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Universal periodic review

## Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\*

### South Africa

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\* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.



## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its forty-first session from 7 to 18 November 2022. The review of South Africa was held at the 15th meeting, on 16 November 2022. The delegation of South Africa was headed by the Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, John Jeffery. At its 17th meeting, held on 18 November 2022, the Working Group adopted the report on South Africa.
2. On 12 January 2022, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of South Africa: Armenia, Libya and Qatar.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of South Africa:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);<sup>1</sup>
  - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);<sup>2</sup>
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).<sup>3</sup>
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Angola, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Liechtenstein, Panama, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to South Africa through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

## I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

### A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, John Jeffery, stated that the Constitution of South Africa provided that “human dignity, the achievement of equality and the advancement of human rights and freedoms” were some of the foundational values of the country’s democracy. He noted the legacy of colonialism, racial discrimination, and apartheid. South Africa had continued to address challenges post-COVID-19, needing to rebuild the economy, and had tried to balance safety with not infringing on human rights.
6. The country had supported most recommendations made by the previous Working Group, with noted recommendations receiving government attention.
7. The Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill was before Parliament. The Government was aware of violence targeted at foreign nationals, much of it stemming from frustrations within communities that felt they were competing with migrants. South Africa had sought to ensure accountability for unlawful conduct and had a comprehensive legal and policy framework. It had developed an early warning system, a rapid response mechanism, and an online system of services for refugees and asylum-seekers.
8. The Government remained concerned about discrimination and violence against women. The interventions had included two presidential summits, a national strategic plan and three new laws.

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<sup>1</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/41/ZAF/1](#).

<sup>2</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/41/ZAF/2](#).

<sup>3</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/41/ZAF/3](#).

9. South Africa had taken measures to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, including measures towards ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa.

10. Regarding whistle-blowers and human rights defenders, the Government had commenced reviews of the Protected Disclosures Act and the Witness Protection Act.

11. Legislative, policy and other measures ensured the achievement of socioeconomic, political and civil rights. Key issues included improved access to housing, water, sanitation, education, and other means of supporting community livelihoods. Parliament had approved the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

12. During the interactive dialogue, 115 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

13. Egypt commended broader access to legal aid, the commission on human trafficking, and the national strategic plan on violence against women.

14. Estonia noted with appreciation the national action plan against racism and the national strategic plan to combat gender-based violence and femicide.

15. Eswatini applauded South Africa for hosting the human rights regional office, enabling the region to gain human rights technical assistance.

16. Ethiopia commended the implementation of previous review recommendations, and the recognition of traditional leadership through the Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership Act (Act No. 3 of 2019).

17. Finland commended the establishment of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide.

18. France noted the measures taken by South African authorities to respect human rights.

19. Gabon welcomed legal and institutional measures taken to eradicate trafficking in persons, unemployment and poverty.

20. The Gambia commended the provision of legal aid services to all and the new marriage policy harmonizing marriage practices.

21. Georgia evaluated positively a study on trafficking in persons, victim assistance standard operating procedures, and progress on women's participation.

22. Germany commended progress in fighting child mortality, but remained concerned about migrant rights, the right to education and gender-based violence.

23. Ghana welcomed the designation of a national preventive mechanism, strategies to combat corruption and the national health insurance bill.

24. Greece commended the Trafficking in Persons Act to address human trafficking and the commission of inquiry to investigate and prosecute corruption cases.

25. India appreciated the National Minimum Wage Act, the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative, and the national strategic plans for HIV, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections.

26. The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomed the national action plan to combat racism, and the multidimensional approach to addressing poverty, inequality and unemployment.

27. Iraq appreciated efforts to implement the National Development Plan through a multifaceted approach to addressing poverty, inequality and unemployment.

28. Ireland welcomed the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide but remained concerned about lack of implementation.

29. Israel remained concerned about violence and discrimination against LGBTIQI persons, harmful practices and discrimination faced by intersex persons, and gender-based violence.
30. Italy welcomed efforts to combat violence against women and domestic violence, including the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide.
31. Japan welcomed the commitment of South Africa to gender equality and acknowledged efforts to address gender-based violence and femicide.
32. Kenya noted the increased representation of women in the public sector, the provision of free water services, and a bill prohibiting marriage below the age of 18 years.
33. Lesotho applauded the legal and policy framework to address overcrowding in detention centres, and efforts to address child labour.
34. Libya expressed satisfaction with measures taken for the enjoyment of economic and social rights.
35. Luxembourg made recommendations.
36. Malawi made recommendations.
37. Malaysia welcomed the efforts of South Africa to strengthen the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up.
38. Mali commended South Africa for reducing poverty, inequality and unemployment through the National Development Plan, and for its efforts in combating torture.
39. Mauritania expressed satisfaction with the National Development Plan adopted in order to combat poverty, inequality and unemployment.
40. Mauritius applauded efforts to curb poverty, reduce unemployment and improve access to water and sanitation.
41. Mexico recognized the establishment of the national preventive mechanism.
42. Mongolia commended the implementation of recommendations from the last universal periodic review.
43. Montenegro acknowledged affirmative actions to advance the rights of vulnerable groups and to tackle poverty, inequality and unemployment.
44. Morocco remained concerned at the lack of respect for the rule of law, which had been manifested in riots in July 2021.
45. Mozambique commended efforts to improve and strengthen the legal and institutional framework for the protection and promotion of human rights.
46. Namibia congratulated South Africa on positive human rights measures taken, in particular to reduce unemployment, including the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative.
47. Nepal commended South Africa for efforts to reduce poverty, inequality and unemployment, and to promote gender equality in political and public life.
48. The Netherlands noted the ratification of several important United Nations treaties relevant to immigration detention, including on torture, child rights and racial discrimination.
49. New Zealand commended efforts to combat gender-based violence, including through the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide.
50. The Niger welcomed the efforts to address poverty, inequality and unemployment, through progressive fiscal policy, social assistance, and employment programmes.
51. Norway expressed concern about gender-based violence, and violations of the rights of LGBTIQI persons, whistle-blowers and human rights defenders.
52. Oman commended the National Development Plan to address the challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment.

53. Pakistan recognized the National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and the 2021 Overcrowding Reduction Strategy.
54. Panama welcomed South Africa and thanked it for the national report.
55. Paraguay valued the implementation of the national preventive mechanism, and national policies for preventing and combating trafficking in persons.
56. Peru thanked the delegation for the report.
57. The Philippines acknowledged accomplishments in combating trafficking in persons, and the enhanced legislative framework against gender-based violence and femicide.
58. Poland commended efforts on poverty and inequality, but expressed concern about food insecurity, malnutrition and violence against persons with disabilities.
59. Portugal welcomed the national action plan to combat racism, and measures to combat corruption, including a commission of inquiry and an anti-corruption strategy.
60. The Republic of Korea welcomed the strengthening of the legal and institutional framework to combat torture and human trafficking.
61. The Russian Federation appreciated the incorporation of provisions from international treaties into national legislation and the creation of a national preventive mechanism.
62. Saudi Arabia praised efforts to combat trafficking in persons, and the legislation on a minimum wage.
63. Senegal commended the entry into force of legislation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons in all its forms.
64. Serbia lauded efforts to address poverty, inequality, unemployment, access to post-school education, and the participation of women in politics.
65. Sierra Leone commended the upholding of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) but expressed concern about the epidemiology of child homicide in South Africa.
66. Singapore recognized steps taken to combat corruption, and to improve the rights of women and girls, and the commitment to gender equality.
67. Slovakia welcomed the Commission of Inquiry to Investigate Allegations of State Capture, and expressed concern about the situation of human rights defenders and whistle-blowers.
68. Slovenia expressed concern that South Africa remained a source, transit and destination country for sex trafficking, gravely affecting women and girls.
69. Somalia appreciated the commitment of South Africa to promoting and protecting human rights, and continued efforts to cooperate with international, regional and national mechanisms.
70. South Sudan commended the efforts of South Africa to improve the human rights situation in the country.
71. Spain welcomed advances in the protection of human rights since the last universal periodic review, especially in combating gender-based violence.
72. Sri Lanka praised the commitment of South Africa to combat trafficking in persons, and progress in establishing and upgrading post-school education and training.
73. The State of Palestine welcomed the efforts of South Africa to improve the human rights situation.
74. The Sudan appreciated South Africa upholding the Nelson Mandela Rules on prisoners, and adopting its national action plan on racial discrimination.

75. Sweden appreciated constitutional protection for human rights, but expressed concern about sexual and gender-based violence, human rights defenders, whistle-blowers, and xenophobic violence.
76. Switzerland thanked the delegation for its presentation and made recommendations.
77. The Syrian Arab Republic noted measures on improving access to education, the health-care system, and protection frameworks for children and women.
78. Thailand applauded South Africa for launching the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide.
79. Togo congratulated South Africa on progress, including the development of a strategy that reduced prison overcrowding.
80. Tunisia welcomed the law to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, and the creation of a national preventive mechanism to prevent torture.
81. Uganda thanked the delegation for the national report and congratulated South Africa on its election to the Human Rights Council.
82. Ukraine noted positively the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide, and encouraged South Africa to take further steps for its implementation.
83. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland commended efforts to uphold the rights of women and girls.
84. The United Republic of Tanzania applauded efforts to combat poverty, inequality and unemployment, and to ensure the rights to adequate housing and health.
85. The United States of America noted that the robust democracy of South Africa was grounded by its Constitution enshrining the rights of all people.
86. Uruguay recognized efforts made, including to improve access to basic education.
87. Uzbekistan noted with appreciation the adoption of legal acts and action plans to protect and promote human rights.
88. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the National Development Plan that addressed poverty, inequality and unemployment, providing social assistance and employment programmes.
89. Viet Nam commended the strong human rights framework and encouraged South Africa to continue efforts to implement its constitutional human rights protections.
90. Yemen recognized the law prohibiting human trafficking, and the National Development Plan as a multidimensional approach to address poverty, inequality and unemployment.
91. Zambia applauded South Africa for the provision of legal aid to all people, including foreign nationals.
92. Zimbabwe noted measures to improve the health-care system, advance women's empowerment and gender equality, and combat harmful cultural practices.
93. Angola underscored the adoption of a multidimensional approach to address poverty, inequality and unemployment, and measures taken to strengthen governance.
94. Argentina made recommendations.
95. Armenia welcomed the issuing of standing invitations to United Nations thematic special mechanisms, and the adoption of the national action plan to combat racism.
96. Australia welcomed the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, the National Anti-Corruption Advisory Council, and the national action plan to combat xenophobia, racism and discrimination.
97. Austria expressed concern about violence against women, girls, and persons from the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and asexual persons community.
98. Azerbaijan thanked the delegation for the presentation of the national report.

99. The Bahamas commended progress in criminal justice reforms, in combating corruption, in eradicating harmful cultural practices, in women's political participation and in reducing maternal mortality.
100. Bahrain hailed the implementation of recommendations from the previous universal periodic review cycle, particularly following the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.
101. Bangladesh commended endeavours to reduce child and maternal mortality, and gender-based violence, and to implement the National Development Plan addressing poverty, inequality and unemployment.
102. Barbados commended the National Development Plan, which outlined a multipronged approach to addressing the triple threats of poverty, inequality and unemployment.
103. Belarus welcomed achievements in combating human trafficking and corruption, and the focus on the economic sphere, including eradicating poverty and inequality.
104. Belgium acknowledged the positive role of South Africa in promoting human rights at the international level, but noted persisting multiple forms of discrimination.
105. Benin praised efforts in implementing previous recommendations, particularly with regard to improving regulations on access to legal aid and reducing prison overcrowding.
106. Botswana appreciated South Africa supporting its previous cycle recommendations, and applauded the country's commitment to inclusive social and economic transformation.
107. Brazil commended South Africa for its leadership on fighting racism, and encouraged further efforts to combat violence against women, children and LGBTI persons.
108. Bulgaria noted with appreciation that the country had achieved positive results in addressing poverty, inequality and unemployment, despite obstacles and difficulties.
109. Burkina Faso encouraged South Africa to continue its efforts to eradicate harmful cultural practices, especially for women and girls.
110. Burundi commended efforts on gender equality, the fight against child labour, and combating corruption and fraud in the public sector.
111. Cameroon congratulated South Africa on the excellent quality of its report.
112. Canada welcomed positive steps taken to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, and to address discrimination and hate crimes.
113. Chile welcomed the National Policy Framework for the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons.
114. China praised the National Development Plan, protection of the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities, and contribution to global anti-racism.
115. Costa Rica made recommendations.
116. Côte d'Ivoire welcomed measures taken against torture, human trafficking, child labour and corruption, and the adoption of the national action plan against racism.
117. Croatia noted the progress made by South Africa in the elimination of discrimination against women, but was concerned about gender-based violence and acts of torture.
118. Cuba thanked South Africa for its commitment to the universal periodic review, and recognized efforts to implement previous cycle recommendations.
119. Cyprus commended South Africa for approving the national action plan to combat racism, and adopting legislation on gender-based violence and femicide.
120. Czechia appreciated South Africa approving the national strategic plan to combat gender-based violence and femicide and designating a national preventive mechanism.
121. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea commended progress in promoting and protecting human rights by strengthening the legislative and institutional framework.
122. Denmark welcomed the development by South Africa of the National Council on Gender-based Violence and Femicide Bill.

123. Djibouti applauded efforts to reduce unemployment and improve living standards, and to strengthen women's rights, including the national strategic plan on gender-based violence.
124. Ecuador highlighted the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
125. Indonesia commended the response by South Africa to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, to protect the right to health of its population.
126. Maldives took positive note of several efforts to combat corruption, as well as legislation and programmes to improve women's rights.
127. Cabo Verde noted with appreciation progress in civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights, and in protecting certain groups.
128. In the delegation's response, the Deputy Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Obed Bapela, highlighted increased recognition for Indigenous Peoples through the Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership Act (Act No. 3 of 2019), which addressed the exclusion of Khoi-San peoples, traditional community leaders' representation at the national level, and self-determination.
129. Under the Bioprospecting Access and Benefit-sharing Amendment Regulations, of 2015, the rooibos industry would share benefits from Indigenous knowledge, while programmes were under way to create a dictionary to preserve Indigenous languages.
130. Efforts were ongoing to consult with Indigenous Peoples towards the restitution of their land rights. Courts had favoured the company Amazon building its headquarters on land belonging to Indigenous Peoples, and Amazon would build a museum recognizing them. Khoi-San classification would also now be included in the census.
131. Regarding harmful traditional practices, seven practices had been identified for abolition following consultations with traditional leaders.
132. The Deputy Minister of Basic Education, Reginah Mhaule, asserted that it was stated unequivocally in the National Development Plan that by 2030, South Africa would have the highest-quality access to education and training, leading to significantly improved learning outcomes. Policies were pro-poor, and most schools were public schools with no school fees. Support was provided to learners in the form of transport, financial grants, and the supply of food and dignity towels.
133. Efforts had been undertaken towards improving the educational infrastructure, leading to all schools being connected with electricity, and many with decent sanitation.
134. The learner dropout rate had thus reduced significantly. Comprehensive sexuality education was being delivered to address teenage pregnancies. Special schools and grants catered to learners with special needs, while seeking to accommodate them in full-service schools.
135. The Director-General of the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, Joyce Maluleke, noted that the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide had six pillars. The first pillar had created institutional mechanisms, including an interministerial committee, a private sector response fund, the End Gender-based Violence Collective, and parliamentary oversight. Other pillars covered policies relating to the public service, communications, district consultations, training of the police and criminal justice officials, and gender mainstreaming. South Africa had adopted related legislation, extended access to courts for rape victims, expanded legal aid, provided DNA kits to the police, reduced the case backlog and revamped shelter capacity.
136. Public employment opportunities for youth, women and persons with disabilities had been established through the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative, a women's economic assembly, and government procurement policies. Responding to questions raised, Ms. Maluleke noted that abortion was integrated into the health system. Additionally, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was being domesticated.
137. The Director-General of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, Zane Dangor, acknowledged that xenophobia was a growing problem. The criminal justice

system would be engaged in tackling the issue, and further efforts made to change discriminatory norms. The National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Intolerance was being implemented.

138. Sixty per cent of non-interest expenditure was spent on the social wage, which included support for children, persons with disabilities and older persons. Due to the economic impact of COVID-19, a new income benefit had been introduced for unemployed adults aged from 18 to 59, igniting debate on a universal income benefit and a national minimum wage.

139. The country was universalizing the child support grant, and consulting stakeholders on ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

140. Mr. Dangor stated that civil society was engaged in policy development, had the freedom to hold the executive to account, and had access to legal remedies. South Africa welcomed all special procedure mandate holders.

141. In closing, Mr. Jeffery noted that the age of criminal capacity had been raised to 12 years. A comprehensive act on trafficking of persons was being implemented, which included forced marriage, and there was no State oppression of human rights defenders. He acknowledged problems with intolerance against people of different sexual orientation and gender identity, which was being addressed through task teams, a rapid response team and a national intervention strategy. Torture was a serious crime in South Africa, and the Government was looking into implementing existing legislation on a national preventive mechanism. Additionally, he noted that a dedicated body was examining conditions facing inmates in correctional facilities, and that the Government was working on legislation to improve the independence of the judicial inspectorate.

142. Mr. Jeffery called for urgent action to make progress on the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, given the confluence of ongoing global crises. South Africa was committed to paying attention to the universal periodic review recommendations, to engaging on them as government departments, and with civil society, and to best implementing them for the betterment of the country, building on ongoing progress in economic and social rights and the rights of women. Mr. Jeffery thanked the members of the Working Group for their attention, insight, and commitment to the universal periodic review process.

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

143. **The following recommendations will be examined by South Africa, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fifty-second session of the Human Rights Council:**

- 143.1 **Ratify pending international human rights instruments (Somalia);**
- 143.2 **Ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Australia);**
- 143.3 **Accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, and adopt reforms to grant birthright citizenship to children of unknown parentage (Mexico);**
- 143.4 **Accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness with a view to address issues therein (Angola);**
- 143.5 **Redouble efforts to accede to and implement the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Kenya);**
- 143.6 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Ukraine);**

- 143.7 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Slovakia);**
- 143.8 **Continue efforts to facilitate access of all children to education and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (France);**
- 143.9 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, in follow-up to the recommendation in paragraph 139.1 of the report of the Working Group from the third cycle<sup>4</sup> (Burkina Faso);**
- 143.10 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger) (Philippines);**
- 143.11 **Move towards the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Chile);**
- 143.12 **Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Malawi);**
- 143.13 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as well as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Mongolia);**
- 143.14 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France) (Mexico) (Niger) (Slovakia);**
- 143.15 **Ratify, without delay, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Japan);**
- 143.16 **Take the necessary steps to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina);**
- 143.17 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);**
- 143.18 **Accelerate efforts to ratify the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Armenia);**
- 143.19 **Continue to develop and implement measures necessary to effectively combat violence against women across the entire territory of the country by pursuing the implementation of relevant national plans and by ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (France);**
- 143.20 **Ratify the African Disability Protocol (Sierra Leone);**
- 143.21 **Continue cooperation with international and regional human rights mechanisms (Egypt);**
- 143.22 **Strengthen cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the protection of human rights, to benefit from technical assistance and capacity-building (Cameroon);**
- 143.23 **Continue to align the national legislation with international human rights standards (Russian Federation);**
- 143.24 **Allocate sufficient resources to the South African Human Rights Commission to enable it to properly discharge its mandate (Côte d'Ivoire);**

<sup>4</sup> [A/HRC/36/16](#).

**Continue to build the capacity of the South African Human Rights Commission by granting it additional means and resources to carry out its mandate (Djibouti); Ensure the allocation of adequate resources to the South African Human Rights Commission to execute its mandate (Maldives); Allocate sufficient resources to the South African Human Rights Commission to execute its mandate (Montenegro); Provide sufficient resources to the South African Human Rights Commission in order to fulfil its mandates (Togo); Increase the budget for the South African Human Rights Commission in order to maintain its independence and fully execute its mandate (Zambia);**

**143.25 Strengthen South Africa's National Human Rights Commission and increase its national budget allocation (Somalia);**

**143.26 Consider allocating sufficient resources to its Human Rights Commission to execute its mandates (Serbia);**

**143.27 Take appropriate measures to further strengthen the Human Rights Commission by allocating additional human and financial resources for the fulfilment of its mandate (Bulgaria);**

**143.28 Finalize the establishment of the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up (Burkina Faso);**

**143.29 Continue the Government's efforts to complete the process of establishing the National Mechanism for Monitoring, Verification and Evaluation in South Africa in order to promote and protect human rights (Yemen);**

**143.30 Ensure accountability for the crimes of xenophobia by adopting a clear implementation framework for the National Action Plan to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (Estonia);**

**143.31 Continue to effectively combat xenophobia and hold perpetrators of such crimes accountable (Ghana);**

**143.32 Take effective measures to end xenophobia attacks (Malawi);**

**143.33 Put in place a national action plan to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance (Somalia);**

**143.34 Implement stronger measures to address impunity for xenophobic crimes, including adoption of the Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill currently in Parliament (Sweden);**

**143.35 Strengthen measures to address violence against marginalized groups by enacting the Hate Crimes Bill in early 2023 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

**143.36 Accelerate the full implementation of the National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and ensure accountability for xenophobic violence (Thailand);**

**143.37 Take measures to strengthen the fight against xenophobia, including through the implementation of the early warning system with a rapid reaction mechanism provided for in the National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Togo);**

**143.38 Adopt effective measures to combat racism, racial discrimination, growing xenophobia and related intolerance and activate the relevant rapid response mechanism (Tunisia);**

**143.39 Continue effective implementation of the National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Ukraine);**

- 143.40 Step up efforts to ensure that national law and its implementation is in full compliance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Uganda);
- 143.41 Condemn violence and extremist rhetoric targeting foreign nationals, investigate and prosecute xenophobic violence and racial discrimination, and implement anti-xenophobic interventions envisioned in the National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (United States of America);
- 143.42 Strengthen efforts to implement the National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Bangladesh);
- 143.43 Enact the Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill, and ensure effective independent mechanisms to monitor its implementation and evaluation (Austria);
- 143.44 Operationalize the rapid response mechanism in the framework of the 2019 National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Cabo Verde);
- 143.45 Accelerate efforts to combat rising xenophobia by implementing the early warning system and rapid response mechanism of the 2019 National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Djibouti);
- 143.46 Continue efforts to adopt the Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill (Eswatini);
- 143.47 Take the necessary measures to accelerate the adoption of the bill on the prevention and repression of hate crimes and hate speech (Côte d’Ivoire);
- 143.48 Accelerate the adoption of the Prevention and Suppression of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill, including for online crimes (Togo);
- 143.49 Make the pertinent amendments to the Bill for the Protection of State Information, as well as the bill for the prevention and fight against crime and hate speech (Spain);
- 143.50 Accelerate the adoption of the bill on preventing and combating hate crimes and hate speech (Ecuador);
- 143.51 Expedite the adoption of the Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill (Cabo Verde);
- 143.52 Amend its anti-torture law by setting penalties, with reparations for victims (Mali);
- 143.53 Harmonize the Law for the Prevention and Fight against Torture with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, including its classification as a serious crime (Mexico);
- 143.54 Continue to build the capacity of the penitentiary administration to prevent and combat torture in places of detention (Senegal);
- 143.55 Ensure that amendments to legislation are adopted to bring the organs of the National Preventive Mechanism against Torture into conformity with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, including the independence provided for in article 18 (Switzerland);
- 143.56 Establish a clear institutional policy against forms of torture, which includes the classification of torture as a serious crime, in line with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Nelson Mandela Rules (Costa Rica);

- 143.57 **Put in place regulations to operationalize the anti-torture legislation (Czechia);**
- 143.58 **Investigate all allegations of torture by law enforcement officials and train all such officials on the correct use of force (Denmark);**
- 143.59 **Accelerate its effort to establish a multi-institution national preventive mechanism and ensure its effectiveness (Mongolia);**
- 143.60 **Take measures to address the excessive use of force by police forces, including by empowering the Independent Police Investigation Directorate and ensuring adequate training (Switzerland);**
- 143.61 **Accelerate efforts to improve conditions in prisons and reduce prison overcrowding (Pakistan);**
- 143.62 **Improve conditions of detention centres (Zambia);**
- 143.63 **Strengthen actions to reduce cases of violence and deaths in places of deprivation of liberty (Benin);**
- 143.64 **Adopt effective measures to reduce the incidence of fatalities among inmates and guarantee independent investigations when cases of violence occur in prisons, in line with international standards (Peru);**
- 143.65 **Take the necessary steps to fight the magnitude of the phenomenon of corruption, for its containment, through the reallocation of available budgetary resources in critical sectors of human development (Morocco);**
- 143.66 **Strengthen the protection of any person who discloses information to reveal corruption, fraud or undue influence (Norway);**
- 143.67 **Ensure that the National Anti-Corruption Strategy receives adequate resourcing and involves all relevant stakeholders (Singapore);**
- 143.68 **Take effective measures to protect whistle-blowers, key in the fight against corruption, journalists and human rights defenders, and ensure a safe environment for the free conduct of their work (Spain);**
- 143.69 **Take effective measures to protect human rights defenders from attacks, especially whistle-blowers of offences and corruption, and bring perpetrators to justice (Tunisia);**
- 143.70 **Put in place effective mechanisms for the protection of human rights defenders, including those working on issues linked to corruption and the environment (Uruguay);**
- 143.71 **Reduce corruption through the optimal implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (Bahrain);**
- 143.72 **Address corruption and other impediments to the realization of critical socioeconomic rights (Canada);**
- 143.73 **Take effective measures to combat illicit financial flows and tax avoidance (Namibia);**
- 143.74 **Adopt legal frameworks for the protection of human rights defenders and whistle-blowers (Sweden);**
- 143.75 **Strengthen the protection of whistle-blowers, including by ensuring adequate resources for the Auditor-General and the Public Protector (Finland);**
- 143.76 **Accelerate implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2020–2030, the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide (2020) and the national action plan to combat xenophobia, racism and discrimination (2019) (Australia);**
- 143.77 **End the impunity that continues to fuel police abuse (Morocco);**

- 143.78 **Strengthen protection of human rights defenders and whistle-blowers and ensure accountability for violence perpetrated against them, in line with the international Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (Netherlands);**
- 143.79 **Take urgent measures to protect human rights defenders in the exercise of their work and establish a commission of inquiry into the killings, including of members of the Abahlali baseMjondolo movement, to end impunity (Switzerland);**
- 143.80 **Continue its efforts to strengthen the implementation of the anti-trafficking law and to achieve prevention and deterrence against this crime (Bahrain);**
- 143.81 **Ensure that all deaths in custody and prison violence-related cases are promptly investigated by an independent authority (Croatia);**
- 143.82 **Provide the Legal Aid South Africa body with adequate resources (Croatia);**
- 143.83 **Ensure the Equality Courts are accessible in rural areas (Cyprus);**
- 143.84 **Ensure prosecution of violent crimes against vulnerable groups by providing sufficient resources and by training law enforcement officials (Estonia);**
- 143.85 **Ensure that the right of freedom of assembly is effectively safeguarded, including the creation of a safe space for human rights defenders and civil society organizations (Greece);**
- 143.86 **Ensure an enabling and safe environment for freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Italy);**
- 143.87 **Guarantee unrestricted space for civil society activities and ensure adequate protection to human rights defenders, whistle-blowers and media workers (Czechia);**
- 143.88 **Review laws restricting the work of human rights defenders and ensure prompt, independent and impartial investigations into all attacks against human rights defenders (Ireland);**
- 143.89 **Consider inviting the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders to visit the country (Uruguay);**
- 143.90 **Provide human rights defenders with a safe and secure environment to carry out their work (Cyprus);**
- 143.91 **Take effective measures to ensure the protection of human rights defenders (Malawi);**
- 143.92 **Promote a safe and enabling environment for human rights defenders, including by facilitating the visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (Norway);**
- 143.93 **Legislate to protect the rights of whistle-blowers and human rights defenders (Australia);**
- 143.94 **Take concrete steps to improve the safety of journalists, investigate incidents of attacks on journalists, and implement the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (Greece);**
- 143.95 **Enhance measures to protect human rights defenders by ensuring that perpetrators of harassment, intimidation and violence against those defenders ahead of the 2024 general election, are held accountable for their actions (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 143.96 **Promote civil and political rights (Cameroon);**
- 143.97 **Create a safe and supportive environment for human rights defenders, including child human rights defenders, by ensuring that all cases of harassment**

**and violence are investigated and that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice (Luxembourg);**

**143.98 Continue national efforts to put together a new Marriage Act to guarantee the rights of all persons without any discrimination (Cuba);**

**143.99 Continue rigorously measures in order to more effectively combat human trafficking (Georgia);**

**143.100 Strengthen efforts to combat human trafficking and guarantee protection and rehabilitation to women and child victims of human trafficking (Iraq);**

**143.101 Strengthen measures to curb human trafficking and ensure that all cases are investigated and prosecuted (Lesotho);**

**143.102 Continue efforts to improve the situation of children's rights, particularly with regard to the prevention of child labour and trafficking (Libya);**

**143.103 Take all necessary measures to combat human trafficking and protect and support victims (Libya);**

**143.104 Continue efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons in all its forms and manifestations through effective implementation of the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act, focusing on data collection and capacity-building for officials in implementing the Act (Malaysia);**

**143.105 Continue the measures aimed at ensuring the effective implementation of the Law on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Persons and achieving its objectives (Saudi Arabia);**

**143.106 Implement fully and consequently the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act (Slovenia);**

**143.107 Protect especially women and child victims of trafficking and ensure that traffickers are persecuted and held accountable (Slovenia);**

**143.108 Continue its efforts to implement the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act and ensure that traffickers were prosecuted and punished (State of Palestine);**

**143.109 Improve coordination between government agencies to identify trafficking victims and issue appropriate immigration documents to foreign victims in accordance with the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act (United States of America);**

**143.110 Continue to strengthen its plans and strategies for prevention and awareness-raising on human trafficking (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

**143.111 Ensure the effective implementation of the national action framework for preventing and combating trafficking in persons (Benin);**

**143.112 Continue its efforts in reducing unemployment, especially among the youth (Serbia);**

**143.113 Develop a road map towards reducing unemployment, including through vocational training, programmes to meet labour market demands, and incentives for employers (Viet Nam);**

**143.114 Continue to put in place more concrete measures with a view to tackling, in addition, unemployment (Burundi);**

**143.115 Strengthen employing direct and indirect interventions to alleviate unemployment (Ethiopia);**

**143.116 Intensify its efforts to tackle unemployment by adopting and implementing effective policy programmes (Azerbaijan);**

- 143.117 Continue efforts to ensure the enjoyment of the rights to work, health, education and food (Russian Federation);
- 143.118 Continue to strengthen the social security system and further protect the rights of vulnerable groups (China);
- 143.119 Implement a social assistance benefit for all persons living in situations of extreme poverty aiming to reduce inequalities and ensure the enjoyment of an adequate standard of living, and increase the child support grant open to all children (Portugal);
- 143.120 Continue efforts to combat poverty and inequality (Egypt);
- 143.121 Further enhance efforts to prioritize social development to combat poverty and inequality (Barbados);
- 143.122 Set up and implement targeted programmes to fight against poverty, for a radical “socioeconomic” transformation, taking into account the fact that South Africa is the second most unequal country in the world (Morocco);
- 143.123 Ensure access to water for all citizens and address the issue of abuse of water resources by mining companies (Eswatini);
- 143.124 Continue to improve policies and programmes for the fulfilment of the right to safe and clean drinking water, and to sanitation (Indonesia);
- 143.125 Ensure all public schools have access to clean water, sanitation facilities and electricity, including in rural areas (Bahamas);
- 143.126 Continue efforts in ensuring access to potable water, health-care services and improving livelihoods, especially in rural areas (Sudan);
- 143.127 Consider further measures aimed at poverty alleviation and reduction in unemployment (India);
- 143.128 Implement the land redistribution and restitution programme (State of Palestine);
- 143.129 Continue to strengthen the ongoing programmes aimed at tackling the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment (Zimbabwe);
- 143.130 Take effective steps to continue improving the right to adequate housing for vulnerable populations (Angola);
- 143.131 Develop a national strategy to address the housing backlog to ensure the fulfilment of the right to adequate housing (Indonesia);
- 143.132 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development and to improve people’s living standards (China);
- 143.133 Continue to implement with a multidimensional approach the national development plan to combat poverty, inequality and unemployment and the impact of the unfair and unequal economic international order (Cuba);
- 143.134 Continue its efforts to develop and implement the national development plan for addressing the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea);
- 143.135 Continue efforts to protect the most vulnerable workers and those with low pay (Senegal);
- 143.136 Strengthen economic, social and cultural rights (Cameroon);
- 143.137 Continue its efforts to provide housing benefits to the qualifying beneficiaries in an equal and fair manner (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 143.138 Promote the creation of educational and capacity-building structures for young people and the unemployed, the standardization of a minimum wage that guarantees an adequate standard of living, and the reduction of the gender wage gap (Paraguay);

- 143.139 Continue efforts aimed at eliminating poverty, unemployment and child labour, and undertake steps to ensure social equality (Armenia);
- 143.140 Work to secure drinking water and decent sanitation services for all on the basis of equality, especially for women and children and in schools in disadvantaged areas (Tunisia);
- 143.141 Take urgent legislative and institutional measures to improve access to the human rights to drinking water and sanitation and an adequate standard of living, especially by those in the most vulnerable situations: children, older persons, persons with disabilities and those living in rural areas and water-scarce regions (Poland);
- 143.142 Continue investing in the health sector, especially in HIV/AIDS programmes, particularly on treatment and awareness-raising campaigns (Eswatini);
- 143.143 Ensure effective access to sexual and reproductive health and rights information, education and services (Finland);
- 143.144 Accelerate the adoption of the national health insurance bill (Georgia);
- 143.145 Ensure women have access to health care and sexual and reproductive health services including abortion (Luxembourg);
- 143.146 Continue its efforts within the framework of the National Health Insurance Bill based on decentralization in facilitating and coordinating primary health-care services at the district level (Oman);
- 143.147 Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD25) to strengthen the sexual and reproductive health and rights of adolescents by delivering integrated and youth-friendly sexual and reproductive services and expand the information to include rights and responsibilities (Panama);
- 143.148 Strive to ensure equal access to health services in rural and urban areas (Serbia);
- 143.149 Further enhance efforts to improve the health-care system (Sri Lanka);
- 143.150 Take all necessary measures to expand and facilitate access to modern contraceptives among adolescent women and young people (Uruguay);
- 143.151 Allocate adequate resources to narrow the large disparities in health care between public and private systems, and between rural and urban areas (Viet Nam);
- 143.152 Continue to create an enabling and accessible environment for the improvement of public health for all (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 143.153 Promote the necessary framework to provide equitable, affordable and accessible medical support to all its citizens (Mauritius);
- 143.154 Continue measures to prevent HIV infections and ensure infected persons' access to affordable medicines (Nepal);
- 143.155 Ensure that all people in need of life-saving treatment have access to affordable medicines (South Sudan);
- 143.156 Continue working on the successful plan to reduce morbidity and mortality from HIV, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 143.157 Continue implementing the National Strategic Plan 2017–2022 to accelerate prevention and reduce new HIV, TB and STI infections (United Republic of Tanzania);

- 143.158 Strengthen efforts to prevent HIV/AIDS transmission, including by raising awareness and providing affordable medicines to people in need of life-saving treatment (Malaysia);
- 143.159 Improve on equal chances for the youth irrespective of families' socioeconomic situation or ethnic background or gender, in particular by ensuring equal access to quality primary, secondary and tertiary education (Germany);
- 143.160 Improve school infrastructure and invest methodically in education (Estonia);
- 143.161 Continue to ensure access to preschool education and training, and strengthen the National Financial Aid Plan to provide educational opportunities for the most disadvantaged students (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 143.162 Continue efforts in the education programme in the field of human rights in schools adopted by the Ministry of Basic Education (Oman);
- 143.163 Continue further engagement to ensure the right to education for all sectors of society (Uzbekistan);
- 143.164 Adopt concrete measures to ensure inclusive education for minors with disabilities (Ecuador);
- 143.165 Redouble efforts to ensure access to education without discrimination, improve educational infrastructure and reduce the dropout rate (Ecuador);
- 143.166 Continue to focus on the issue of education to ensure accessible and high-quality education for all (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 143.167 Organize campaigns and educational programmes, to raise awareness of the importance of cultural heritage in all its diversity (Cyprus);
- 143.168 Pursue the policy aimed at promoting access to education, free water and affordable health services for all (Burundi);
- 143.169 Adopt legislation guaranteeing the right of children with disabilities to inclusive education (Bulgaria);
- 143.170 Increase investment in basic education with a clear path to vocational education in collaboration with the private sector to meet the requirements of the industry (Botswana);
- 143.171 Extend free education to children with disabilities (Benin);
- 143.172 Intensify the fight against gender-based violence and against the sexual exploitation of women, particularly in schools (Benin);
- 143.173 Further promote efforts to ensure access to education for all, including through enhancing investment in education for children with disabilities (Barbados);
- 143.174 Continue to take measures to provide universal access to education for the children in the country, especially those living in rural areas and children with disabilities (Azerbaijan);
- 143.175 Continue efforts to improve access to basic education as well as post-school education and training for students in rural areas as well as from disadvantaged backgrounds (Sri Lanka);
- 143.176 Continue its progress in developing the infrastructure for the establishment of post-school education and training institutions in rural areas and upgrade them on an equal footing, allowing, in particular, access to education for students with disabilities (Oman);
- 143.177 Continue to make strides in ensuring access to post-school education and training to achieve the target by 2030 (Ethiopia);

- 143.178 Take all necessary measures to ensure access to the right to education for all children, without discrimination, particularly for students from disadvantaged backgrounds, including by improving infrastructure and teachers' capacity (Indonesia);
- 143.179 Invest in the necessary infrastructure in public schools to facilitate school attendance and ensure that children do not lag behind in their studies (Mauritius);
- 143.180 Continue to develop and implement policies and measures to advance sustainable development and environmental resilience (Barbados);
- 143.181 Continue promoting sustainable economic and social development policies to protect the social and economic rights of all its people, especially the most vulnerable groups (Pakistan);
- 143.182 Continue to strengthen infrastructure construction in rural areas and narrow the gap between urban and rural areas (China);
- 143.183 Respond favourably to the request for a visit from the Working Group on Business and Human Rights, particularly in the mining sector (Morocco);
- 143.184 Develop a National Action Plan in line with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (Japan);
- 143.185 Promote women's empowerment and implement additional measures to increase their representation in the public and political spheres (Ecuador);
- 143.186 Adopt a gender equality law, which includes a definition of discrimination against women (Chile);
- 143.187 Bring national regulations closer to decent work standards, and incorporate the gender perspective, to guarantee an adequate standard of living and a narrowing of the wage gap, especially for domestic and agricultural work groups; extend social protection to sex workers (Costa Rica);
- 143.188 Strengthen efforts to eradicate harmful traditional practices (Nepal);
- 143.189 Eradicate virginity tests and female genital mutilation, for all people without discrimination as to their age, throughout the national territory (Costa Rica);
- 143.190 Intensify efforts to eliminate harmful traditional practices that target women, including through awareness-raising and education programmes (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 143.191 Continue to implement measures to fully eradicate harmful and discriminatory cultural practices against women and girls (Kenya);
- 143.192 Redouble efforts to eliminate cultural practices harmful to women and girls, including ukuthwala (Gabon);
- 143.193 Continue the implementation of policies aimed at achieving equality between women and men and increasing the role of women in the political, economic and social spheres (Bulgaria);
- 143.194 Prioritize access to credit markets and capacity-building for rural women (Botswana);
- 143.195 Accelerate its efforts to promote and create the necessary conditions for the full enjoyment of human rights by women, in particular for vulnerable women across the country (Azerbaijan);
- 143.196 Continue to pursue policies to ensure gender equality for women and girls, and eliminate harmful stereotypes that may still be held (Singapore);
- 143.197 Adopt a national programme for the economic empowerment of women, as well as temporary special measures to increase the participation of women in political and public life, education and employment (Panama);

- 143.198 Strengthen and intensify efforts related to the promotion and protection of the rights of women and girls (Mauritania);
- 143.199 Allocate adequate resources to the Commission for Gender Equality to enable the Commission to carry out its mandate (Malawi);
- 143.200 Continue its efforts in combating all forms of discrimination against women and girls, empowering women and integrating them into economic life (Libya);
- 143.201 Strengthen efforts to close the wage gap between men and women, through legislative amendments of labour laws, in order to ensure the principle of equal pay for work of equal value (Iraq);
- 143.202 Conduct steps towards increasing women's representation at the decision-making level and providing capacity-building for women candidates (Georgia);
- 143.203 Continue to strengthen efforts to prevent and combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls (Italy);
- 143.204 Amend the Children's Act to prohibit virginity testing for all women and girls and criminalize the practice of ukuthwala (Luxembourg);
- 143.205 Prohibit and criminalize virginity testing and other harmful practices against women and girls and raise the minimum age for marriage to 18 years old (Paraguay);
- 143.206 Continue fighting against sexual and gender-based violence, by improving women's access to justice, especially in rural areas (Estonia);
- 143.207 Develop measurable targets for indicators of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and prioritize appropriate training for professionals who work with victims of gender-based violence (Finland);
- 143.208 Redouble efforts to put in place mechanisms to protect women from gender-based violence and femicide (Gambia);
- 143.209 Increase efforts in guaranteeing women's access to justice and adopt strategies to protect women and girls against gender-based violence (Ghana);
- 143.210 Continue to strengthen policy and legislative measures for promoting gender equality and combating gender-based violence, including by ensuring pay parity and prohibiting gender-based discrimination (India);
- 143.211 Accelerate the establishment of a National Council for the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide, and ensure the allocation of adequate funding to ministries to implement the National Strategic Plan (Ireland);
- 143.212 Develop targets for the National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and promote changes in knowledge and behaviours to eradicate gender stereotypes and myths around sexual violence (Israel);
- 143.213 Redouble efforts to combat domestic violence against women and children (Lesotho);
- 143.214 Ensure that all cases of domestic violence and femicide are investigated, that perpetrators are prosecuted and punished, and that victims have access to reparations (Montenegro);
- 143.215 Fully respect the rights of women and protect them from the risk of rape and domestic violence (Morocco);
- 143.216 Continue with their actions to prevent gender-based violence and xenophobia (Mozambique);
- 143.217 Strengthen the monitoring and implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide (Namibia);

- 143.218 Provide adequate financial resources to deliver on the outcomes of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide and to take all necessary measures to develop adequate gender-sensitive training programmes for law enforcement agencies, the national prosecuting authority and judicial officers (Netherlands);
- 143.219 Ensure adequate human, financial and technical resources for the implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide (Norway);
- 143.220 Redouble efforts to create a National Council against Gender-based Violence and Femicide (Panama);
- 143.221 Step up efforts to guarantee the rights provided for in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, through the criminalization of all forms of domestic violence and femicide, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Paraguay);
- 143.222 Bolster efforts to combat all forms of violence against women, particularly through training programmes for the security forces and justice system officials (Peru);
- 143.223 Further address the prevailing root causes of gender-based violence through measures that take a whole-of-society approach (Philippines);
- 143.224 Enhance the implementation of laws enacted to prevent and combat gender-based violence, including the vigorous enforcement of legal action against the perpetrators of violence (Philippines);
- 143.225 Reinforce efforts to implement the National Strategic Plan addressing gender-based violence and femicide and provide appropriate training to law enforcement agencies (Republic of Korea);
- 143.226 Redouble government efforts to create a National Council on Gender-Based Violence (South Sudan);
- 143.227 Take necessary measures to guarantee the effective application of the National Strategic Plan against Gender-based Violence and Femicide, through, among other things, strengthening the capacities of the police, investigators, judges, traditional courts and other officials to adequately address cases of gender-based violence (Spain);
- 143.228 Implement fully the National Strategic Plan on gender-based violence, including strengthening monitoring and the adoption of clear and measurable targets (Sweden);
- 143.229 Accelerate the implementation of the 2020 National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide (Switzerland);
- 143.230 Exert further efforts to address violence against women and femicide, in implementation of the Presidential Summit Declaration issued in 2019 and the National Strategic Plan to Prevent Gender-based Violence and Femicide 2020–2030 (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 143.231 Ensure the effective implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide, especially on law enforcement and training of justice officials on cases of gender-based and domestic violence, and access to remedies and legal assistance for victims (Thailand);
- 143.232 Continue to ensure effective implementation of the law against gender-based violence (Uganda);
- 143.233 Accelerate progress to address gender-based violence, including abhorrent practices like so-called “corrective rape”, by implementing the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

- 143.234 **Stand up as well as fund the Gender-based Violence and Femicide Council as envisioned by the 2020 National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide (United States of America);**
- 143.235 **Take measures aimed at strengthening the capacity of national human rights mechanisms, especially in protecting victims of domestic and gender-based violence (Uzbekistan);**
- 143.236 **Continue to advance efforts in the framework of its national plan to combat gender-based violence and femicide (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 143.237 **Criminalize all forms of domestic violence and femicide (Zambia);**
- 143.238 **Ensure full access to justice for victims of domestic and gender-based violence and the investigation, prosecution and punishment for cases of violence and femicide through the implementation of concrete measures such as the creation of a National Council against Gender-based Violence and Femicide and the allocation of sufficient resources for the National Strategic Plan on the issue (Argentina);**
- 143.239 **Continue the implementation of measures to improve the system for protecting children and women from violence and discrimination (Belarus);**
- 143.240 **Ensure full implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide through the adoption of decisive policies by relevant ministries (Belgium);**
- 143.241 **Adopt all necessary measures to effectively implement the 2020–2030 National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide, including by ensuring adequate resources (Brazil);**
- 143.242 **Strengthen enforcement of laws and access to justice around sexual and gender-based violence through enhanced action within law enforcement and the judiciary (Canada);**
- 143.243 **Confront gender-based violence, create a National Council against Gender-based Violence and Femicide, and adopt immediate measures to incorporate a greater number of women in the public sphere, education, and employment (Costa Rica);**
- 143.244 **Ensure that all cases of gender-based violence are thoroughly investigated and perpetrators prosecuted (Croatia);**
- 143.245 **Monitor implementation of the National Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (Cyprus);**
- 143.246 **Take further steps to implement the national strategic plan to combat gender-based violence and femicide, including by providing adequate financial support to shelters for survivors (Czechia);**
- 143.247 **Establish the National Council on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide and ensure adequate resources for the National Strategic Plan (Denmark);**
- 143.248 **Ensure the National Council works with civil society and is equipped with sufficient resources to implement the National Strategic Plan (New Zealand);**
- 143.249 **Enhance measures to protect victims of gender-based and sexual violence from secondary victimization by frontline workers, such as police, ensure access to justice by tackling the backlogs and duration of court cases, and create sufficient shelter infrastructure (Germany);**
- 143.250 **Continue strengthening policies that enable birth registration for all children, especially in the most remote areas of the country (Eswatini);**
- 143.251 **Ensure that free schools stop charging fees, and guarantee access for all children to preschool education (Luxembourg);**

- 143.252 Continue the steps and efforts related to strengthening the legal framework for the protection of children (Mauritania);
- 143.253 Decriminalize violations of immigration regulations, put an end to detentions of minors, and punish human rights violations in immigration detention centres (Mexico);
- 143.254 Strengthen its advancement to eliminate child labour (Mongolia);
- 143.255 Strengthen the measures to decrease the vulnerabilities of children to child abuse (Mozambique);
- 143.256 Continue the valuable approach in caring for children's rights and protecting them from violence (Saudi Arabia);
- 143.257 Take concrete measures to eliminate child, early and forced marriages (Sierra Leone);
- 143.258 Further enhance efforts and strategies, including online training and capacity-building, to end violence against children and exploitation (Sri Lanka);
- 143.259 Develop and implement a holistic and broad-ranging strategic response, including the provision of socioeconomic packages, skills building programmes, psychosocial support and specialized services for survivors to prevent and address violence against children, including child homicides and attempted homicides (Bahamas);
- 143.260 Guarantee every child's right to immediate, free birth registration and certification, regardless of their parents' status, in accordance with article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Belgium);
- 143.261 Take measures, including by developing a national food and nutrition security strategy, to guarantee food security to children and adolescents (Brazil);
- 143.262 Ensure that law enforcement implements a law prohibiting child and forced marriages (Zambia);
- 143.263 Amend the Customary Marriage Recognition Act to raise the minimum age for marriage to 18, for both girls and boys (Chile);
- 143.264 Amend legislation to raise the age of criminal responsibility in accordance with international standards (Cyprus);
- 143.265 Modify criminal legislation with a view to raising the age of criminal responsibility in accordance with international human rights standards (Argentina);
- 143.266 Conduct awareness-raising programmes for women, including women with disabilities, with regard to legal remedies put in place to eliminate discrimination against women (Maldives);
- 143.267 Adopt measures to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities (Bangladesh);
- 143.268 Expedite the legislative process and enact into law all bills on hate crimes and the rights of persons with disabilities, particularly persons with albinism (Sierra Leone);
- 143.269 Establish a nationwide social protection scheme inclusive of all persons with disabilities to ensure protection of those persons' human rights and to eliminate all forms of discrimination on the grounds of disability (Poland);
- 143.270 Provide further funding to Statistics South Africa for the collection and analysis of disability data, as a step to support the greater inclusion of persons with disabilities in education and society (New Zealand);
- 143.271 Continue its efforts to alleviate unemployment, especially for persons with disabilities (Islamic Republic of Iran);

- 143.272 Continue with efforts to ensure promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities (India);
- 143.273 Extend free education to children with disabilities (Gabon);
- 143.274 Strengthen measures aimed at promoting and preserving Indigenous and native languages in educational systems at the national level (Peru);
- 143.275 Continue to give priority attention to the rights of Indigenous Peoples, in particular by recognizing and revitalizing their languages (New Zealand);
- 143.276 Uphold the rights affirmed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including to consult and cooperate in good faith with Indigenous Peoples on legislative or administrative measures that may affect them (Canada);
- 143.277 Continue to address the challenges of food insecurity, rights to resources, landlessness and employment that disproportionately affect Indigenous Khoi-San communities (New Zealand);
- 143.278 Work to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities from the potential negative impacts of the activities of mining companies on their lands, waters and environment, and involve them in decision-making in such cases (Tunisia);
- 143.279 Investigate and prosecute all cases of violence and discrimination against LGBTIQ+ persons (Israel);
- 143.280 Establish and implement measures to prevent, investigate and adequately prosecute threats, attacks and discrimination against LGBTIQ persons (Norway);
- 143.281 Implement effective measures to combat discrimination against LGBTIQ persons and guarantee their access to justice (Argentina);
- 143.282 Continue efforts to combat all forms of discrimination against women and girls as well as LGBTIQ persons, and redouble efforts to eliminate gender-based violence, violence against women and girls as well as LGBTIQ persons (Austria);
- 143.283 Pursue and accelerate the passing into law of the Hate Speech and Hate Crimes Bill in order to protect specifically LGBTIQ persons against harassment and discrimination by clearly classifying acts of violence against these persons as punishable hate crimes (Belgium);
- 143.284 Increase funding provided to law enforcement and strengthen its sensitization and skills training aimed at preventing torture, xenophobia and discrimination against women, foreigners and LGBT persons (Czechia);
- 143.285 End harmful practices, including forced and coercive medical interventions, to ensure the bodily integrity of children with intersex variations (Israel);
- 143.286 Continue efforts to increase accountability for all manifestations of racism and xenophobia, including those targeting refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants (Greece);
- 143.287 Ensure the protection of the rights of migrant workers and their families, by taking the necessary measures to combat the resurgence of frictions and strong tensions in the country, in particular the recurrent xenophobic outbursts (Morocco);
- 143.288 Continue to take steps to combat racism and xenophobia in particular with respect to migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers (Republic of Korea);
- 143.289 Continue to take appropriate measures to guarantee social and economic rights for all, including migrant workers (Uganda);

143.290 Expedite the effective implementation of the National Action Plan to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and strengthen its efforts to prevent all forms of xenophobic violence against foreigners, migrants or asylum-seekers (Austria);

143.291 Accelerate the promotion of non-discrimination against minorities, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups including migrants (Cameroon);

143.292 Ensure the protection of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers from discrimination, xenophobia and violence by combating the incitement of hate speech against vulnerable groups, in addition to properly investigating and prosecuting these crimes (Canada);

143.293 Protect and fulfil migrants' rights, in particular by effectively prosecuting offences committed against them, by ensuring access to education for children and by improving migrants' living conditions (Germany).

144. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of South Africa was headed by H.E. Mr. John Jeffery, Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr Obed Bapela, Deputy Minister of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs;
- Dr Reginah Mhaule, Deputy Minister of Basic Education;
- Mr Zane U. Dangor, Director – General, Department of International Relations and Cooperation;
- Adv Joyce M. Maluleke, Director-General, Department of Women, Youth and People with Disabilities;
- H.E. Mr Mxolisi S. Nkosi, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organisations in Switzerland;
- Ms Isabella Sekawana, Deputy Director General: Welfare Services, Department of Social Development;
- Adv Lloyd Lotz, Acting Deputy Director General. Department of Justice and Constitutional Development;
- Mr Mandla Madumisa, Chief Director, Department of Home Affairs;
- Ms Tinyiko Khosa, Chief Director, Department of Sports, Arts and Culture;
- Adv Carol Johnson-Newham, Technical Specialist: Office of the Deputy Minister, Department of Justice and Constitutional Development;
- Ms Tsholofelo Tsheole, Deputy Permanent Representative, South African Permanent Mission – Geneva;
- Mr Malesela Leso, Director: International Legal Relations, Department of Justice and Constitutional Development;
- Mr Xolani Khumalo, Director: International Relations, Department of Women, Youth and People with Disabilities;
- Mr Ivan C. Vosloo, Counsellor: Political, South African Permanent Mission – Geneva;
- Ms Gabisile Nkosi, First Secretary: Political, South African Permanent Mission – Geneva;
- Ms Portia Mngomezulu, First Secretary: Political, South African Permanent Mission – Geneva;
- Ms Bronwen Levy, Counsellor: Political, South African Permanent Mission – Geneva;
- Ms Tebogo Ncalo-Seheri, First Secretary: Political, South African Permanent Mission – Geneva;
- Colonel Mosetsanagape Mathe, Policing and Detection Legal Services, South African Police Service;
- Ms Cleon Noah, Director, Department of Sports, Arts and Culture;
- Mr Siyabonga Hadebe, Labour Attaché, South African Permanent Mission;
- Ms Juanique Bowman, First Secretariat: Disarmament, South African Permanent Mission;
- Ms Lebogang Lebese, Health Attache, South African Permanent Mission.