

Responses to Recommendations

SERBIA

Review in the Working Group: 5 December 2008

Adoption in the Plenary: 19 March 2009

Serbia's responses to recommendations (as of 24.02.2010):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Recommendations pending responses:	Summary:
No response, all pending	16 REC accepted; 2 rejected; 6 commented but with no clear position given and 3 pending	No additional information provided	4 REC	Accepted: 16 Rejected: 2 No clear position: 6 Pending: 3

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/10/78:

“57. In the course of the discussion, the following recommendations were made to Serbia:

A - 1. To take appropriate measures to implement its commitments referred to in paragraphs 119 and 120 of the national report, in particular ratifying various international instruments (Algeria); to consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Brazil) as soon as possible (Chile) and the Optional Protocol thereto (Mexico), the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Mexico, Algeria); and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Brazil);

A - 2. To adopt specific and comprehensive anti-discrimination laws (Mexico, Hungary) to protect, inter alia, the rights of disabled persons, including living conditions in residential and mental health institutions, and promote their social integration (Italy), and
 NC - begin their implementation (Slovakia);

A - 3. To ensure that legislation related to the State's commitment to human rights is adopted and enforced as soon as possible (United Kingdom); to educate its public through awareness-raising campaigns enabling them to use existing legislative and institutional mechanisms for the protection of human rights (Slovakia);

P - 4. To ensure that the Commissioner for Information of Public Importance be given greater access to information so that he may fully determine whether such information should be withheld from access to the public (United Kingdom); to take all necessary measures to enhance the effectiveness of the Office of the Ombudsman (Greece, Romania) and extend its monitoring authorities to Government and the Public Prosecutor's Office to ensure the possibility of Redressing human rights violations (Azerbaijan); and include, inter alia, effective monitoring and promotion of child rights (Greece) and the rights of persons belonging to national minorities (Romania);

A - 5. To strengthen the national mechanism for the implementation of the decisions of the Human Rights Committee, the Committee against Torture, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in individual complaints (Slovakia); to speed up the process of implementing the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and designate an independent national preventive mechanism in consultation with civil society, take all required measures to effectively prevent torture (Denmark), and to submit its report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination as soon as possible (Japan);

A - 6. To increase its efforts at enhancing the role of women in high-level decisionmaking (Ghana);

NC - 7. To combat, within the framework of the law of the State, neo-Nazi groups and others promoting racial hatred and violence (Chile); to combat the climate of impunity (Croatia) and ensure that racially motivated attacks committed against minorities are systematically investigated, prosecuted and punished according to law (Canada, Croatia);

A - 8. To continue its positive efforts to promote and protect children rights and to attain full empowerment of women (Cuba); and take all appropriate measures, in the fields of legislation, implementation and awareness-raising, to tackle domestic violence against women and children (Italy);

P - 9. To ensure full compliance of domestic legislation and relevant procedures with juvenile justice standards of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Poland);

A - 10. To take concrete measures to address the high rate of unemployment among persons with disabilities and the special needs of children with disabilities at schools (Finland);

A - 11. To prohibit corporal punishment, including in the family, in line with the recent recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Austria);

A - 12. To implement a comprehensive national strategy to prevent trafficking and sexual exploitation of children (Poland); to take effective measures to combat trafficking in women and children in cooperation with countries in the trafficking network (Bangladesh);

A - 13. To continue to develop a legal system in line with international standards, in order to strengthen the rule of law (Switzerland);

NC - 14. To continue to make every effort to ensure full cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (France, Switzerland); fulfil its obligations to the Tribunal and other related bodies (United Kingdom); and track down and arrest the key remaining fugitives accused of war crimes by the Tribunal (Canada, Switzerland), namely, former Bosnian Serb General Ratko Mladic and former Croatian Serb political leader Goran Hadzic (Canada);

A - 15. To take all necessary measures to ensure that allegations of human rights violations brought to the knowledge of the authorities are systematically subjected to inquiries and punished where appropriate (France, Norway); to strengthen measures for the development of effective mechanisms to help combat impunity, including strengthening of the judiciary (Mexico);

R - 16. To reinstate civilian control of decision-making in relation to applications for conscientious objection to military service, to extend the time during which applications can be made, to remove the exclusion of all those who have ever held a firearms license from being recognized as conscientious objectors, and to equalize the length of alternative and military service (Slovenia);

A - 17. To strengthen its anti-corruption policy (Poland); to intensify its efforts to combat corruption in order to ensure the independence, effectiveness and quality of the judicial system (Sweden); to strengthen the rule of law as enshrined in the Constitution, and ensure the independence of the judiciary (Ireland, Czech Republic); to enhance the efficiency of the judiciary and secure access to concrete remedies for victims of human rights violations (Czech Republic);

R - 18. To take all adequate measures to guarantee the protection and promotion of religious freedom, including by adopting legislation recognizing all churches and religious communities (Italy); to take into account the opinions and recommendations of the European Commission for Democracy through Law when implementing the law on religious organizations (Romania);

NC - 19. To adopt necessary measures to secure full respect for freedom of expression (Sweden, Ireland) and of the media (Canada);

A - to ensure investigation of all cases of alleged violence against journalists (Ireland); and to create a climate in which journalists are able to report on sensitive issues without fear or harassment and reprisal (Canada);

P - 20. To promote the work of human rights defenders (Sweden, Canada, Switzerland) and take all necessary measures to ensure their safety (France, Czech Republic) and freedom of expression (Switzerland), and ensure they have a favourable working environment (France); to follow up the recommendation of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders and denounce more forcefully verbal and physical attacks against human rights defenders (Germany, Norway); to adopt a national plan of action to enhance the protection of human rights defenders and independent journalists (Netherlands), to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to protect human rights defenders, including those working on behalf of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons (Canada); to apply the Yogyakarta Principles as a guide for new policies in the area of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights (Netherlands); and ensure the effective investigation of alleged attacks against human rights defenders (Canada, Ireland);

NC - 21. To continue current positive steps to promote equality and non-discrimination in the national minorities in the country (Cuba); to adopt all necessary measures so that minorities can effectively enjoy all their rights (Chile); to intensify efforts to ensure their better integration (Switzerland); to protect national minorities rights already granted by the existing law and to have them reflected in the new legislation, and not diminish the current minority stipulation for the procedures of elections (Slovenia); not allow the nullification of the signatures already collected to form a minority association, and not raise the threshold of signatures needed on application forms (Slovenia); to consider poverty reduction strategies that benefit minority groups (Brazil);

A - 22. To adopt specific and comprehensive anti-discrimination laws to protect the rights of persons belonging to minorities, including the Roma, including access to health care and education (Finland, Canada); to effectively integrate the Roma into society (Finland); to continue to improve the socio-economic situation of the Roma minority (Republic of Korea); and to strengthen measures to ensure registration of all Roma in Serbia (Austria);

A - 23. To take all necessary measures to ensure the improvement of socio-economic conditions of refugees and internally displaced persons (Greece); and

NC - to strengthen the role of its national mechanisms for the promotion and protection of the rights of minorities, refugees and internally displaced persons, with appropriate assistance from the international community (Ghana);

A - 24. To reach the human rights goals set by the Council in its resolution 9/12 (Brazil).

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