

**Ghana's review in the Working Group,**  
**Monday 5 May 2008, 3 pm – 6 pm**  
**Overview of the Working Group session**

**The Troika**

The troika is composed of Netherlands, Bolivia and Sri Lanka. We can observe that no State took the floor on the behalf of the troika. Netherlands asked questions and made recommendations. Bolivia and Sri Lanka didn't take the floor.

**Presentation by Ghana**

*Speaking time:* 34 minutes

**Problems raised:** need of direct budget intervention for education; policy for a social protection; human trafficking; corruption; training in medical field; amendments of some elements of the Constitution.

**Achievements made:** freedom of opinion and expression; collaboration with NHRI (budget support); collaboration with the civil society (high participation for the report); respect of the rule-of-law; corruption; role of women in decision-making; child's rights (trafficking, labor); traditional medicine; access to justice (complaints from the public); HR education in police personal; domestic violence; mining (exploitation, condition of illegal miners); right to education.

**Answers to written questions:** Ghana answers to the question raised by Canada on the efforts made to continue the protection of HR.

**Interactive dialogue**

Number of countries that took the floor

**44 countries took the floor** during the interactive dialogue, **25 Member States** of the Human Rights Council (Pakistan, India, France, China, Romania, Mali, United Kingdom, Mexico, Netherlands, Azerbaijan, Malaysia, Senegal, Cuba, Russian Federation, Canada, Philippines, Italy, South Africa, Switzerland, Germany, Slovenia, Brazil, Zambia, Republic of Korea, Bosnia and Herzegovina) and **19 Non-member States** (Czech Republic, Tunisia, Republic Democratic of Congo, Finland, Hungary, Luxembourg, Burkina Faso, Turkey, United States, Algeria, Portugal, Ireland, Austria, Guinea, Chile, Tanzania, Côte d'Ivoire, Syria, Morocco).

Questions/issues raised

**Rights of the Child** - Pakistan, Finland (corporal punishment), Turkey, Germany (child trafficking), Zambia, Syria; *Child Labour* – Malaysia, Republic of Korea; **Collaboration with civil society** - Pakistan; **Women's rights:** India (girl students); *Female genital mutilation* – France, Chile, Tanzania; *Gender equality* - Netherlands, Slovenia (polygamy); *Violence against women* - France, Czech Republic, Azerbaijan, United States, Algeria, Austria, Guinea, Republic of Korea; **Justice** - India (jurisdictional complaints process); **Death penalty: abolishment** - France; **Conflicts regulation** - Senegal; **Poverty** – Senegal, Portugal, Chile; **Excessive use of police force** - China, Mexico; **Debt** - China; **HIV/AIDS** – Romania, Bosnia and Herzegovina (children); **Disabilities** - Romania; **Minorities** - Romania; **Right to Food** - Luxembourg; **Prison conditions** - United Kingdom; **Health: traditional medicine** - RD Congo, South Africa;

**Witches camp** - RD Congo; **Complaints of Human Rights violations** - Russian Federation **Education** - South Africa; **Water** - South Africa (access to), Brazil (safe drinking water in mining context); **NHRI** – Turkey; **Mining activities** - Germany; **Electoral transition after the elections** - United States; Refugees - United States (Liberians); **Millennium Development Goals** – Tanzania; **National Plan for Education** – Morocco

### Recommendations

#### Justice

- recommends to ensure that the victims of violations have access to the justice (**Czech Republic**)
- recommends to strengthen the judiciary system and to fight against corruption (**Czech Republic**)
- recommends to remove obstacles for the access of justice (**Hungary**)
- recommends to inform the public for access of justice (**Netherlands**)
- recommends reforming the judiciary system (**Switzerland**)

#### Rights of the Child

- recommends taking further measures, regarding to UN studies, for violence against children (**Finland**)
- recommends taking measures to protect child abuses (**Italy**)
- recommends making more efforts to protect children's rights (**Switzerland**)

#### International instruments

- recommends allowing the visit of Special Rapporteurs (**Hungary**)
- recommends ratifying CEDAW (**Mexico**)
- recommends ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and CAT (**Mexico**)
- recommends ratifying the OP-CAT (**Netherlands**)
- recommends ratifying CAT (**Canada**)

#### Women's Rights

- recommends taking steps for gender equality, including the gap between boys and girls in educational field (**Hungary**)
- recommends further measures for violence against women (**United Kingdom**)
- recommends continuing efforts for women's rights (**Mexico**)
- recommends taking measures for discrimination against women, including female genital mutilation (**Canada**)
- recommends implementing the actions taken for gender equality (**Italy**)
- recommends making more efforts to protect women's (**Switzerland**)
- recommends integrating the gender perspective in the review (**Slovenia**)
- recommends ensuring efforts for violence against women (**Ireland**)
- recommends introducing a gender perspective in the actions taken concerning housing (**Brazil**)

#### Rule of law

- recommends taking measures for the rule-of-law (**Romania**)

#### HIV/AIDS

- recommends actions for educational programs for AIDS prevention (**Romania**)

### **Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

- recommends taking efforts to promote ESCR (**Cuba**)

### **Freedom of opinion and expression**

- recommends improving freedom of expression (**Canada**)

### **Death Penalty**

- recommends removing death penalty from the Constitution (**Canada**)
- recommends abolishing death penalty (**Italy**)
- recommends establishing a moratorium for abolishing death penalty (**Switzerland**)
- recommends to take the next steps to abolish death penalty (**Portugal**)

### **Corruption**

- recommends further actions to eliminate corruption (**Canada**)

### **Technical assistance**

- recommends calling the international community for technical support (**Algeria**)

### **Education**

- recommends continuing attention for education (**Algeria**)

### **Impunity**

- recommends enhancing efforts to combat impunity (**Portugal**)
- recommends to expand the access of justice and fight impunity (**Austria**)

### **General**

- recommends sharing its experience of the national reconstruction (**Switzerland**)
- recommends revising the Criminal Code to repeal criminalizing of sexual activities between consenting adults. (**Romania, Slovenia**)

### **Issues on which Ghana provided an answer:**

Poverty; Right to food crisis; Freedom of opinion and expression; Access to justice; Training for prisoners; Rights of the Child (Girl child exploitation, Child labor); Women's rights (gender gap in first degree education, gender approach in property rights); Death penalty; Traditional medicine; Funding and the importance of good governance; Independence of the judiciary; Corruption; Economic difficulties.

### ***Issues for follow-up***

The delegation doesn't underline the issues included in the follow-up process. We can however observe that, in its answer to the questions raised by the States, Ghana points out the need of amendments on death penalty.

### **States that made solely welcoming statements**

Tunisia, Mali, Philippines, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire.

### **Human Rights mentioned during the review but on which Ghana did not give a response**

Visits of Special Rapporteurs, collaboration with civil society, minorities.

### **Speaking times**

Overall duration of the review: 2 hours 46 minutes.

Of Ghana:

Opening statement: 34 minutes

Respond to other States' questions during the interactive dialogue: 17 minutes

Concluding remarks: 4 minutes

Of other States:

Member States: 3 minutes

Non-member States: 2 minutes.

Syria spoke for 7 minutes.

*Disclaimer: note that this document only represents an overview with the aim of providing the list of issues that were raised during the discussion and should therefore not be quoted as an official document of the UPR process. This document is protected by copyrights and is property of UPR-info.org. Should you wish to use any of its content and solely for non-commercial purposes, you must attribute it to its author.*