

Gabon's review in the Working Group
Monday 5, 10 am – 1 pm
Overview of the Working Group session

The Troika

The Troika states are Nigeria, China and Azerbaijan. Nigeria and China took the floor without mentioning being members of the Troika.

Presentation by Gabon

Speaking time: 22 minr

The delegation of Gabon merely highlighted what they have achieved so far. The specific issues covered include the following: death penalty, rights of the child (with emphasis on trafficking of children and child labor), public health, rights of women, rights of indigenous people (Pigmy), civil society, freedom of expression and press, right to education, gender equality

Interactive dialogue

Number of countries that took the floor

36 countries took the floor in total during the interactive dialogue, of which **21 were Member states** (Pakistan, Philippines, China, France, Senegal, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Malaysia, Cuba, Russian Federation, Canada, United Kingdom, Italy, Nigeria, Japan, Slovenia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Brazil, Republic of Korea, and Cameroon) and **15 non-Member states** (Algeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tunisia, Finland, Republic of Congo, Latvia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Morocco, United States of America, Sweden, Guinea, Ethiopia, Chad and Mauritania)

Questions/issues raised

Rights of the Child - Malaysia; *Child trafficking* - Pakistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Finland, Republic of Congo, Japan, Chad, Cameroon; *Child labor* - Russian Federation, Japan; *Commercial sexual exploitation of children* - Japan; **HIV/AIDS** - Democratic Republic of the Congo, Philippines; **Indigenous peoples** - Democratic Republic of the Congo, France (enforcement of the program of action), Republic of Congo, Russian Federation, Sweden (education); **Death penalty** - Finland, Italy; **Women's rights** - Germany (discriminating customs), Slovenia (gender perspective in the preparation of the national reports), Bosnia Herzegovina (gender equality); **Freedom of opinion and expression** - Germany, United States of America; **Human trafficking** - Republic of Congo; **International human rights bodies** - Russian Federation (cooperation with them); **Ritual killings** - United States of America, Guinea; **Public health** - Japan; **Corruption** - Slovenia; **Torture** - Sweden (Optional Protocol to the CAT); **Prison conditions** - Republic of Korea; **Civil society participation in preparation of the national reports** – Cameroon; **Migrant workers** - Mauritania (Convention)

Recommendations

Indigenous Peoples

- Upholding rights of indigenous peoples, enforcement of the action plan (Algeria, Netherlands, Nigeria, Slovenia)

Health

- Strengthening of social service to combat various diseases (Algeria)

Education

- Further efforts to increase school attendance, with focus on gender equality (Algeria)

Women's Rights

- Further strengthening of rights of women and of the child (Philippines)
- Urgent legal reform on rights of women (Germany, Canada)
- Harmonization of domestic law and international law in gender equality (Mexico)
- Incorporation of gender perspectives in the national reports (Slovenia)

Death Penalty

- Immediate actions concerning death penalty (Finland)

International Instruments

- Ratification of the convention on enforced disappearance (France)
- Speedy drafting of reports for international human rights bodies (Hungary, Nigeria)
- Ratification of the Rome Statute (Canada)
- Additional cooperation with international human rights bodies (Bosnia Herzegovina)

Cooperation with Special Procedures

- Acceptance of Special Procedures (Latvia, Hungary)

Rights of the Child

- Criminalization of trafficking of children and corporal punishment thereof (Mexico, Netherlands)

Migrants workers

- Ratification of the convention on migrant workers (Mexico)

Detention conditions

- Improvement of situations in prison, especially better treatment of minors in prison (Hungary, Italy)
- Establishment of minimum rules concerning detention (Slovenia)

Freedom of opinion, expression and press

- Upholding freedom of press and expression (Hungary, Canada)

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

- Continuing efforts in the field of the Economic, Social and Cultural rights (Cuba)

Corruption

- Intensified efforts to combat corruptions (Slovenia)

Answers provided by Gabon

Special procedures, international conventions not yet ratified by Gabon, freedom of expression and press, ritual killings, child trafficking and child exploitation, juvenile justice, prison situations, rights of women, HIV/AIDS, indigenous people, national human rights institutions and rights of migrant workers.

Issues for follow-up

Gabon declared that they were ready to welcome Special Procedures. It affirmed its intention to ratify the international human rights conventions which it has not ratified so far.

Algeria, Netherlands, Nigeria and Slovenia asked for the enforcement of the National Plan of Action on Indigenous peoples.

States that made solely welcoming statements

Tunisia and Morocco; Brazil only remarked the situation of minorities and indigenous people.

Human Rights mentioned during the review but on which Gabon did not give a response

Ratification of the Rome Statute (Canada)

Incorporation of gender perspectives in the national reports (Slovenia)

Corruptions (Slovenia)

Speaking times

Overall duration of the review: about 2 hours and 20 minutes

Of Gabon

During its opening statement: 22 minutes

Overall speaking time employed to respond to other States' questions during the interactive dialogue: 28 minutes

Concluding remarks: there was no concluding remark.

Of other States

Member states: Canada (well longer than 3 min)

Non-member states: Tunisia (1:15), Finland (1min), Latvia (40 sec), Italy (1:20),

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