appealed before a higher court.

837. Given the significant role of the family and its entitlement to protection under international human rights law, Egypt had declared 2017 as the Year of Women, 2018 as the Year of Persons with Disabilities and 2019 as the Year of Young Persons. Programmes had

been launched to empower them. Thus, all related recommendations had been accepted, except one.

838. Egypt was determined to continue its steadfast efforts to advance the status of women. Several laws had been introduced to realize their equitable rights. The House of Representatives was currently considering a bill to amend the Personal Status Law.

839. Egypt had accepted all but five recommendations on civil and political rights. The law ensured the protection of all individuals, without distinction, based on the principle of citizenship. Hence, there was no need for laws or measures to protect specific individuals or groups. No one was punished, in accordance with international human rights law, for exercising the rights to freedom of expression, association or peaceful assembly, but rather for violating the regulatory laws, lest conflicts arose among rights holders.

840. Laws guaranteed the freedom of publishing by notification. They prohibited censorship, confiscation, suspension or closure of newspapers and media outlets, except in time of war or general mobilization. They also ensured the right of journalists and media workers to freely express their opinions and seek and disseminate information, and protected their sources. Blocking websites could only occur through an injunction, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and could be appealed before the competent court.

841. The Constitution guaranteed the right to peaceful protest by notification only, deeming it a constitutional right. The relevant law, amended in 2017, disallowed preventing, postponing or rerouting demonstrations, except through a court order. A new law on non-governmental organizations had been adopted recently, after wide-ranging consultations with civil society, allowing for the establishment of non-governmental organizations by notification. Its executive regulations were nearing finalization. The law on trade unions had also been amended to take into account suggestions made by the International Labour Organization. Other laws had been enacted or amended in accordance with international human rights law and only practical implementation would demonstrate whether further revisions would be required.

842. Egypt had accepted all the recommendations on economic, social and cultural rights, except for those that were factually incorrect. The Government had launched the 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy and was carrying out major projects to ensure decent living conditions for all citizens, with the participation of civil society, the private sector and international development partners. Egypt continued its comprehensive economic reform plan, integrating the informal economy into the formal economy, thereby encouraging domestic and foreign investment and boosting economic growth.

843. Egypt had accepted all the recommendations on combating trafficking in persons and illegal migration, believing in human dignity and the obligation to curb degrading practices, in particular modern forms of slavery and sexual exploitation.

844. Egypt was unshakably determined to eradicate terrorism and protect its citizens. The revised law on counter-terrorism was aligned with international standards, ensuring that the Code of Criminal Procedure was applied and that all constitutionally safeguarded human rights were inviolable, at all times. Hence, Egypt had accepted all related recommendations.

## **2. General comments made by the national human rights institution of the State under review**

845. The National Council for Human Rights (by video message) called upon Egypt to: introduce legal amendments limiting the death penalty to the most serious crimes; amend the Penal Code to align it with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment to prevent loopholes; establish a national mechanism to combat torture; commit legally and procedurally to providing those accused with their rights to communicate with and notify the Office of the Public Prosecutor in order to remove the ambiguities related to the allegations of disappearances and arbitrary detention; reduce pretrial detention, expand conditional release and encourage more prison visits, in accordance with the presidential pardon; end the crisis regarding international non-governmental organizations resulting from Law No. 70/2017 and the measures taken against some national

organizations; consider establishing an independent national anti-discrimination mechanism; and strengthen the judiciary and introduce a digital system for courts to meet the challenges associated with the backlog of cases.

### **3. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the outcome of the review**

846. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Egypt, 12 delegations made statements.

847. Ethiopia welcomed the acceptance by Egypt of the recommendation made by Ethiopia on intensifying efforts to strengthen social protection and integration programmes for poor families, older persons, orphans and persons with disabilities. Ethiopia was of the view that the universal periodic review should continue to provide an opportunity for sharing best practices and a platform for constructive exchange.

848. Gabon noted with satisfaction that Egypt had taken significant measures to ensure civil, political, social and cultural rights. Its efforts had translated, *inter alia*, into judicial and administrative reforms, and the creation of bodies for the promotion and protection of human rights. It encouraged Egypt to continue on that path.

849. Greece commended Egypt for having accepted the three recommendations that Greece had made on ensuring an effective, transparent, impartial and independent process for investigating human rights violations; safeguarding all forms of freedom of expression in accordance with its international commitments; and continuing efforts to achieve greater participation of women in political and economic life and their increased representation in leadership positions. Greece considered that the engagement of Egypt in the review was indicative of its commitment to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights for its people.

850. Haiti thanked Egypt for having accepted its recommendation on the protection of Egyptian Christians against extremists and for having partially accepted its recommendation calling upon the authorities to put in place programmes to raise the awareness of men and boys on sexual and sexist violence against women and girls. It regretted that Egypt had noted its recommendation on deleting any religious classification on national documents, including identity cards. Haiti commended Egypt for its firm stance on protecting the traditional family.

851. The Islamic Republic of Iran acknowledged the constructive engagement of the Government of Egypt with the universal periodic review mechanism and was pleased that, among the 372 recommendations presented to Egypt during the thirty-fourth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, two recommendations that it had formulated had been accepted.

852. Iraq appreciated the presentation by Egypt on the situation of human rights in the country, considering that Iraq had participated actively during the interactive dialogue and made three recommendations to Egypt, namely: to increase education and training on human rights; to relaunch the human rights capacity-building programme; and to maintain social policies that supported the family. Iraq valued the acceptance by Egypt of all of three recommendations, which reflected the interest of Egypt in promoting and protecting the human rights of all its citizens. Iraq commended Egypt for its acceptance of most of the recommendations and hoped that Egypt would implement them according to its international obligations.

853. Jordan commended Egypt on its position regarding the recommendations received, including the recent developments and measures taken to promote and protect human rights. It appreciated the acceptance by Egypt of the recommendations that it had made as that reflected the commitment of Egypt to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms. Jordan was confident that Egypt would continue in the coming years to intensify its efforts to implement the recommendations accepted.

854. Kuwait appreciated the acceptance by Egypt of the recommendations to protect and promote human rights and preserve the status of the State among the international community, including the recommendations made by Kuwait on continuing to work with the policies protecting and supporting the family as a basic unit of society and continuing its

constructive approach with the Human Rights Council. Kuwait commended the efforts pursued to combat corruption, promoting peaceful coexistence, empowering women, young persons, and persons with disabilities, promoting children's rights, and ensuring equal rights and equal opportunities for all citizens.

855. China welcomed the constructive participation of Egypt during the universal periodic review cycle. It appreciated the efforts made by the Government of Egypt on sustainable economic and social development and promoting the right to development, including those regarding poverty reduction, education, housing and improving living standards, in addition to promoting further progress on the situation of human rights. It welcomed the efforts of Egypt in fighting terrorism and extremism and promoting international cooperation in that regard. It thanked Egypt for having accepted its recommendations.

856. Libya thanked Egypt for its active participation in the universal periodic review process and its commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights. It welcomed the continuation and commitment of Egypt to positive cooperation with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, in particular the endeavour to establish a high-level committee, the primary task of which would be to develop a national strategy on human rights. Libya wished Egypt success in its efforts to promote human rights.

857. Malawi acknowledged the commitment of Egypt for having substantially implemented the recommendations from the second cycle and commended the progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights. Malawi welcomed the implementation by the Government of the substantive recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, through deliberate efforts to provide adequate housing, safe and clean drinking water, sanitation and decent living for all. It commended the positive cooperation of Egypt with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and for having issued a midterm report in 2018 and submitted periodic reports to the Human Rights Committee, the Committee against Torture, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

858. Mauritania appreciated the adoption by Egypt of the 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy, since it had responded to the aspirations of its people by providing a decent life for all citizens without discrimination on the basis of nationwide participation, including that of civil society, the private sector and development partners. Egypt had worked to empower women and grant them equality in terms of rights, freedoms and public duties by consolidating the values of equality and equal opportunities in civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

#### **4. General comments made by other stakeholders**

859. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Egypt, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

860. Lawyers for Lawyers, in a joint statement with the International Bar Association, welcomed the acceptance by Egypt of certain recommendations on the protection of human rights defenders and lawyers. It stated that lawyers and human rights defenders were being disappeared, arrested and prosecuted, harassed and threatened, and their work criminalized through the application of the Penal Code, the law on counter-terrorism, the law on non-governmental organizations and other laws. It urged the Human Right Council to insist in the immediate release of all lawyers and human rights defenders prosecuted for having done their work; to monitor the application – and call for the amendment – of all those laws and other laws that violated the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly. It called for the repeal of the constitutional provisions interfering with judicial and prosecutorial independence.

861. The East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, in a joint statement with the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, stated that, under the “foreign funding case”, Egyptian civil society organizations and human rights defenders remained subject to multiple restrictions, including travel bans and asset freezes. It called for an immediate end to reprisals, noting that a court ruling on travel bans, expected in April 2020, would be crucial in bringing justice. It reported an escalation in the number of arbitrary detentions and

enforced disappearances of human rights defenders. It noted that many countries had called upon Egypt to investigate allegations of torture and ill-treatment. It noted that the attacks by Egypt against human rights norms extended to activities organized by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, such as the forum for non-governmental organizations in Sharm-el-Sheikh, when the authorities had allegedly denied visas, and threatened and intimidated human rights defenders.

862. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom welcomed the acceptance by Egypt of several recommendations to end violence against women and girls, noting, however, that legal loopholes often countered the efforts made to end violence. It recommended that Egypt amend all discriminatory laws and provisions against women. It also noted that the targeting of human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, was systematic, as indicated by recommendations made during the universal periodic review. Activists had been prosecuted as a result of the politically motivated court case known as "Case 173". It regretted that Egypt had only partially accepted the recommendation in paragraph 31.175 of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review to end the case and that it had considered factually incorrect the recommendation in paragraph 31.130, calling for the release of all persons detained for peacefully exercising their rights to freedom of expression. It urged Egypt to cease all asset freezes and travel bans and ensure a safe working environment for human rights defenders.

863. Human Rights Watch stressed that, as in the previous cycles of the universal periodic review, Egypt had rejected recommendations on critical human rights issues, including establishing a moratorium on the application of the death penalty; ending crackdowns on peaceful dissent and restrictions on freedom of assembly; and investigating serious abuses, such as extrajudicial killings, torture and forced disappearances. It was concerned that the responses provided by Egypt had failed to match the reality on the ground. It noted media and reports by human rights organizations indicating that Egypt was not taking any measures to stop the mass arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, torture and the crackdown on civil society. It called upon the Human Rights Council to press for the release of jailed peaceful activists and individuals and an end to violations, and to demand accountability.

864. The Minority Rights Group welcomed the commitment of Egypt to remove the unnecessary restrictions on the building and renovation of churches and urged the Government to amend Law No. 80/2016. It was concerned that, while attacks on religious buildings were criminalized in the Penal Code, in practice, perpetrators were rarely brought to account due to informal reconciliation and called upon the authorities to discontinue such a practice. It expressed concern about the rejection of the recommendation regarding the removal of religion references on national identity cards, which contributed to discrimination against religious minorities. It urged the Government to facilitate the return of Nubians to their ancestral territory and the right of Nubians and Berbers to learn their languages in public schools. It was concerned about the pattern of reprisals and intimidation against human rights defenders.

865. The Right Livelihood Award Foundation welcomed the recommendations received by Egypt to end abusive practices, such as arbitrary arrest, judicial harassment and crimes related to sexual violence. It was concerned that Egypt had labelled several recommendations related to the criminalization of civil society actors and human rights defenders as "factually incorrect". On the contrary, violations against them remained the norm, and the authorities regularly attacked freedom of expression and of peaceful assembly. Six months earlier, more than 4,000 protesters had been arrested for having peacefully demonstrated against corruption. It was concerned at the targeting of leading women rights defenders and feminist activists and the punitive, reprisal-intentioned policies against icons of the feminist movement, including the co-founder of Nazra for Feminist Studies who had been prosecuted under the infamous Case 173. It urged the Government to take effective measures to guarantee a free and active civil society by closing Case 173.

866. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues was concerned that the responses of Egypt claiming that it already protected human rights defenders and respected the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association were misleading. It was appalled by the rejection by Egypt of key recommendations calling for the release of individuals detained for exercising their rights and those calling for the revision of laws used

for that purpose, including laws on counter-terrorism and cybercrime, claiming that they were “factually incorrect”. It recalled that the Secretary-General and special procedure mandate holders had identified that Egypt carried out “a pattern of reprisals” against those who cooperated with the United Nations. It also recalled that Egypt currently detained hundreds of peaceful government critics who had been subjected to enforced disappearance, held incommunicado and charged under vaguely worded offences. It urged the Human Rights Council to take urgent action to address the serious human rights violations in Egypt.

867. The Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies noted that countries were alarmed by the current unprecedented levels of repression in Egypt. Many recommended ending the use of counter-terrorism laws that violated human rights and ending attacks against human rights defenders, including reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations. It stated that grave and widespread human rights violations had continued during the universal periodic review process, while Egypt had denied that any such abuses occurred, revealing the lack of political will to address those violations but also threatening to turn the universal periodic review process into a farce. It noted that counter-terrorism legislation was used systematically to legitimize the ongoing campaign of Egypt to silence and eradicate independent civil society, journalists and political parties and to silence all peaceful dissent. It was also used as a pretext for not addressing the conditions in prisons, in which torture, degrading treatment, medical neglect and inhuman conditions had led to many deaths in detention. It urged member States to ensure action by the Human Rights Council to address the human rights crisis in Egypt.

868. The statement of the International Service for Human Rights was presented by Kareem, who had been detained and subjected to physical and psychological torture because he had participated in a protest, and subsequently sentenced to life imprisonment for having participated in the funeral of his friend, a journalist who had been killed while covering a protest. He recalled that no one had been held accountable for his torture and ill-treatment and that of other human rights defenders. He urged Egypt to swiftly report to the Human Rights Council on the measures taken to implement the recommendations of the confidential inquiry of the Committee against Torture. He considered that the claim of Egypt that some of the recommendations accepted had already been implemented was deceptive. He provided examples of those recommendations: investigating and punishing attacks against human rights defenders, ensuring their protection from reprisals and preventing the use of terrorism laws to limit rights. He recalled that reprisals continued and human rights defenders were still in prison for their cooperation with the United Nations.

869. Africa culture internationale acknowledged the efforts of Egypt to implement the recommendations from the previous cycle, through programmes aimed at ensuring the protection of the human rights of its people. It noted that, in response to the hopes of the Egyptian people revealed during the 2011–2013 revolutions, Egypt had announced the comprehensive 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy, based on the participation of different communities and taking into account the views of civil society and the private sector. It recommended that Egypt afford particular attention to the protection of women, children and persons with disabilities.

## **5. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

870. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 372 recommendations received, 294 had enjoyed the support of Egypt and 51 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another 27 recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations had been supported and which parts had been noted

871. Egypt thanked delegations for their supportive statements and reiterated its firm determination to respect the rule of law. Egypt also reaffirmed its commitment to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to continue cooperation with civil society, so as to institutionalize a healthy democratic society.

872. In conclusion, Egypt thanked OHCHR, particularly the secretariat of the universal periodic review mechanism and the Arabic Translation Section, for their continuous support.

### **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

873. The review of Bosnia and Herzegovina was held on 13 November 2019 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Bosnia Herzegovina in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/BIH/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/BIH/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/34/BIH/3).

874. At its 33rd meeting, on 13 March 2020, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Bosnia and Herzegovina (see sect. C below).

875. The outcome of the review of Bosnia and Herzegovina comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/43/17), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group and that were presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session (see also A/HRC/43/17/Add.1).

#### **1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome**

876. The delegation stated that it had received 207 recommendations during the third cycle of the universal periodic review. After having conducted consultations with the relevant authorities, Bosnia and Herzegovina had fully accepted 136 recommendations, had considered that 68 recommendations were already in the process of implementation and had not accepted 3 recommendations.

877. Bosnia and Herzegovina was a party to numerous human rights treaties and had ratified 14 of them, which were an integral part of its Constitution. In addition, Bosnia and Herzegovina was also a party to a number of Council of Europe conventions and covenants. However, there were still examples of inequality and discrimination between the constituent peoples and other citizens, which were highlighted in the recommendations from the current and previous cycles of the universal periodic review. In that regard, the goal of Bosnia and Herzegovina had been the protection of the best interests of its citizens, which entailed amending the Constitution and the Election Law by implementing judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, such as those in the *Sejdić and Finci*, *Zornić*, *Pilav* and *Baralija* cases. Bosnia and Herzegovina had also improved its legal framework for human rights protection by amending the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination, which had special significance as it advanced the system of protection of persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons and older persons from discrimination. However, Bosnia and Herzegovina was aware that further strategic planning to improve the level of human rights protection was needed, which would certainly be facilitated by the implementation of the recommendations received.

878. As for the three recommendations that Bosnia and Herzegovina had not accepted, the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina had issued a decision repealing the provision on the death penalty in the Constitution of the Republika Srpska, which fully complied with one of the recommendations from the third cycle, and for that reason it had not been accepted. Furthermore, when it came to equal access to, and the valid legal framework of, education by persons belonging to national minorities, that right had been afforded to them and therefore the position of Bosnia and Herzegovina had been not to accept the recommendation.

879. With regard to the recommendation regarding harmonization of the legislation against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity, such harmonization had already been carried out through the Law on Gender Equality and the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination, which applied throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina.

880. Regarding recommendations that were in the process of being implemented, the process of amending the criminal codes in Bosnia and Herzegovina to prohibit incitement of racial, national and religious hatred and hatred on other grounds had been partially completed. Furthermore, initiatives had been taken to further harmonize the criminal codes in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the aim of suppressing hate speech.

881. Although the laws guaranteeing the right to freedom of thought and expression had been brought into line with international standards, statistics on attacks on journalists and media professionals needed to be compiled through the establishment of a database. Bosnia and Herzegovina was committed to establishing such a system as soon as possible.

882. Among the top priorities were the adoption of the revised National War Crimes Processing Strategy and the Transitional Justice Strategy, and the completion of the process of searching for missing persons, which would contribute to reconciliation in and greater democratization of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

883. The process of harmonizing the laws governing public assemblies with European human rights standards should be completed. Regarding vulnerable groups, strategies and policies had been implemented to reduce their social exclusion. However, there was a lack of financial resources to implement them more effectively. The entity-level labour laws and the legislation on social protection of children in terms of establishing a system of foster care had been improved.

884. National and entity action plans aimed at protecting women and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons had been adopted and implemented, and policies for the protection of persons with disabilities and improvements in the situation of Roma and older persons were being implemented.

885. Efforts to prevent segregation and discrimination in education had continued. The number of cases of “two schools under one roof” had been halved, but Bosnia and Herzegovina was obliged to eliminate that phenomenon.

886. Bosnia and Herzegovina also faced a major humanitarian challenge due to the increased influx of migrants. Although the competent authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina provided food, sanitary products, clothing and accommodation for migrants, greater and systematic assistance from international organizations was needed to adequately deal with that challenge.

887. Although progress had been made in the implementation of human rights treaties, Bosnia and Herzegovina was deeply aware of the challenges that it faced in building a modern democratic society. In that regard, Bosnia and Herzegovina would continue with the activities that ensured the protection of the human rights and freedoms of every individual, with a particular emphasis on vulnerable groups, including children, women, refugees and displaced persons, persons with disabilities, older persons and ethnic minorities whether they were citizens or foreigners in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

888. Thanks to the recommendations made in the context of the third cycle, Bosnia and Herzegovina committed to continue to improve the implementation of international human rights standards in order to ensure stronger protection against violations and infringements of the human rights of all individuals, including every member of a vulnerable group.

## **2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council and by United Nations entities on the outcome of the review**

889. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Bosnia Herzegovina, 10 delegations made statements.

890. Egypt thanked Bosnia and Herzegovina for having explained its position on the recommendations received. It welcomed the steps taken by the Government, specifically the approval of the Anti-Discrimination Law, the adoption of an action plan on the reform of the

judicial sector, the implementation of the anti-corruption plan and efforts to combat trafficking in persons and protect victims. It expressed its appreciation to Bosnia and Herzegovina for having accepted its three recommendations.

891. Iraq expressed its appreciation to Bosnia and Herzegovina for having accepted its recommendations, which reflected an interest in the protection of the human rights of its citizens. Iraq recommended that the Human Rights Council adopt the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Bosnia and Herzegovina. Iraq commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for its acceptance of most of the recommendations received and hoped that it would implement the recommendations that it had accepted in accordance with its commitment.

892. Libya commended the commitment of Bosnia and Herzegovina to guarantee the highest international standards in the field of human rights by signing and ratifying many international treaties and conventions despite the economic challenges facing it.

893. Malawi applauded Bosnia and Herzegovina for its successful review and its continued commitment to implement the recommendations accepted during the second cycle, in spite of the economic challenges. Malawi encouraged Bosnia and Herzegovina to continue its efforts to implement the recommendations accepted, particularly those concerning implementation of the gender action plan. It recommended redoubling efforts to remove barriers in accessing education for children with disabilities and to strengthen institutions that dealt with human rights in the country.

894. Pakistan commended the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina for having accepted the majority of the recommendations made during the session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in November 2019 and for its commitment to the empowerment of women and the realization of the right to education for all citizens.

895. Serbia recognized the efforts made by the authorities to fully incorporate human rights into domestic policies and to fulfil its international obligations, in particular the initiative for eliminating racism and racial discrimination in the country. Serbia welcomed the progress made in the development of relevant policies for vulnerable groups of children, establishing funds for the employment of persons with disabilities and the steps taken in the development of institutional capacities for gender equality.

896. UN-Women commended the existence of several gender mechanisms, such as the agency for gender equality in the State Government and the gender centres in each of the two entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It urged the Government to ensure that all sector strategies and plans, as well as laws and policies, were gender sensitive. It stressed that almost one in two women in Bosnia and Herzegovina had experienced some form of abuse. It recommended strengthening referral mechanisms and specialized services, including public recognition of the critical role that civil society organizations played. It also highlighted the importance of eliminating the gender wage gap.

897. UNFPA welcomed the commitments made by Bosnia and Herzegovina to promote and protect human rights, particularly the rights of women, men, boys and girls from population groups in situations of vulnerability. It commended the excellent collaboration with the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Its national country programme unit would work to support the implementation of recommendations over the coming years, particularly with regard to young persons, women and girls to build their human capital and advance their sexual and reproductive health and rights.

898. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was pleased that Bosnia and Herzegovina had accepted the recommendations that it had made during the review. It highlighted the efforts made to adapt the regulatory framework for the prevention of gender-based violence and domestic violence and for the protection of victims. It encouraged the country to continue to strengthen its policies on economic, social and cultural rights, especially for the most vulnerable groups. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela acknowledged the efforts of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its compliance with the recommendations accepted during the second cycle of the universal periodic review.

899. Afghanistan noted that Bosnia and Herzegovina had accepted all of the recommendations that it had made. It commended Bosnia and Herzegovina on agreeing to

strengthen efforts to ensure that the office of the ombudsmen enjoyed sufficient resources to function effectively in accordance with the Paris Principles. Afghanistan further welcomed the acceptance by Bosnia and Herzegovina of its recommendation to expand efforts to ensure inclusive and quality access to education for children and to take appropriate measures to provide refugees and migrants with effective access to international protection.

### **3. General comments made by other stakeholders**

900. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Bosnia Herzegovina, three other stakeholders made statements.

901. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom welcomed the acceptance by Bosnia and Herzegovina of many recommendations regarding respect for economic, social and cultural rights. However, entity-level Governments continued to push for economic reforms and economic growth on the basis of structural reforms and fiscal consolidation, which ultimately led to cuts in public spending. Despite the foreseeable impacts of the reforms on inequalities, they were not planned with a human rights-based and a gender-sensitive approach. Instead, the entity-level Governments should further invest in the realization of economic and social rights, including by working towards full employment, universal social protection and health care and environmentally sound investments. It also urged the authorities to introduce mandatory gender and human rights impact assessments into the planning and implementation of economic reforms and to ensure the meaningful consultation of civil society in economic processes, including of women's groups in accordance with the recommendation accepted by Bosnia and Herzegovina in paragraph 120.164 of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. It also welcomed the acceptance of recommendations related to effective access to international protection and humane and lawful conditions of detention and accommodation for refugees and migrants. It called upon the State-level Government to ensure that conditions of detention and accommodation were in line with its international obligations.

902. Action Canada for Population and Development welcomed the many recommendations urging the Government to harmonize legislation and regulations across jurisdictions and to ensure consistent alignment with international human rights instruments, particularly the Istanbul Convention. The discrepancies in law and policy created serious human rights protection gaps for women, young persons and persons subjected to intersecting forms of discrimination. Those protection gaps included unequal access to safe abortion and social security systems for pregnancy and parenthood; protection from domestic and gender-based violence and discrimination on the basis of sexuality and gender; and sexual and reproductive health services, among others. It called upon the Government to fulfil its obligations under international human rights law to all people across its different jurisdictions and ensure that no one was denied their sexual and reproductive rights because of where they lived. A stark example of that was the discriminatory provision of abortion and contraceptive services, which meant that, although technically legal, different health-care funds regulated prices for abortions, rendering such services inaccessible to many women living in poverty, especially women belonging to minority communities, such as Roma women, women with disabilities and women returnees.

903. The European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation strongly supported the efforts made by State institutions to draft and push for the adoption of a countrywide strategy or an action plan on anti-discrimination. However, some of the views expressed by Bosnia and Herzegovina on the recommendations received were problematic. In particular, the government of the Republika Srpska was constantly blocking any opportunity to draft and adopt any kind of strategic documents at the State level in relation to human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including but not limited to issues related to the equality of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. The authorities of the Republika Srpska stated on six occasions in the document that presented the views of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the recommendations received that only the entities had the competence to regulate human rights issues, even though those recommendations had been accepted or were in the process of being implemented. That dissenting opinion was a concern and a clear sign that civil society would probably have to advocate for the same recommendations in the next cycle of the universal periodic review as well. Bosnia and Herzegovina had also stated

that the recommendation made by Iceland to pass and implement laws that would recognize same-sex partnerships and define the rights and obligations of cohabiting couples in same-sex unions was in the process of being implemented. However, the European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation stated that only the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina had adopted a conclusion to establish a working group on the matter, but only to conduct an analysis of current regulations regarding same-sex couples in the entity. Although that conclusion had been adopted in October 2018, the working group members had only been appointed in January 2020, 15 months after the conclusion had been adopted. The Republika Srpska and Brčko District did not take similar action in that regard.

#### **4. Concluding remarks of the State under review**

904. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 207 recommendations received, 204 had enjoyed the support of Bosnia Herzegovina and 3 had been noted.

905. The delegation emphasized the commitment of the country to protect the human rights of all its citizens, refugees and foreigners. In response to several comments made during the interactive session, the delegation ensured that Bosnia and Herzegovina would continue to implement the recommendations accepted during its third cycle of the universal periodic review to promote economic and social rights, protect refugees, increase women's participation in parliamentary and decision-making settings, advance sexual and reproductive rights and fight more robustly domestic violence.

#### **B. General debate on agenda item 6**

906. At its 36th meeting, on 15 June 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 6, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia, Ecuador and Honduras), Bahrain, Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Croatia<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine), India, India (also on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Cameroon, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam) (by video message), Libya, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), State of Palestine<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Africa culture internationale, African Green Foundation International, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Association pour les victimes du monde, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, European Centre for Law and Justice, International Catholic Child Bureau, Franciscans International (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Center for International Environmental Law, Earthjustice and Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights, Tamil Uzhagam, Tourner la page, UPR Info.

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<sup>9</sup> Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

## C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

### **Italy**

907. At its 30th meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/101 on the outcome of the review of Italy.

### **El Salvador**

908. At its 30th meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/102 on the outcome of the review of El Salvador.

### **Gambia**

909. At its 30th meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/103 on the outcome of the review of the Gambia.

### **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**

910. At its 30th meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/104 on the outcome of the review of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

### **Fiji**

911. At its 31st meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/105 on the outcome of the review of Fiji.

### **San Marino**

912. At its 31st meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/106 on the outcome of the review of San Marino.

### **Iran (Islamic Republic of)**

913. At its 31st meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/107 on the outcome of the review of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

### **Angola**

914. At its 31st meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/108 on the outcome of the review of Angola.

### **Kazakhstan**

915. At its 31st meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/109 on the outcome of the review of Kazakhstan.

### **Madagascar**

916. At its 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/110 on the outcome of the review of Madagascar.

### **Iraq**

917. At its 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/111 on the outcome of the review of Iraq.

### **Slovenia**

918. At its 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/112 on the outcome of the review of Slovenia.

**Egypt**

919. At its 32nd meeting, on 12 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/113 on the outcome of the review of Egypt.

**Bosnia and Herzegovina**

920. At its 33rd meeting, on 13 March 2020, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, decision 43/114 on the outcome of the review of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## **VII. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories**

### **A. Reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary-General**

921. At the 36th meeting, on 15 June 2020, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 40/24, her report on Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/HRC/43/67).

922. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 31/36, the database of all business enterprises involved in the activities detailed in paragraph 96 of the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem (A/HRC/43/71).

923. Also at the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 40/21, the report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/HRC/43/69).

924. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions S-9/1 and S-12/1, her report on the human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular on the implementation of resolutions S-9/1 and S-12/1 (A/HRC/43/70).

925. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine made statements as the States concerned.

### **B. General debate on agenda item 7**

926. At its 36th meeting, on 15 June 2020, and its 37th meeting, on 16 June, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 7, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia and Honduras), Bahrain, Bangladesh (by video message), Chile, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Qatar, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Group of African States), United Arab Emirates<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), State of Palestine<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kuwait (by video message), Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives (by video message), Morocco, Oman, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia (by video message), South Africa, Sri Lanka (by video message), Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen;

(c) Observer for a national human rights institution: Independent Commission for Human Rights (State of Palestine) (by video message);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-Haq (also on behalf of Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies and Human Rights and Democratic Participation Center "SHAMS"), Al Mezan Center for Human Rights (also on behalf of Adalah: Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, Al-Haq, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Human Rights and Democratic Participation Center "SHAMS" and Medical Aid for Palestinians), American Association of Jurists, Amnesty

International, B'nai B'rith, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies, Al-Haq, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Conectas Direitos Humanos, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Habitat International Coalition, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Human Rights and Democratic Participation Center "SHAMS" and International Service for Human Rights), Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, Defence for Children International, Human Rights Watch, Ingénieurs du monde, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Lutheran World Federation (also on behalf of Médecins du monde), Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights, United Nations Watch, World Jewish Congress.

## C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

### **Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan**

927. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.28, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Chile, Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Belarus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Namibia joined the sponsors.

928. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany made a general comment on the draft resolution.

929. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

930. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

931. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil, Czechia (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and Uruguay made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

932. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chile, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Togo, Ukraine

*Abstaining:*

Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Fiji, Philippines

933. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 26 votes to 17, with 4 abstentions (resolution 43/30).

934. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil and the Marshall Islands made statements in explanation of vote after the vote.

**Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan**

935. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.37/Rev.1, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Chile, Cuba, Namibia, Switzerland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Belgium, Botswana, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal and Sweden joined the sponsors.

936. At the same meeting, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, orally revised the draft resolution.

937. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the State of Palestine made a statement as the State concerned.

938. At the same meeting, the representatives of Australia and Czechia made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

939. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Australia, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chile, Denmark, Eritrea, Fiji, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Australia, Marshall Islands

*Abstaining:*

Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Slovakia, Togo, Ukraine

940. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised by 36 votes to 2, with 9 abstentions (resolution 43/31).

941. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil and the Marshall Islands made statements in explanation of vote after the vote.

**Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem**

942. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.38/Rev.1, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Chile, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Namibia and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal and Sweden joined the sponsors.

943. At the same meeting, the representative of Czechia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

944. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

945. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Australia, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Eritrea, Fiji, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico,

Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Australia, Marshall Islands

*Abstaining:*

Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Togo

946. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 42 votes to 2, with 3 abstentions (resolution 43/32).

947. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil and the Marshall Islands made statements in explanation of vote after the vote.

**Right of the Palestinian people to self-determination**

948. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.39, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Chile, Cuba, Namibia and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Belarus, Belgium, Botswana, Costa Rica, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

949. At the same meeting, the representative of Argentina made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

950. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Australia, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Eritrea, Fiji, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:*

Australia, Marshall Islands

*Abstaining:*

Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo

951. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 43 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions (resolution 43/33).

952. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil and the Marshall Islands made statements in explanation of vote after the vote.

## **VIII. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action**

### **General debate on agenda item 8**

953. At its 37th meeting, on 16 June 2020, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 8, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Armenia, Austria (also on behalf of Liechtenstein, Slovenia and Switzerland), Azerbaijan<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia and Honduras), Bahrain, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Croatia<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine), Ethiopia<sup>9</sup> (also on behalf of Italy, Japan, Mexico, Morocco and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), India (by video message), Indonesia, Libya, Marshall Islands (also on behalf of Australia, Fiji, Micronesia (Federated States of), Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu), Nepal, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), State of Palestine<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia (by video message), China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Myanmar, Russian Federation, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Action Canada for Population and Development (also on behalf of Center for Reproductive Rights, International Planned Parenthood Federation, International Service for Human Rights, Plan International), Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme en Mauritanie, African Green Foundation International, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Asociación HazteOir.org, Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association pour l'éducation et la santé de la femme et de l'enfant, Association pour la défense des droits de la femme mauritanienne, Association pour le développement humain en Mauritanie, Association pour les victimes du monde, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (also on behalf of International Commission of Jurists and International Service for Human Rights), Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus), European Centre for Law and Justice, Federation for Women and Family Planning, Guinée humanitaire, Ingénieurs du monde, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Muslim Women's Union, Iraqi Development Organization, Personhood Education, Tamil Uzhagam, Tourner la page, United Nations Watch, Victorious Youths Movement, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress.

954. At the same meeting, the representatives of India, Mauritania and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

## **IX. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

### **A. Debate on the midterm review of the International Decade for People of African Descent**

955. At its 33rd meeting, on 13 March 2020, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 74/137, a debate on the midterm review of the International Decade for People of African Descent in commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

956. At the same meeting, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the debate.

957. Also at the same meeting, the Deputy Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Tamara Mawhinney, made a statement on behalf of the Canadian Member of Parliament for Hull-Aylmer, Greg Fergus.

958. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Director of Public Policies for the Afro-Peruvian Population at the Ministry of Culture of Peru, Susana Matute Charún; Director of the UNFPA Office in Geneva; Founder and Chair of the Kaneza Foundation for Dialogue and Empowerment, Elisabeth Kaneza; the Deputy Director of Diaspora Affairs at the Office of the President of the Republic of Ghana, Nadia Adongo Musah (by video message). The Human Rights Council divided the debate into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

959. During the first speaking slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia and Honduras), Brazil, Guyana<sup>9</sup> (also on behalf of the Bahamas, Barbados, Fiji, Haiti, the Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu), Haiti<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), Namibia, Pakistan, Peru (also on behalf of Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, and Uruguay), South Africa<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Group of African States);

- (b) Representatives of observer States: Costa Rica, Ecuador, South Africa;
- (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (also on behalf of Minority Rights Group), International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (also on behalf of Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Habitat International Coalition, International Association against Torture, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Iuventum, Ma'arif Foundation for Peace and Development and Tiye International), Réseau international des droits humains.

960. During the second speaking slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Angola, Indonesia, Nepal, Qatar, Senegal, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, China, Cuba, Russian Federation, Vanuatu;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos Humanos.

961. Also at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

## B. General debate on agenda item 9

962. At the 37th meeting, on 16 June 2020, the Permanent Representative of Lesotho to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva and Chair-Rapporteur of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, Refiloe Litjobo, presented the report of the Working Group on its seventeenth session, held from 16 to 20 December 2019 (A/HRC/43/73).

963. At the same meeting and at its 38th meeting, on the same day, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 9, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Afghanistan, Angola, Austria, Azerbaijan<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia and Honduras), Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Brazil (also on behalf of Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Croatia<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine), India (by video message), Egypt<sup>9</sup> (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States, the Group of African States, Afghanistan, China, Ecuador, India and Peru), Indonesia, Libya, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Qatar, Sudan, Sweden<sup>9</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway), Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), State of Palestine<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Botswana, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Morocco, Myanmar, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ABC Tamil Oli, Action of Human Movement, Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme en Mauritanie, Adalah: Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel (also on behalf of Al-Haq), African Green Foundation International, Alsalam Foundation, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association pour l'éducation et la santé de la femme et de l'enfant, Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association pour le développement humain en Mauritanie, Association pour les victimes du monde, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (also on behalf of Al-Haq, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Habitat International Coalition and Human Rights and Democratic Participation Center "SHAMS"), Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, European Centre for Law and Justice, Global Action on Aging (also on behalf of International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations), Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Global Welfare Association, Guinée humanitaire, Ingénieurs du monde, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, International Career Support Association (also on behalf of Japan Society for History Textbook), International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iraqi Development Organization, Liberation, Minority Rights Group, Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Sikh Human Rights Group, Sociedade Maranhense de

Direitos Humanos, Tamil Uzhagam, Tourner la page, United Nations Watch, World Barua Organization, World Evangelical Alliance, World Jewish Congress.

964. At the 38th meeting, on 16 June 2020, the representatives of Bangladesh, Brazil, China, India, Mauritania, Myanmar and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

### **C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

#### **Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief**

965. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.1, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Australia, Canada, the Marshall Islands, the Philippines, Thailand and Uruguay. Subsequently, the Dominican Republic, Fiji, Paraguay and Timor-Leste joined the sponsors.

966. At the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council announced that amendments A/HRC/43/L.48 and A/HRC/43/L.49 to draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.1 had been withdrawn by the sponsor.

967. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the Sudan made general comments on the draft resolution.

968. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/34).

#### **Mandate of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

969. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.15, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Haiti, Pakistan, Turkey and Yemen. Subsequently, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Indonesia and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

970. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines made a general comment on the draft resolution.

971. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

972. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/35).

#### **Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance**

973. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.16, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Albania, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Croatia, Haiti, Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and Yemen. Subsequently, Canada, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Malta, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Uruguay and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

974. At the same meeting, the representatives of Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the Sudan made general comments on the draft resolution.

975. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

976. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/36).

## X. Technical assistance and capacity-building

### A. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

977. At the 39th meeting, on 17 June 2020, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/34, an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

978. At the same meeting, the members of the team of international experts on the situation in Kasai provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 41/26, an oral update to the Council (by video teleconference).

979. Also at the same meeting, the following presenters made statements: the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (by video teleconference); Minister for Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, André Lite Asebea (by video teleconference); National Coordinator of the Congolese Coalition for Transitional Justice, Raphael Wakenge Ngimbi (by video teleconference).

980. During the ensuing discussion, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked questions to the High Commissioner, the members of the team of international experts and the presenters:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Burkina Faso (on behalf of Group of African States), Senegal, Sudan, Sweden<sup>9</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Norway), Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, China, Egypt, France, Mozambique, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers (also on behalf of Franciscans International and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom), International Service for Human Rights.

981. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner, the members of the team of international experts and the presenters answered questions and made concluding remarks.

### B. Interactive dialogue on cooperation with and assistance to Ukraine in the field of human rights

982. At the 41st meeting, on 18 June 2020, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 41/25, an oral update on the findings of the periodic report of OHCHR on the situation of human rights in Ukraine.

983. At the same meeting, the representative of Ukraine made a statement as the State concerned.

984. Also at the same meeting, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement (by video message).

985. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting and at the 42nd meeting, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Deputy High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Poland (by video message), Slovakia, Spain (by video message);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Hungary (by video message), Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania (by video message), Montenegro, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Romania (by video message), Russian Federation (by video message), Slovenia, Sweden (by video message), Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Human Rights House Foundation, Institute for NGO Research (by video message), Minority Rights Group, United Nations Watch.

986. At the 42nd meeting, on the same day, the representative of Ukraine made a statement.

987. At the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

### **C. Interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in Libya**

988. At the 42nd meeting, on 18 June 2020, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 40/27, the report of the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in Libya, and the effectiveness of technical assistance and capacity-building measures received by the Government of Libya (A/HRC/43/75).

989. At the same meeting, the Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya made a statement (by video teleconference).

990. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Libya made a statement as the State concerned.

991. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Deputy High Commissioner and the Acting Special Representative questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Germany, Iceland<sup>9</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden), Indonesia, Italy, Mauritania, Netherlands, Qatar, South Sudan, Spain (by video message), Sudan;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Belgium, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Malta, Morocco, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women, UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International (by video message), Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Human Rights Information and Training Center, Human Rights Watch, Institut international pour les droits et le développement, Institute for NGO Research (by video message), International Commission of Jurists, Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights (by video message), Organisation internationale pour les pays moins avancés.

992. At the same meeting, the representative of Libya made final remarks as the State concerned.

993. Also at the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner and the Acting Special Representative answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

#### **D. High-level interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic**

994. At its 42nd meeting, on 18 June 2020, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 42/36, a high-level interactive dialogue to assess the evolution of the human rights situation in the Central African Republic, placing special emphasis on preventing the recruitment and use of children in the armed conflict and protecting their rights through their demobilization and reintegration.

995. At the same meeting and at the 43rd meeting, on 19 June 2020, the following presenters made statements: Deputy United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic, Yao Agbetse; Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Deputy Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (by video-message); Permanent Representative of the Central African Republic to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Léopold Ismael Samba; Special Rapporteur on Children and Armed Conflict of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, Benyam Dawit Mezmur (by video teleconference); Head of Mission at Enfants sans Frontières, Brice Kévin Kakpayen (by video message).

996. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 43rd meeting, on 19 June 2020, the following made statements and asked the presenters questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Eritrea, Iceland<sup>9</sup> (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden), Libya, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Togo;
- (b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, China, Egypt, France, Ireland, Morocco, Portugal, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- (c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Institute for NGO Research (by video message), World Evangelical Alliance (also on behalf of Caritas Internationalis).

997. At the 43rd meeting, on 19 June 2020, the presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

#### **E. Interactive dialogue with a special procedure mandate holder**

##### **Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali**

998. At the 39th meeting, on 17 June 2020, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali, Alioune Tine, presented his report (A/HRC/43/76) (by video teleconference).

999. At the same meeting, the representative of Mali made a statement as the State concerned.

1000. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

- (a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Australia, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Czechia, Denmark (also on behalf of Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), Mauritania, Netherlands, Senegal, Spain (by video message), Sudan, Togo;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belgium, Botswana, Chad, China, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Morocco, Niger, Portugal, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UN-Women (also on behalf of UNDP, UNHCR and UNICEF);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

1001. Also at the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks (by video teleconference).

## F. General debate on agenda item 10

1002. At the 43rd meeting, on 19 June 2020, the Director of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division of OHCHR presented the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and technical assistance achievements in the field of human rights (A/HRC/43/74) and the annual oral presentation of the High Commissioner on technical cooperation.

1003. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights presented the report of the Board of Trustees (A/HRC/43/68) (by video teleconference).

1004. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Afghanistan made a statement as the State concerned.

1005. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 10, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Azerbaijan<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, with the exception of Colombia and Honduras), Brazil (also on behalf of Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru), Brazil (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Bulgaria, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Cameroon, Canada<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the States members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie) (by video message), Croatia<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine), Germany, India (by video message), Indonesia, Libya, Pakistan (also on behalf of Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Cuba, India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines (by video message), Sudan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), State of Palestine<sup>9</sup> (on behalf of the Group of Arab States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Belarus, Cambodia, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Latvia, Lithuania (by video message), Morocco, Norway (also on behalf of Singapore), Paraguay, Russian Federation, Sweden (by video message), Thailand (by video message), Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: African Green Foundation International, American Association of Jurists, Association d'entraide médicale Guinée, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (also on behalf of Amnesty International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues and World Organization against Torture), Health and Environment Program, Human Rights Information and Training Center,

International Lesbian and Gay Association, Iraqi Development Organization, Zéro pauvre Afrique.

1006. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Cambodia and China made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

## **G. Consideration of and action on draft proposals**

### **Cooperation with Georgia**

1007. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Georgia (by video message) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.7, sponsored by Georgia and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark and Ghana withdrew their original co-sponsorship of the draft resolution. Subsequently, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Libya, New Zealand, North Macedonia and San Marino joined the sponsors.

1008. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Australia and Poland made general comments on the draft resolution.

1009. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1010. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Czechia, Denmark and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

1011. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Cameroon, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, Ukraine

*Against:*

Cameroon, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Abstaining:*

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay

1012. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 20 votes to 2, with 24 abstentions (resolution 43/37).<sup>10</sup>

### **Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Mali**

1013. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.13, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Luxembourg withdrew its original co-sponsorship. Subsequently, Brazil, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Japan, Latvia, Monaco,

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<sup>10</sup> The delegation of Armenia did not cast a vote.

Norway, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Switzerland, Thailand and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

1014. At the same meeting, the representative of Czechia, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

1015. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Mali made a statement as the State concerned.

1016. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1017. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/38).

#### **Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Libya**

1018. At the 46th meeting, on 22 June 2020, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/43/L.40, sponsored by Burkina Faso, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Bulgaria, Germany, Iceland, Malta, the Netherlands, Qatar, Spain, Sweden and Turkey. Subsequently, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Indonesia, Irelands, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

1019. At the same meeting, the representatives of Australia, Czechia (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution.

1020. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Libya made a statement as the State concerned.

1021. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1022. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 43/39).

## Annex I

### Attendance

#### Members

Afghanistan	Denmark	Peru
Angola	Eritrea	Philippines
Argentina	Fiji	Poland
Armenia	Germany	Qatar
Australia	India	Republic of Korea
Austria	Indonesia	Senegal
Bahamas	Italy	Slovakia
Bahrain	Japan	Somalia
Bangladesh	Libya	Spain
Brazil	Marshall Islands	Sudan
Bulgaria	Mauritania	Togo
Burkina Faso	Mexico	Ukraine
Cameroon	Namibia	Uruguay
Chile	Nepal	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Czechia	Netherlands	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Nigeria	
	Pakistan	

#### States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Albania	Egypt	Lesotho
Algeria	El Salvador	Liechtenstein
Andorra	Equatorial Guinea	Lithuania
Azerbaijan	Estonia	Luxembourg
Barbados	Ethiopia	Madagascar
Belarus	Finland	Malawi
Belgium	France	Malaysia
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Gabon	Maldives
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Gambia	Mali
Botswana	Georgia	Malta
Burundi	Ghana	Monaco
Cabo Verde	Greece	Mongolia
Cambodia	Guatemala	Montenegro
Canada	Guyana	Morocco
Central African Republic	Haiti	Mozambique
Chad	Honduras	Myanmar
China	Hungary	New Zealand
Colombia	Iceland	Nicaragua
Comoros	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Niger
Congo	Iraq	North Macedonia
Costa Rica	Ireland	Norway
Côte d'Ivoire	Israel	Oman
Croatia	Jamaica	Panama
Cuba	Jordan	Paraguay
Cyprus	Kazakhstan	Portugal
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Kuwait	Republic of Moldova
Djibouti	Kyrgyzstan	Romania
Dominican Republic	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Russian Federation
Ecuador	Latvia	Rwanda
	Lebanon	San Marino
		Saudi Arabia

Serbia	Sweden	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Seychelles	Switzerland	United Republic of Tanzania
Sierra Leone	Syrian Arab Republic	Vanuatu
Singapore	Thailand	Viet Nam
Slovenia	Timor-Leste	Yemen
Solomon Islands	Tunisia	Zambia
South Africa	Turkey	Zimbabwe
South Sudan	Turkmenistan	
Sri Lanka	United Arab Emirates	

### Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See  
State of Palestine

### United Nations

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
United Nations Children's Fund	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)
United Nations Development Programme	United Nations Population Fund

### Specialized agencies and related organizations

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	World Health Organization
World Food Programme	

### Intergovernmental organizations

Caribbean Community	European Union
Commonwealth	International Development Law Organization
Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries	International Organization of la Francophonie
Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf	Organization of American States
Council of Europe	Organization of Islamic Cooperation
	University for Peace

### Other entities

International Committee of the Red Cross  
Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta

### National human rights institutions, international coordinating committees and regional groups of national institutions

Australian Human Rights Commission	Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka
Canadian Human Rights Commission	Independent Commission for Human Rights (State of Palestine)
Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions	National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (France)
Human Rights Commission (New Zealand)	National Council for Human Rights (Egypt)
Human Rights Commission of Malaysia	

National Human Rights Council (Morocco)	Office of the National Commissioner for Human Rights of Honduras
National Independent Commission on Human Rights (Madagascar)	Office of the Ombudsman (Colombia)
Netherlands Institute for Human Rights	Office of the Ombudsman (Plurinational State of Bolivia)
Norwegian National Human Rights Institution	Office of the Ombudsman (Spain)
Office of the Human Rights Advocate (Guatemala)	Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights
	Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission

## Non-governmental organizations

ABC Tamil Oli	Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas
Action Canada for Population and Development	Asociación Española para el Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos
Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs	Asociación HazteOir.org
Action of Human Movement	Association Adala-Justice
Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme en Mauritanie	Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul
Adalah: Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel	Association culturelle des Tamouls en France
Africa culture internationale	Association d'entraide médicale Guinée
African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies	Association des étudiants tamouls de France
African Development Association	Association Dunenyo
African Green Foundation International	Association for Progressive Communications
African Heritage Foundation Nigeria	Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Science in Africa
African Regional Agricultural Credit Association	Association for the Prevention of Torture
Agence internationale pour le développement	Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights
Aid Organization	Association for Women's Rights in Development
Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work	Association internationale pour l'égalité des femmes
Al-Haq	Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration
Aliran Kesedaran Negara National Consciousness Movement	Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit
Alliance Creative Community Project	Association of the Egyptian Female Lawyers
Alliance Defending Freedom	Association of World Citizens
Alliance internationale pour la défense des droits et des libertés	Association of Youths with Vision
Al Mezan Center for Human Rights	Association PANAFRICA
Alsalam Foundation	Association Points-Cœur
American Association of Jurists	Association pour l'éducation et la santé de la femme et de l'enfant
American Civil Liberties Union	Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi
Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain	Association pour la défense des droits de la femme mauritanienne
Amnesty International	Association pour le développement humain en Mauritanie
Arab Organization for Human Rights	Association pour les victimes du monde
Article 19: International Centre against Censorship	Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique
Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development	Association Thendral
Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development	Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII
Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum	Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights
Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women	Baha'i International Community
	Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center
	Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges
	B'nai B'rith
	Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University
	British Humanist Association
	Business and Professional Women Voluntary Organization – Sudan
	Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies

Canners International Permanent Committee	Corporación Centro de Estudios de Derecho, Justicia y Sociedad
Caritas Internationalis	“Coup de pousse” Chaîne de l’espoir Nord-Sud
Center for Environmental and Management Studies	Defence for Children International
Center for Global Nonkilling	Disability Association of Tavana
Center for Inquiry	Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers
Center for International Environmental Law	DRCNet Foundation
Center for Justice and International Law	Earthjustice
Center for Organisation Research and Education	East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project
Center for Reproductive Rights	Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development
Centre catholique international de Genève	Ecumenical Federation of Constantinopolitans
Centre de documentation, de recherche et d’information des peuples autochtones	Edmund Rice International
Centre Europe-tiers monde	Egyptian Organization for Human Rights
Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment	Ensemble contre la peine de mort
Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy	Espace Afrique international
Centre pour les droits civils et politiques	European Centre for Law and Justice
Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales	European Humanist Federation
Child Rights Connect	European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation
China NGO Network for International Exchanges	European Union of Jewish Students
China Society for Human Rights Studies	European Union of Public Relations
Chinese Association for International Understanding	Family Health Association of Iran
Christian Solidarity Worldwide	Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland
CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation	Federation for Women and Family Planning
Colombian Commission of Jurists	FIAN International
Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos	Fondation Cordoue de Genève
Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l’homme	Fondation pour l’étude des relations internationales et du développement
Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches	Forest Peoples Programme
Commission to Study the Organization of Peace	France libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand
Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative	Franciscans International
Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre	Freemuse: the World Forum on Music and Censorship
Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul	Friedrich Ebert Foundation
Conectas Direitos Humanos	Friends of the Earth International
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd	Friends World Committee for Consultation
Conscience and Peace Tax International	Fundación Abba Colombia
Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle	Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social
Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l’homme	Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad
Conselho Indigenista Missionário	Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue
Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations	Genève pour les droits de l’homme: formation internationale
Coordination des associations et des particuliers pour la liberté de conscience	Global Action on Aging
	Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
	Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health
	Global Welfare Association
	Guinée humanitaire
	Habitat International Coalition
	Health and Environment Program
	Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
	Himalayan Research and Cultural Foundation
	Hope for Education
	Human Rights Advocates
	Human Rights and Democratic Participation Center “SHAMS”
	Human Rights House Foundation

- Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International  
 Human Rights Information and Training Center  
 Human Rights Law Centre  
 Human Rights Now  
 Human Rights Watch  
 Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries  
 Il Cenacolo  
 Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society  
 India Media Centre  
 Indian Council of Education  
 Indian Council of South America  
 Ingénieurs du monde  
 Institut international pour les droits et le développement  
 Institute for NGO Research  
 International Association against Torture  
 International Association for Democracy in Africa  
 International Association of Crafts and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises  
 International Association of Democratic Lawyers  
 International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists  
 International Association of Seed Crushers  
 International Association of Soldiers for Peace  
 International Bar Association  
 International Buddhist Relief Organisation  
 International Career Support Association  
 International Catholic Child Bureau  
 International Commission of Jurists  
 International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas  
 International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
 International Council of Jewish Women  
 International Council of Russian Compatriots  
 International Council of Women  
 International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights  
 International Educational Development  
 International Federation for Human Rights Leagues  
 International Federation of ACAT  
 International Federation of Journalists  
 International Fellowship of Reconciliation  
 International Forum for Child Welfare  
 International Human Rights Association of American Minorities  
 International Human Rights Internship Program  
 International Humanist and Ethical Union  
 International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies  
 International Lesbian and Gay Association  
 International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism  
 International Movement ATD Fourth World  
 International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus  
 International Muslim Women's Union  
 International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination  
 International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education  
 International-Lawyers.org  
 International Peacebuilding Alliance  
 International PEN  
 International Planned Parenthood Federation  
 International Service for Human Rights  
 International Society for Human Rights  
 International Solidarity and Human Rights Institute  
 International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development  
 International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs  
 International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations  
 Iran Human Rights Documentation Center  
 Iranian Elite Research Center  
 Iraqi Al-Amal Association  
 Iraqi Development Organization  
 Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco  
 Iuventum  
 Japan Society for History Textbook  
 Japanese Workers Committee for Human Rights  
 Jeunesse étudiante tamoule  
 Jssor Youth Organization  
 Jubilee Campaign  
 Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture  
 Law Council of Australia  
 Lawyers for Lawyers  
 Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada  
 Le pont  
 Liberation  
 Lutheran World Federation  
 Ma'arij Foundation for Peace and Development  
 Maat Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights  
 Make Mothers Matter  
 Médecins du monde  
 Medical Aid for Palestinians  
 Minority Rights Group  
 Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group  
 Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples  
 National Association for the Defense of Rights and Freedoms  
 National Secular Society  
 New Humanity  
 Noble Institution for Environmental Peace  
 Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparency

OIDHACO, Bureau international des droits humains – action Colombie	Tiye International
Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés	TOBE Foundation for Rights and Freedoms
Organisation marocaine des droits humains	Tourner la page
Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale	Union of Arab Jurists
Organization for Defending Victims of Violence	Union of Northwest Human Rights Organisation
Oxfam International	United Nations Association of China
Palestinian Centre for Human Rights	United Nations Watch
Palestinian Return Centre	United Schools International
Pan African Federation of Agricultural Trade Unions	Universal Rights Group
Pan African Union for Science and Technology	UPR Info
Partners for Transparency	US Human Rights Network
Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation	Vaagdhara
Peace Brigades International Switzerland	Victorious Youths Movement
Peivande Gole Narges Organization	Villages unis
People's Cultural Centre	VIVAT International
Personhood Education	Women and Development Association in Alexandria
Physicians for Human Rights	Women@theTable
Plan International	Women's Human Rights International Association
Prahar	Women's International Democratic Federation
Presse emblème campagne	Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
Rahbord Peimayesh Research and Educational Services Cooperative	Women's World Summit Foundation
Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme	World Barua Organization
Reporters sans frontières international	World Environment and Resources Council
Réseau européen pour l'égalité des langues	World Evangelical Alliance
Réseau international des droits humains	World Federation of United Nations Associations
Réseau unité pour le développement de Mauritanie	World Jewish Congress
Right Livelihood Award Foundation	World Muslim Congress
Rutgers	World Organization against Torture
Save the Children International	World Peace Council
Shivi Development Society	World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations
Sikh Human Rights Group	World Young Women's Christian Association
Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos Humanos	Zéro pauvre Afrique
Society for Threatened Peoples	
Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of the Environment	
Soka Gakkai International	
Solidarité Suisse-Guinée	
Standing Voice	
Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality	
Stichting Ezidis	
Synergie féminine pour la paix et le développement durable	
Swedish Association for Sexuality Education	
Tamil Uzhagam	
Teresian Association	
Terre des hommes fédération internationale	

## Annex II

### Agenda

- Item 1. Organizational and procedural matters.
- Item 2. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.
- Item 3. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.
- Item 4. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention.
- Item 5. Human rights bodies and mechanisms.
- Item 6. Universal periodic review.
- Item 7. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories.
- Item 8. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Item 9. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Item 10. Technical assistance and capacity-building.

## Annex III

### Documents issued for the forty-third session

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A/HRC/43/3	2	Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/3/Add.1	2	Situation of human rights in Guatemala: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/3/Add.2	2	Situation of human rights in Honduras: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Honduras
A/HRC/43/3/Add.3	2	Situation of human rights in Colombia: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/4	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Italy
A/HRC/43/4/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
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A/HRC/43/6	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on the Gambia
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A/HRC/43/7/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
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A/HRC/43/11/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
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A/HRC/43/14	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Iraq
A/HRC/43/14/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/43/15	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Slovenia
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A/HRC/43/19	2	Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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A/HRC/43/41/Add.3	3	Visit to Norway
A/HRC/43/41/Add.4	3	Visit to Kuwait: comments by the State
A/HRC/43/41/Add.5	3	Visit to Canada: comments by the State
A/HRC/43/41/Add.6	3	Visit to Norway: comments by the State
A/HRC/43/42	3	Women and children impacted by albinism: report of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism
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A/HRC/43/44/Add.2	3	Visit to Zimbabwe
A/HRC/43/44/Add.3	3	Visit to Azerbaijan: comments by the State
A/HRC/43/44/Add.4	3	Visit to Zimbabwe: comments by the State
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A/HRC/43/50/Add.2	3	Visit to Maldives
A/HRC/43/50/Add.3	3	Visit to Poland: comments by the State
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A/HRC/43/51/Add.2	3	Visit to Mongolia
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A/HRC/43/53	3	Right to a healthy environment: good practices: report of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment
A/HRC/43/53/Add.1	3	Visit to Fiji
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A/HRC/43/57	4	Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
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A/HRC/43/64	2, 5	Twenty-sixth annual meeting of special rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and chairs of working groups of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 17 to 21 June 2019, including updated information on special procedures: report of the Secretariat
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A/HRC/43/64/Add.1/Corr.1	2, 5	Corrigendum
A/HRC/43/65	2	Conclusions and recommendations of special procedures: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/43/66	3, 5	Study on utilizing non-repatriated illicit funds with a view to supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals: report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee
A/HRC/43/67	2, 7	Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/68	10	Report of the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights
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A/HRC/43/71	2, 7	Database of all business enterprises involved in the activities detailed in paragraph 96 of the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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A/HRC/43/73	9	Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action on its seventeenth session: note by the Secretariat
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A/HRC/43/74	2, 10	Situation of human rights in Afghanistan, and technical assistance achievements in the field of human rights: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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A/HRC/43/CRP.6	4	“They have erased the dreams of my children”: children’s rights in the Syrian Arab Republic: Conference Room Paper of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
A/HRC/43/CRP.7	10	Report on the human rights situation in Ukraine (16 November 2019–15 February 2020)

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A/HRC/43/L.4	3	Human rights of migrants: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants
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A/HRC/43/L.19	3	Mental health and human rights
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A/HRC/43/L.21	3	The negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights
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A/HRC/43/G/3	4	Note verbale dated 19 November 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/4	4	Note verbale dated 19 November 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/5	4	Note verbale dated 16 December 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/6	4	Note verbale dated 16 December 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/7	4	Note verbale dated 14 January 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/8	4	Note verbale dated 20 January 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/9	6	Note verbale dated 23 January 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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A/HRC/43/G/12	4	Note verbale dated 14 February 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/13	4	Note verbale dated 14 February 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/14	4	Note verbale dated 17 February 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/15	2	Note verbale dated 18 February 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/16	4	Note verbale dated 28 February 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/17	4	Note verbale dated 28 February 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/18	3	Note verbale dated 2 March 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/19	3	Note verbale dated 4 March 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/20	4	Note verbale dated 8 January 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/21	2	Letter dated 4 March 2020 from the Acting Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/43/G/22	4	Note verbale dated 4 March 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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A/HRC/43/G/24	4	Note verbale dated 1 April 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/25	4	Note verbale dated 1 April 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/26	4	Note verbale dated 8 April 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/27	4	Note verbale dated 8 April 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/28	4	Note verbale dated 8 April 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/29	4	Note verbale dated 8 April 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/30	4	Note verbale dated 15 April 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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A/HRC/43/G/32	4	Note verbale dated 6 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/33	4	Note verbale dated 12 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/34	4	Note verbale dated 12 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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A/HRC/43/G/37	4	Note verbale dated 12 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/38	4	Note verbale dated 22 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/39	4	Note verbale dated 22 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/40	7	Letter dated 5 June 2020 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/43/G/41	2	Note verbale dated 18 March 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/42	5	Note verbale dated 18 June 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/43	3	Note verbale dated 29 June 2020 from the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council and to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/44	2	Note verbale dated 15 July 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/43/G/45	4	Note verbale dated 1 April 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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A/HRC/43/NGO/2	3	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/3	6	Exposé écrit présenté par Association Adala-Justice, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/43/NGO/4	3	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/5	3	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/6	6	Written statement submitted by Network of Women's Non-governmental Organization in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/7	4	Written statement submitted by Network of Women's Non-governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/8	3	Written statement submitted by Sudanese Organization for Combating Violence against Women & Child (SAO), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/9	3	Written statement submitted by Al Zubair Charitable Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/10	6	Written statement submitted by Egyptian Organization for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/11	6	Written statement submitted by Egyptian Organization for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/12	3	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status

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A/HRC/43/NGO/16	4	Written statement submitted by International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/17	7	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/18	3, 4	Written statement submitted by Network of Women's Non-governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/19	3	Written statement submitted by International Human Rights Association of American Minorities (IHRAAM), a non-governmental organization on the roster
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A/HRC/43/NGO/21	9	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/22	7	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/23	4	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/24	2	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/25	3	Written statement submitted by Jeunesse Etudiante Tamoule, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/27	3	Written statement submitted by Barzani Charity Foundation / BCF, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/28	4	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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A/HRC/43/NGO/31	4	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/32	4	Written statement submitted by Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/33	4	Joint written statement submitted by Iraqi Development Organization, Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/34	2	Written statement submitted by Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/36	6	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/38	4	Written statement submitted by African Green Foundation International, non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/39	3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/40	3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster

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A/HRC/43/NGO/42	3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/43	3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/44	4	Written statement submitted by International Educational Development, Inc., a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/46	6	Written statement submitted by International-Lawyers.Org, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/47	3	Written statement submitted by Barzani Charity Foundation / BCF, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/48	6	Exposé écrit présenté par International Catholic Child Bureau, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/43/NGO/49	3	Written statement submitted by Réseau Unité pour le Développement de Mauritanie, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/50	5	Written statement submitted by Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/51	4	Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre Ltd, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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A/HRC/43/NGO/53	3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Association Ma'nah for Human Rights and Immigration, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/54	3	Joint written statement submitted by African Green Foundation International, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/55	5	Joint written statement submitted by African Green Foundation International, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/56	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Advocates Inc., a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/57	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Advocates Inc., a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/58	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Advocates Inc., a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/59	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Advocates Inc., a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/60	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Advocates Inc., a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/61	3	Written statement submitted by Abshar Atefaha Charity Institute, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/62	3	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/63	7	Written statement submitted by Norwegian Refugee Council, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/43/NGO/64	3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/65	5	Written statement submitted by Habitat International Coalition, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/66	3	Written statement submitted by Family Health Association of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/67	4	Written statement submitted by Family Health Association of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/68	6	Written statement submitted by Family Health Association of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/69	3	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/70	2	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/71	4	Written statement submitted by Il Cenacolo, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/72	2	Exposé écrit présenté par Il Cenacolo, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/43/NGO/73	4	Written statement submitted by International Educational Development, Inc., a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/74	2	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/75	3	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/76	3	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/43/NGO/77	5	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/78	4	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/79	8	Written statement submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/80	6	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Information and Training Center, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/81	3	Written statement submitted by Rahbord Peimayesh Research & Educational Services Cooperative, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/82	3	Written statement submitted by Society for Protection of Street & Working Children, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/83	3	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/84	10	Exposición escrita presentada por Centro UNESCO De Donostia-San Sebastián, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/43/NGO/85	3	Written statement submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/86	4	Written statement submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/87	4	Written statement submitted by Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/88	6	Exposé écrit présenté par International Catholic Child Bureau, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/43/NGO/89	6	Written statement submitted by The Association of the Egyptian Female Lawyers, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/90	4	Joint written statement submitted by African Green Foundation International, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/91	6	Written statement submitted by The Association of the Egyptian Female Lawyers, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/43/NGO/92	4	Written statement submitted by Society of Iranian women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/93	4	Written statement submitted by Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/94	3	Written statement submitted by Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/95	3	Written statement submitted by Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/96	3	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/97	2	Written statement submitted by Jssor Youth Organization, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/98	3	Exposé écrit présenté par Cercle de Recherche sur les Droits et les Devoirs de la Personne Humaine, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/43/NGO/99	6	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/100	4	Written statement submitted by People for Successful Corean Reunification, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/101	4	Written statement submitted by World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/102	3	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/103	3	Written statement submitted by Disability Association of Tavana, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/104	5	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/106	5	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/108	7	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/43/NGO/109	7	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/112	2	Joint written statement submitted by Franciscans International, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/115	4	Written statement submitted by Liberal International, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/116	4	Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre Ltd, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/117	3	Written statement submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/118	3	Written statement submitted by The Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection “Manshour-e Parseh”, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/119	3	Written statement submitted by Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/120	4	Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre Ltd, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/121	3	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/122	4	Written statement submitted by Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/123	3	Written statement submitted by Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/124	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/125	4	Written statement submitted by Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/126	3	Written statement submitted by Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/127	5	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/43/NGO/129	3	Written statement submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/130	3	Written statement submitted by Iran Autism Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/131	4	Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The / Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/133	9	Written statement submitted by Institute for NGO Research, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/134	7	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/136	3	Written statement submitted by Christian Solidarity Worldwide, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/137	4	Joint written statement submitted by Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, Women's Human Rights International Association, Edmund Rice International Limited, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., International Society for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/138	7	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/139	3, 4	Written statement submitted by Christian Solidarity Worldwide, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/140	4	Written statement submitted by Réseau Unité pour le Développement de Mauritanie, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/43/NGO/141	3	Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The / Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/142	4	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/143	4	Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The / Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/145	3	Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The / Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/146	7	Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre Ltd, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/147	4	Written statement submitted by International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/148	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/149/Rev.1	3	Revised written statement submitted by International Eurasia Press Fund, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/150	3	Written statement submitted by International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/151	5	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/152	7	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/153	4	Written statement submitted by Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/155	4	Written statement submitted by Partners for Transparency, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/43/NGO/156	7	Written statement submitted by Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/157	3	Joint written statement submitted by Al-khoei Foundation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, Minority Rights Group, Christian Solidarity Worldwide and The Institute of Development Studies, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/158	3	Written statement submitted by Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/159	3	Written statement submitted by Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/160	3	Written statement submitted by Standing Voice, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/162	9	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/43/NGO/164	3	Written statement submitted by Centre Europe - tiers monde, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/165	4	Exposé écrit présenté par Association Internationale pour l'égalité des femmes, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/43/NGO/166	3	Exposé écrit présenté par l'Association Internationale pour l'égalité des femmes, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/43/NGO/167	5	Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/168	10	Written statement submitted by Elizka Relief Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/170	3	Exposé écrit présenté par Réseau Européen pour l'Égalité des Langues, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/43/NGO/171	4	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/43/NGO/172	3	Exposición escrita presentada por Réseau Européen pour l'Égalité des Langues, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/43/NGO/173	3	Written statement submitted by Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/174	4	Joint written statement submitted by Fundacion para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la Sociedad, Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, Fundacion Vida - Grupo Ecologico Verde, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/175	7	Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Defence for Children International, Habitat International Coalition, and Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/176	7	Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Defence for Children International, Habitat International Coalition, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/177	2	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/178	3	Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Defence for Children International, Habitat International Coalition, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/179	6	Written statement submitted by Physicians for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/180	4	Written statement submitted by Physicians for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/181	2	Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Defence for Children International, Habitat International Coalition, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/43/NGO/183	3	Written statement submitted by Jubilee Campaign, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/184	3	Written statement submitted by Le Pont, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/185	9	Joint written statement submitted by Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Defence for Children International, Habitat International Coalition, and Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/186	3	Written statement submitted by Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/187	3	Written statement submitted by Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/188	9	Written statement submitted by Sikh Human Rights Group, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/189	3	Written statement submitted by Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/190	3	Written statement submitted by Network of Women's Non-governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/192	3	Written statement submitted by Network of Women's Non-governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/195	3	Written statement submitted by Sikh Human Rights Group, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/196	4	Written statement submitted by Auspice Stella, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/198	3	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/199	3	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/200	9	Written statement submitted by International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/201	3	Joint written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Elizka Relief Foundation, Partners For Transparency, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status

*Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/43/NGO/203	7	Written statement submitted by Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/204	6	Written statement submitted by Center for Economic and Social Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/205	4	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/206	3	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/43/NGO/207	3	Exposición escrita presentada por la Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/43/NGO/208	3	Written statement submitted by Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

## Annex IV

### **Special procedure mandate holders appointed by the Human Rights Council at its forty-third session**

**Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development (member from African States)**

Bonny Ibhawoh (Nigeria)

**Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development (member from Asia-Pacific States)**

Mihir Kanade (India)

**Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development (member from Eastern European States)**

Klentiana Mahmudaj (Albania)

**Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development (member from Latin American and Caribbean States)**

Armando Antonio De Negri Filho (Brazil)

**Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development (member from Western European and other States)**

Koen De Feyter (Belgium)

**Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (member from the Arctic)**

Laila Susanne Vars (Norway)

**Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (member from Asia)**

Binota Moy Dhamai (Bangladesh)

**Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights**

Yuefen Li (China)

**Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons**

Claudia Mahler (Austria)

**Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia**

Isha Dyfan (Sierra Leone)

**Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context**

Balakrishnan Rajagopal (United States of America)

**Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and its consequences**

Tomoya Obokata (Japan)

**Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights**

Olivier De Schutter (Belgium)

**Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights**

Alena Douhan (Belarus)

**Special Rapporteur on the right to food**

Michael Fakhri (Lebanon)

**Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples**

José Francisco Calí Tzay (Guatemala)

**Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material**

Mama Fatima Singhateh (Gambia)

**Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders**

Mary Lawlor (Ireland)

**Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar**

Thomas H. Andrews (United States of America)

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