

The Gambia

Mid-term Implementation Assessment



*Promoting and strengthening
the Universal Periodic Review*
<http://www.upr-info.org>

Introduction

1. Purpose of the follow-up programme

The second and subsequent cycles of the review should focus on, inter alia, the implementation of the accepted recommendations and the development of the human rights situation in the State under review.

A/HRC/RES/16/21, 12 April 2011 (Annex I C § 6)

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process takes place every four and half years; however, some recommendations can be implemented immediately. In order to reduce this interval, we have created an update process to evaluate the human rights situation two years after the examination at the UPR.

Broadly speaking, *UPR Info* seeks to ensure the respect of commitments made in the UPR, but also, more specifically, to give stakeholders the opportunity to share their opinion on the commitments. To this end, about two years after the review, *UPR Info* invites States, NGOs, and National Institutions for Human Rights (NHRI) to share their comments on the implementation (or lack thereof) of recommendations adopted at the Human Rights Council (HRC) plenary session.

For this purpose, *UPR Info* publishes a Mid-term Implementation Assessment (MIA) including responses from each stakeholder. The MIA is meant to show how all stakeholders are disposed to follow through on, and implement their commitments. States should implement the recommendations that they have accepted, and civil society should monitor that implementation.

While the follow-up's importance has been highlighted by the HRC, no precise directives regarding the follow-up procedure have been set until now. Therefore, *UPR Info* is willing to share good practices as soon as possible, and to strengthen the collaboration pattern between States and stakeholders. Unless the UPR's follow-up is seriously considered, the UPR mechanism as a whole could be adversely affected.

The methodology used by UPR Info to collect data and to calculate index is described at the end of this document.

Geneva, 7 November 2012

Follow-up Outcomes

1. Sources and results

All data are available at the following address:

<http://followup.upr-info.org/index/country/gambia>

We invite the reader to consult that webpage since all recommendations, all stakeholders' reports, as well as the unedited comments can be found at the same internet address.

11 stakeholders' reports were submitted for the UPR. 8 NGOs were contacted. 1 UN agency was contacted. The Permanent Mission to the UN was contacted. No domestic NHRI does exist.

4 NGOs responded to our enquiry. The UN agency did not respond. The State under Review did not respond to our enquiry.

IRI: 56 recommendations are not implemented, 14 recommendations are partially implemented, and 0 recommendation is fully implemented. No answer was received for 83 out of 153 recommendations (full list of unanswered recommendations is available at the end of this document).

2. Index

Hereby the issues which the MIA deals with:

rec. n°	Issue	page	IRI
1	International instruments, Death penalty,	page 15	not impl.
2	International instruments	page 11	partially impl.
3	NHRI	page 20	not impl.
4	Torture and other CID treatment, Special procedures,	page 11	not impl.
5	Detention conditions	page 15	not impl.
6	Women's rights, Torture and other CID treatment, Rights of the Child, Human rights education and training,	page 17	not impl.
7	Women's rights	page 18	partially impl.
8	Freedom of the press, Freedom of opinion and expression,	page 6	not impl.
10	Women's rights	page 18	not impl.

rec. n°	Issue	page	IRI
12	International instruments, Detention conditions,	page 15	not impl.
13	Enforced disappearances	page 15	not impl.
14	Freedom of opinion and expression	page 6	not impl.
15	Freedom of opinion and expression	page 6	not impl.
16	Women's rights, International instruments,	page 18	not impl.
17	Freedom of the press, Freedom of opinion and expression,	page 7	not impl.
18	Freedom of the press, Freedom of opinion and expression, Freedom of association and peaceful assembly,	page 7	not impl.
19	Freedom of the press	page 7	partially impl.
20	Special procedures, International instruments,	page 11	partially impl.
21	International instruments	page 12	partially impl.
22	Death penalty	page 15	not impl.
23	NHRI	page 20	not impl.
24	NHRI	page 20	not impl.
25	Rights of the Child, International instruments,	page 12	partially impl.
26	International instruments, Enforced disappearances,	page 12	not impl.
27	International instruments	page 12	partially impl.
28	NHRI	page 20	not impl.
29	Migrants, International instruments,	page 13	not impl.
30	Right to education	page 9	not impl.
31	UPR process	page 21	not impl.
32	Technical assistance, ESC rights - general,	page 10	not impl.
33	Right to education	page 10	partially impl.
35	Women's rights	page 18	partially impl.
36	Poverty, ESC rights - general, Development,	page 10	not impl.
37	Technical assistance, Justice, Detention conditions,	page 16	not impl.
38	General	page 21	not impl.
39	Women's rights	page 18	not impl.
40	Women's rights, Elections, Asylum-seekers - refugees,	page 21	not impl.
41	Impunity, Extrajudicial executions,	page 16	not impl.
42	Poverty	page 10	not impl.
43	Trafficking	page 16	partially impl.
44	Women's rights, Torture and other CID treatment, Rights of the Child,	page 19	not impl.
45	Women's rights, Rights of the Child,	page 19	partially impl.
46	Right to health	page 11	not impl.
52	Freedom of the press, Freedom of opinion and expression, Civil society,	page 7	not impl.
55	Women's rights, International instruments,	page 19	not impl.
56	Women's rights, Trafficking, Torture and other CID treatment, Rights of the Child,	page 19	not impl.
60	Freedom of opinion and expression	page 8	not impl.
81	Justice, International instruments, Human rights defenders, Detention conditions,	page 16	not impl.
83	Freedom of the press, Freedom of opinion and expression,	page 8	partially impl.

rec. n°	Issue	page	IRI
84	Torture and other CID treatment, Human rights violations by state agents, Extrajudicial executions, Enforced disappearances, Detention conditions,	page 17	not impl.
86	Treaty bodies, Technical assistance,	page 13	not impl.
87	Freedom of the press, Freedom of opinion and expression,	page 8	not impl.
97	Treaty bodies, Technical assistance, Special procedures,	page 13	not impl.
101	Special procedures, International instruments,	page 13	not impl.
106	Freedom of opinion and expression	page 8	not impl.
108	Treaty bodies, Technical assistance,	page 13	not impl.
110	Rights of the Child, International instruments,	page 14	partially impl.
111	Torture and other CID treatment, International instruments, Death penalty,	page 14	not impl.
112	International instruments	page 14	partially impl.
116	International instruments, CP rights - general,	page 9	not impl.
126	Justice	page 17	not impl.
136	International instruments, Freedom of opinion and expression,	page 9	not impl.
137	International instruments, Human rights defenders, Freedom of the press,	page 17	not impl.
138	Freedom of opinion and expression	page 9	not impl.
139	Treaty bodies	page 13	not impl.
140	Treaty bodies, CP rights - general,	page 13	not impl.
146	Treaty bodies, Technical assistance,	page 14	not impl.
147	Freedom of the press	page 9	not impl.
148	Treaty bodies	page 14	not impl.
149	Treaty bodies, Technical assistance,	page 14	not impl.

3. Feedbacks on recommendations

CP Rights

Recommendation n°8: *Adopt measures to guarantee freedom of the press and of expression* (Recommended by Chile)

IRI: *not implemented*

Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA) response:

The Gambia has not taken any steps to guarantee freedom of the press and of expression. Most of the online papers that are critical of government are not accessible from The Gambia. They include Freedom Newspaper, Jollof News, Gainako News, The Gambia Echo, Maafanta and Senegambia News. Their publishers are based abroad and because they are critical of government they have all been blocked.

Network of NGOs (Anonymous) response:

While legislation and institutions exist for this purpose, yet enforcement is a major challenge because of limited capacity in all areas including limited and ambiguous political will.

Recommendation n°14: *Amend legislation infringing freedom of expression, in accordance with the Gambia's international human rights obligations* (Recommended by Australia)

IRI: *not implemented*

MFWA response:

The Gambia continues to retain laws that criminally sanction the work of the media and free expression advocates

Anonymous response:

This is not being applied.

Recommendation n°15: *Amend legislation to comply with international obligations to guarantee freedom of expression* (Recommended by Canada)

IRI: *not implemented*

MFWA response:

The Gambia has not taken any steps to amend laws to guarantee [freedom of expression]. The country still retain laws that criminally sanction the work of the media and free expression advocates

Anonymous response:

This is not being applied.

Recommendation n°17: *Bring an immediate end to harassment and intimidation of independent journalists and media institutions and amend the legislation that restricts press freedom and freedom of expression* (Recommended by Sweden)

IRI: *not implemented*

MFWA response:

The Gambia has not amended legislation that restricts press freedom and freedom of expression. Journalists and media practitioners continue to be charged with publication of false news and sedition

Anonymous response:

This is not being applied.

Recommendation n°18: *Carry out concrete and effective measures, including legislative action to ensure respect for the freedom of expression, association and the press, in conformity with international standards* (Recommended by Mexico)

IRI: *not implemented*

MFWA response:

There is no evidence to show that the Gambia has taken any step whatsoever to ensure respect for freedom of expression, association and the press, in conformity with international standards.

Anonymous response:

This is not being applied.

Recommendation n°19: *Cease the harassment and intimidation of media institutions* (Recommended by Australia)

IRI: *partially implemented*

MFWA response:

The year 2012 witnessed a significant reduction in cases of harassment and intimidation of media practitioners and freedom of expression advocates in the Gambia.

Anonymous response:

Harassment and intimidating of the media continues unabated. Between August and September 2012 alone, one radio station, Taranga Fm and two newspapers, The Standard and Daily News have been ordered closed by a group of intelligence agents who claimed to be sent from the Office of the President to deliver the order to close.

Recommendation n°52: *Develop a specific normative framework to guarantee the freedom of opinion and expression, as well as the security of journalists, members of the opposition and civil society* (Recommended by Spain)

IRI: *not implemented*

MFWA response:

There is no evidence to show that the Gambian government has taken any step to develop a specific normative framework to guarantee freedom of opinion and

expression, as well as the security of journalists, members of the opposition and civil society.

Recommendation n°60: *Ensure free access to information* (Recommended by Germany)

IRI: *not implemented*

MFWA response:

There is currently no access to information law in the Gambia. There is also no evidence to show that the Gambia has taken any steps to ensure free access to information. Most of the online papers that are critical of government are not accessible from The Gambia.

Recommendation n°83: *Immediately cease the harassment and intimidation of independent media and to proceed to a reform of the legislation applicable to ensure full respect of freedom of expression* (Recommended by France)

IRI: *partially implemented*

MFWA response:

The year 2012 witnessed a significant reduction in cases of harassment and intimidation of media practitioners and freedom of expression advocates. The Gambia has not amended legislation that restricts press freedom and freedom of expression. Journalists and media practitioners continue to be charged with publication of false news and sedition

Anonymous response:

Harassment and intimidating of the media continues unabated. Between August and September 2012 alone, one radio station, Taranga Fm and two newspapers, The Standard and Daily News have been ordered closed by a group of intelligence agents who claimed to be sent from the Office of the President to deliver the order to close.

Recommendation n°87: *Improve efforts to guarantee the freedom of the press, and take all necessary steps to protect everyone individually or in association with others against any violence, retaliation, adverse discrimination or pressure as a consequence of his or her legitimate exercise of freedom of expression according to international human rights standards* (Recommended by Netherlands)

IRI: *not implemented*

MFWA response:

The Gambia has not taken any steps to improve efforts to guarantee freedom of the press. There is also no evidence to show that government is taking any step to protect everyone individually or in association with others against any violence, retaliation, adverse discrimination or pressure as a consequence of his or her legitimate exercise of freedom of expression according to international human rights standards.

Recommendation n°106: *Promote and guarantee the right to freedom of expression* (Recommended by Italy)

IRI: *not implemented*

MFWA response:

The Gambia has not taken any steps to guarantee freedom of expression

Recommendation n°116: *Replace criminal defamation laws with civil laws that are more narrowly defined, thus ensuring greater compliance with international obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including a defence for the accused* (Recommended by United Kingdom)

IRI: not implemented

MFWA response:

The Gambia continues to retain laws that criminally sanction the work of the media and free expression advocates

Recommendation n°136: *Take all necessary steps to ensure freedom of speech as guaranteed by international conventions to which the Gambia is a signatory* (Recommended by United States)

IRI: not implemented

MFWA response:

The Gambia has not taken any steps to guarantee freedom of speech in accordance with international conventions

Recommendation n°138: *Take all necessary steps to strengthen the freedom of expression* (Recommended by Germany)

IRI: not implemented

MFWA response:

The Gambia has not taken any steps to strengthen freedom of expression

Recommendation n°147: *Take steps to promote free and independent media and continue work to ensure the safety of journalists, including Ndey Tapha Sossey, Sarata Jabbi- Dibba, Pa Modou Faal, Pap Saine, Sam Sarr, Ebrima Sawaneh, Emil Touray, and Augustine Kanja* (Recommended by United Kingdom)

IRI: not implemented

MFWA response:

The Gambia has not taken any steps to ensure the safety of journalists; Ndey Tapha Sosseh is still on exile.

ESC Rights

Recommendation n°30: *Consolidate efforts to improve educational infrastructure at secondary, tertiary and higher education levels to ensure equitable access and quality education for all* (Recommended by Pakistan)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

There is limited effort in this regard and in any case all efforts are highly undermined because of the high level of interference from the State. Because of the over dominance of the Executive and the partisan nature of the regime, all development

interventions are conceived from a partisan perspective hence undermining the efficacy of efforts.

Recommendation n°32: *Continue and intensify efforts for further promotion of economic, social and cultural rights with a view to better realize the Millennium Development Goals. In this context we recommend Gambia to benefit from technical and financial assistance by the international community, which is vital to this crucial endeavor* (Recommended by Iran)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

ESC rights are not fully recognized in the Gambia constitution, rather such rights are perceived to be privileges to be provided based on support for the regime. Communities are told openly that they will not enjoy social services if they do not vote for the President and this has been implemented.

Recommendation n°33: *Continue applying the measures adopted with a view to achieving the proposed goals relating to education* (Recommended by Cuba)

IRI: *partially implemented*

Anonymous response:

There is clear interest and commitment at the level of the Ministry of Education to ensure accessible and quality education. The main challenge continues to be limited political will to allow space and resources for technocrats to carry out their function. The issue of education like many other national issues is highly politicised.

Recommendation n°36: *Continue efforts to reduce poverty and promote development, with a view to enhancing the effective enjoyment of all human rights for its people, especially economic and social rights* (Recommended by Thailand)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

The respect for economic, social and cultural rights is very limited. The constitution does not consider many of these rights as fundamental hence the constitution indicates under Section 211 - 219 that these rights are not [actionable]. Because of poor governance, the ability of the government and the citizens to defeat poverty remains daunting. The country currently has the second highest total tax rate in the world, while unemployment is so high that there exists no official figures.

Recommendation n°42: *Continue to give absolute priority to programmes to combat poverty* (Recommended by Algeria)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

Given the political and economic perspective of the regime, there is very little effort to support poverty eradication interventions. Consequently poverty levels continue to rise, so also is cost of prices and living, and taxation. Government effectiveness and regulation are so limited that there is conducive environment for corruption as delivery of basic social services are not only erratic and poor but also expensive and not available to all.

Recommendation n°46: *Continue using the ongoing programmes to ensure universal access for its population to health services* (Recommended by Cuba)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

There exists commitment at the level of technocrats of ensuring access to health by the population, however there is limited political commitment in the area given the amount of resources being provided which are further hampered by the highly politicised nature of health services and delivery. Furthermore, there is limited incentive and encouragement in health services that it is the sector with the highest staff turnover rate.

International Instruments

Recommendation n°2: *Accede to the various international conventions to which Gambia is not yet party to* (Recommended by Niger)

IRI: *partially implemented*

Anonymous response:

Has not acceded to all the international the need for the Gambia to give an inventory of these conventions and give feedback.

Centre for Civil and Political Rights (CCPR) response:

Gambia ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Children Pornography in April 2010. Gambia has not ratified any of the other international conventions to which it was not a party at the time of the UPR (CAT, OP-CAT, ICCPR-OP2, OP-CEDAW, OP-ICESCR, CRC OPAC, CMW, CRPD, CED).

Recommendation n°4: *Accept a visit to the country from the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment* (Recommended by Mexico)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

This has not happened yet.

Recommendation n°20: *Consider an early ratification of the CAT and OP-CAT, ICCPR- OP2, OP-CEDAW, OP-ICESCR, OPs to CRC improve its cooperation with Special Procedures and other Human Rights mechanisms* (Recommended by Slovakia)

IRI: *partially implemented*

CCPR response:

Gambia ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Children Pornography in April 2010. Gambia has not ratified any of the other international conventions to which it was not a party at the time of the UPR (CAT, OP-CAT, ICCPR-OP2, OP-CEDAW, OP-ICESCR, CRC OPAC, CMW, CRPD, CED). Gambia has not submitted any of the

reports that were overdue at the time of the UPR (no new reports are listed on the OHCHR websites for the Treaty Bodies). Reports under the ICCPR, ICESCR, CERD, CRC and CEDAW are therefore still overdue. No information is available about whether or not Gambia has sought technical assistance.

Recommendation n°21: Consider being party to the International Convention on Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the Convention on the rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (Recommended by Argentina)

IRI: *partially implemented*

CCPR response:

Gambia ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Children Pornography in April 2010. Gambia has not ratified any of the other international conventions to which it was not a party at the time of the UPR (CAT, OP-CAT, ICCPR-OP2, OP-CEDAW, OP-ICESCR, CRC OPAC, CMW, CRPD, CED).

Recommendation n°25: Consider ratifying the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Recommended by Brazil)

IRI: *partially implemented*

CCPR response:

Gambia ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Children Pornography in April 2010, but has not yet ratified the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.

Recommendation n°26: Consider signing and ratifying the Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Recommended by Argentina)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

This is not being considered.

CCPR response:

Gambia has not yet ratified the Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

Recommendation n°27: Consider taking the necessary steps to ratify or accede to the outstanding main international human rights instruments and treaties (Recommended by Nigeria)

IRI: *partially implemented*

CCPR response:

Gambia ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Children Pornography in April 2010. Gambia has not ratified any of the other international conventions to which it was not a party at the time of the UPR (CAT, OP-CAT, ICCPR-OP2, OP-CEDAW, OP-ICESCR, CRC OPAC, CMW, CRPD, CED).

Recommendation n°29: *Consider the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families* (Recommended by Democratic Republic of Congo)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

This is not being considered.

CCPR response:

Gambia has not ratified the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families

Recommendation n°86: *Improve cooperation with the United Nations Treaty Bodies, by agreeing on the timeliness for submitting overdue reports and consider the need for external assistance to that end* (Recommended by Norway)

IRI: not implemented

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Recommendation n°97: *Issue a standing invitation to Special Procedures and seek technical assistance through the OHCHR to submit outstanding reports on the implementation of human rights treaties* (Recommended by Canada)

IRI: not implemented

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Recommendation n°101: *Meet all reporting obligations under the core universal human rights treaties and comply fully with the Special Procedures' requests, in the spirit of good faith and cooperation with all relevant mechanisms* (Recommended by Hungary)

IRI: not implemented

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Recommendation n°108: *Provide, with the support of the international community, the various initial and periodic reports* (Recommended by Niger)

IRI: not implemented

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Recommendation n°139: *Take appropriate measures, as possible, to make up for the delay accumulated over the past years in presenting its reports to various human rights bodies* (Recommended by Algeria)

IRI: not implemented

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Recommendation n°140: *Take concrete steps to address reporting delays to United Nations treaty bodies, in particular the Human Rights Committee* (Recommended by United Kingdom)

IRI: not implemented

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Recommendation n°146: *Take practical steps to fulfil its reporting obligations to the different United Nations treaty bodies and to seek technical assistance from OHCHR in this regard* (Recommended by Azerbaijan)

IRI: *not implemented*

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Recommendation n°148: *Take the necessary measures to bring itself up to date with the reporting obligations to treaty bodies* (Recommended by Djibouti)

IRI: *not implemented*

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Recommendation n°149: *To the extent possible, and taking into account the human resources constraints, fulfil its reporting obligations to the relevant treaty bodies and to seek assistance from OHCHR in this regard* (Recommended by Mauritius)

IRI: *not implemented*

CCPR response:

Gambia has not submitted any of the reports that were overdue at the time of the UPR (no new reports are listed on the OHCHR websites for the Treaty Bodies). Reports under the ICCPR, ICESCR, CERD, CRC and CEDAW are therefore still overdue. No information is available about whether or not Gambia has sought technical assistance.

Recommendation n°110: *Ratify both optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child* (Recommended by Turkey)

IRI: *partially implemented*

CCPR response:

Gambia ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Children Pornography in April 2010, but has not yet ratified the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.

Recommendation n°111: *Ratify the CAT, OP-CAT, ICCPR-OP2* (Recommended by Chile)

IRI: *not implemented*

CCPR response:

Gambia has not ratified any of these treaties.

Recommendation n°112: *Recognizing the commitment of the Gambia to different international human rights instruments, ratify and sign CAT and OP-CAT, CRPD and OPCRPD, CED, OP-CEDAW, CRC and ICESCR* (Recommended by Spain)

IRI: *partially implemented*

CCPR response:

Gambia ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Children Pornography in April 2010. Gambia has not ratified any of the other international conventions to which it was not a party at the time of the UPR (CAT, OP-CAT, ICCPR-OP2, OP-CEDAW, OP-ICESCR, CRC OPAC, CMW, CRPD, CED).

Justice

Recommendation n°1: *Abolish the death penalty sign and ratify ICCPR-OP2* (Recommended by Spain)

IRI: not implemented

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Recommendation n°22: *Consider establishing a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty* (Recommended by Brazil)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

This has not happened. In fact while moratorium was in place since 1985, the government has lifted it in 2012 by executing 9 death row inmates.

Recommendation n°5: *Address appropriately the issue of overcrowding as one of the major problems faced by the prisons which seriously affects the lives of the inmates in maintaining a good health standard* (Recommended by Iran)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

The Government continues to deny that prison conditions are dire even though several incidents of torture, denial of medical attention, access to family and lawyers and death have been reported in the media from the prison. These have been aggravated by overcrowding with some people spending years without ever being charged or taken to a court of law.

Recommendation n°12: *Allow access to its detention centers by independent organizations and to arrested foreigners by their diplomatic representatives in accordance with its international human rights obligations* (Recommended by Canada)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

This is not being applied.

Recommendation n°13: *Allow independent investigations into the death of Deyda Hydera and the disappearance of Chief Ebrima Manneh, including publication of findings* (Recommended by United Kingdom)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

There have been reports that Government has conceded to allowing UN investigations into the murder of Deyda. Nothing has started yet though. On Manneh, there is no prospect for investigation yet and Government is still maintaining its position that it does not have the missing journalist in custody and that probably he died while en route to Europe through illegal means.

Recommendation n°37: *Continue efforts, despite constraints, with the assistance and cooperation of the international community to improve the situation of the justice sector, the police and prisons* (Recommended by Sudan)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

The international community has shown goodwill to support the country ensure an independent judiciary, facilitate access to justice and strengthen the rule of law. However the regime does not seem to match such goodwill with similar gesture. It is an open secret that the judiciary is under the direct control of the executive which continues to hire and fire chief justices, judges, magistrates and state counsels without regard to due process. These actions have tremendously undermined justice delivery. A new twist to these abuses is the practice of placing judges on contract who are also mainly non-Gambians, thus effectively undermining their ability to be independent and just.

Recommendation n°41: *Continue to fight resolutely against the practice of arbitrary or summary executions and against impunity* (Recommended by Cote d'Ivoire)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

There is absolutely no indication or intention to fight against arbitrary or summary executions and against impunity.

Recommendation n°43: *Continue to intensify law enforcement efforts against traffickers, incorporate anti-trafficking training into standard police curriculum, increase efforts to rescue trafficking victims, and provide appropriate care to those individuals* (Recommended by United States)

IRI: *partially implemented*

Anonymous response:

While it is noted that the government makes a lot of pronouncements on this issue of crime control and distributes resources such as vehicles to the police, immigration and drug enforcement and the intelligence, concern is raised over the nature of these efforts. It has been noted that proper procedures are not followed and there is limited transparency and accountability of the government and its forces. For example in May 2012, the president unilaterally created a new force called 'Operation Bulldozer' comprising personnel from different armed and security services and answerable only to him. The new force was not created by an act of the parliament and they have been ordered to even shoot suspected armed robbers or drug traffickers and then 'ask questions'. Thus while there appears to be lots of forces and resources moving about, there continues to be high incidence of drugs trafficking, armed robbery, murder among other crimes.

Recommendation n°81: *Guarantee the full legitimacy and protection for human rights defenders in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. Those arrested should be with no delays brought to fair and proper trials, or released* (Recommended by Slovakia)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

Human Rights defenders are targets of the state and they are being followed by the National Intelligence Agency. Arbitrarily arrested and detained and their trial is delayed and sometimes court proceedings during their trial is not covered by the state radio and television especially when it is not in favour of the state. They are being harassed by state Intelligence Agencies and threatened at night by making anonymous calls and loitering around the residence and work place of human rights defenders and their families are also subjected to harassment.

Recommendation n°84: Implement efficient policies and programmes to eliminate the phenomenon of excessive use of force by law enforcement officials, such as unlawful arrests and detentions, torture of detainees, enforced disappearances or extra-judicial executions to investigate allegations of torture and ill treatment and duly punish the perpetrators in accordance to international standards law enforcement officials should undergo a due human rights training (Recommended by Slovakia)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

This is very critical but it is not the case as the state is intolerant of progressive views on governance and human rights and justice. A special curriculum on this should be designed to engage in rights education.

Recommendation n°126: Strengthen efforts to guarantee the independence of the judiciary according to international human rights standards (Recommended by Netherlands)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

The judicial system is very vulnerable as most of the magistrates and judges are controlled by the status quo and they cannot take and make the rights decisions because if the state is interested in the case injustice is likely to occur and many human rights defenders are victims. The independence of the judiciary is under question for Gambia.

Recommendation n°137: Take all necessary steps to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, including journalists, against any violence, retaliation, or adverse discrimination as a consequence of their legitimate exercise of the rights according to the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (Recommended by Norway)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

This is zero in the Gambia

Women & Children

Recommendation n°6: Adopt and implement legislation prohibiting Female Genital Mutilation FGM, and ensure that offenders are prosecuted and punished, and take legal and education measures to combat this practice (Recommended by Slovenia)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

This has not happened yet.

Recommendation n°7: *Adopt measures and programmes aimed at eliminating discrimination against women* (Recommended by Chile)

IRI: *partially implemented*

Anonymous response:

Some measure at legal, policy and institutional levels have been done in this area. However enforcement of laws and policies remains a major challenge, while capacity of State institutions, both in terms of competent human resources and financial and material resources remain major obstacles. These challenges are more aggravated because of the highly patriarchal nature of the society backed by religious misconceptions and socio-cultural beliefs and practices which seek to favour men over women.

Recommendation n°10: *Adopt national measures in order to promote access to more women to positions of responsibility* (Recommended by Niger)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

Such measures do not exist such as gender quota in politics, yet there is lot of political rhetoric on the issue. Power lies with men, and where women are involved in decision making, it is more of formality than based on access as a result of merit.

Recommendation n°16: *Amend the Women's Bill as well as laws related to marriage, divorce and inheritance to comply with its obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women* (Recommended by Canada)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

This is not being applied.

Recommendation n°35: *Continue efforts to put an end to all negative cultural practices and stereotypes that discriminate against women* (Recommended by Azerbaijan)

IRI: *partially implemented*

Anonymous response:

There is very little done in this area. There is no law against harmful traditional practices such as FGM, early and forced marriages and wife inheritance, etc. The Women Act 2010 did not specify any category of harmful traditional practices even though it mentioned that such practices are illegal. Many observers believe this was done simply to ignore those practices for political purposes given. There is a draft bill on harmful traditional practices which is dragging between the Women's Bureau and consultants.

Recommendation n°39: *Continue strengthening efforts to ensure a more active role of women in all spheres of society* (Recommended by Pakistan)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

On the surface, the government gives the impression that it is gender sensitive enough. Many times, mention is made of the fact that the country's vice president is a woman for the past 10 years while there exists a number of female ministers and speakers/deputy speakers. However women's rights activists have noted that these women attain these positions on the benevolence of a male leader who has used this position to carefully satisfy his political outlook. At the end of the day, none of these female vice presidents, ministers, speakers and deputy speakers wield any power, as executive decision lies with the man. For example, the president can appoint and sack any vice president and minister, while the speaker and deputy speaker of the National Assembly are not elective positions, rather these are members nominated by the president. Anytime he removes his nomination, the member therefore loses his or her seat. It has been noted that if there are genuine interest in empowering women, there would have been laws and resources to create gender quotas and enable women to gain direct election. In the Assembly, there are only 3 elected women out of 48 seats.

Recommendation n°44: *Continue to promote efforts to fight FGM* (Recommended by Angola)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

There is no effort in this area. Government is at best ambiguous and at worst in support of the practice in the premise that it is cultural practice and efforts to combat FGM are western-instigated.

Recommendation n°45: *Continue to promote the rights of women and children* (Recommended by Djibouti)

IRI: *partially implemented*

Anonymous response:

There is more political rhetoric in this area than actual political commitment. Either the laws are there such as the Children Act 2005 and the Women Act 2010, or they are not fully implemented. Numerous practices are still prevalent and yet there is no action to combat them using the laws and institutions.

Recommendation n°55: *Enact legislation on violence, including domestic violence against women to take appropriate measures to ensure that domestic laws and customary law, and certain aspects of the Sharia, are applied in ways compatible with the provisions of ICCPR* (Recommended by Norway)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

This does not exist as some parts of the constitution are contradictory with regards to the personal status law of Muslim women in the Gambia.

Recommendation n°56: *Enforce Gambia's Children's Act of 2005 on issues such as corporal punishment, early marriages, FGM and sexual exploitation of children, as well as the Child Trafficking Law of 2007* (Recommended by Norway)

IRI: *not implemented*

Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children (GIEACPC) response:

In commenting on the recommendation, the Government stated that "there were laws already in place to protect children against violence and abuse of all forms" (A/HRC/14/L.10, para. 601). In fact, the Children's Act states that domestic discipline should be administered "with humanity and in a manner consistent with the inherent dignity of the child" (article 22) but it does not explicitly prohibit all corporal punishment of children. Furthermore, the common law of England applies in Gambia and this includes the right of parents, guardians and others in loco parentis to "reasonably chastise" their child. This legal defence for the use of corporal punishment must be explicitly repealed if children are to have full legal protection from all forms of corporal punishment.

Other

Recommendation n°3: *Accelerate efforts to review the scope and mandate of Ombudsman's institution* (Recommended by Malaysia)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

Not being applied. The Ombudsman continues to face resource challenges as well as obtaining government support in implementing its decisions. Furthermore its officers lack the security of tenure of office as they are hired and fired by the President without regard to the law.

Recommendation n°23: *Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles* (Recommended by Egypt)

IRI: not implemented

+

Recommendation n°24: *Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles* (Recommended by Nigeria)

IRI: not implemented

+

Recommendation n°28: *Consider the establishment of a national human rights institution accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of the National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights* (Recommended by Mauritius)

IRI: not implemented

Anonymous response:

An initial forum was organized in June by the Ministry of Justice for the setting up of the commission. Since then no news came out from them as to the next steps. However observers and participants at the forum noted that the Ministry is seeking to make the commission a unit under the ministry to the dislike of CSO participants and the Commonwealth which funded the forum.

Recommendation n°31: *Continue an inclusive process in the follow-up on UPR recommendations* (Recommended by Norway)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

This is not being considered.

Recommendation n°38: *Continue making legislative and concrete efforts to promote human rights* (Recommended by Lebanon)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

There is absolutely no indication or intention on the part of the government to respect and protect and fulfill human rights. From the President to various key government officials, the attitude towards human rights has been hostility. There is high incidence of abuse of the rule of law by the Executive which also disregards with impunity the separation of powers principle. Consequently the executive has brought the judiciary and legislature under its total control, thanks to also a series of constitutional amendments that give immense power to the executive. This situation has emboldened the executive to flout the rule of law in all its facets hence the limitation on rights.

Recommendation n°40: *Continue the process of strengthening and adapting the national normative framework, particularly by finalizing the texts being prepared with regards to women, asylum and elections* (Recommended by Algeria)

IRI: *not implemented*

Anonymous response:

No significant efforts are undertaken in this area.

Methodology

A. First contact

Although the methodology has to consider the specificities of each country, we applied the same procedure for data collection about all States:

1. We contacted the Permanent Mission to the UN either in Geneva (when it does exist) or New York;
2. We contacted all NGOs which took part in the process. Whenever NGOs were part of coalitions, each NGO was individually contacted;
3. The National Institution for Human Rights was contacted whenever one existed.
4. UN Agencies which sent information for the UPR were contacted.

We posted our requests to the States and NHRI, and sent emails to NGOs and UN Agencies.

The purpose of the UPR is to discuss issues and share concrete suggestions to improve human rights on the ground. Therefore, stakeholders whose objective is not to improve the human rights situation were not contacted, and those stakeholders' submissions were not taken into account.

However, since the UPR is meant to be a process which aims at sharing best practices among States and stakeholders, we take into account positive feedbacks from the latter.

B. Processing the recommendations

The persons we contact are encouraged to use an Excel sheet we provide which includes all recommendations received by the State reviewed.

Each submission is processed, whether the stakeholder has or has not used the Excel sheet. In the latter case, the submission is split up among recommendations we think it belongs to. Since such a task is more prone to misinterpretation, we strongly encourage stakeholders to use the Excel sheet.

If the stakeholder does not clearly mention neither that the recommendation was “fully implemented” nor that it was “not implemented”, UPR Info usually considers the recommendation as “partially implemented”, unless the implementation level is obvious.

UPR Info retains the right to edit comments that are considered not to directly address the recommendation in question, when comments are too lengthy or when comments are defamatory or inappropriate. While we do not mention the recommendations which were not addressed, they can be accessed unedited on the follow-up webpage.

C. Implementation Recommendation Index (IRI)

UPR Info developed an index showing the implementation level achieved by the State for the recommendations received at the UPR.

The **Implementation Recommendation Index (IRI)** is an individual recommendation index. Its purpose is to show an average of stakeholders' responses.

The *IRI* is meant to take into account stakeholders disputing the implementation of a recommendation. Whenever a stakeholder claims nothing has been implemented at all, the index score is 0. At the opposite, whenever a stakeholder claims a recommendation has been fully implemented, the *IRI* score is 1.

An average is calculated to fully reflect the many sources of information. If the State under Review claims that the recommendation has been fully implemented, and a stakeholder says it has been partially implemented, the score is 0.75.

Then the score is transformed into an implementation level, according to the table below:

Percentage:	Implementation level:
0 – 0.32	Not implemented
0.33 – 0.65	Partially implemented
0.66 – 1	Fully implemented

Example: On one side, a stakeholder comments on a recommendation requesting the establishment of a National Human Rights Institute (NHRI). On the other side, the State under review claims having partially set up the NHRI. As a result of this, the recommendation will be given an *IRI* score of 0.25, and thus the recommendation is considered as “not implemented”.

Disclaimer

The comments made by the authors (stakeholders) are theirs alone, and do not necessarily reflect the views, and opinions at UPR Info. Every attempt has been made to ensure that information provided on this page is accurate and not abusive. UPR Info cannot be held responsible for information provided in this document.

Uncommented recommendations

Hereby the recommendations which the MIA does not address:

rec. n°	Recommendation	SMR	Response	A	Issue
9	Adopt measures to protect the rights of certain vulnerable groups of children, in particular, girls, children born out of wedlock, and children with disabilities	Chile	No Response	4	Women's rights, Rights of the Child, Disabilities,
11	Allocate the necessary resources to ensure the appropriate functioning of the National Council on Civic Education	Angola	No Response	4	Right to education
34	Continue efforts to promote education for the good of all	Kuwait	Accepted	2	Right to education
47	Continue work in areas of discrimination against women and children	Kyrgyzstan	Accepted	2	Women's rights, Rights of the Child,
48	Cooperate more with the special procedures mandate holders, in order to allow the international community to provide the best possible support in guaranteeing human rights	Burkina Faso	Accepted	4	Special procedures
49	Decriminalise same-sex activities in accordance with international human rights standards	Netherlands	Rejected	5	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
50	Decriminalize homosexuality, and take action to combat violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity	Norway	Rejected	5	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
51	Define expectations from relevant United Nations organizations and agencies with regards to technical and financial assistance and to solicit, therefore, the necessary international assistance to overcome material and infrastructural constraints mentioned in its national report	Morocco	Accepted	1	Technical assistance
53	Elaborate a development plan with a view, inter alia, to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger as the most daunting challenge of the country, and to provide access to education, health care for all its citizens, particularly women and children	Iran	Accepted	5	Right to health, Right to food, Right to education, Poverty,
54	Enact legislation on violence against women, including domestic violence	Belarus	Accepted	5	Women's rights
57	Engage members of the international community with a view to building capacity, particularly with regard to securing improvements in the human rights situation of its population	Malaysia	Accepted	1	Other

58	Enhance efforts, both in law and practice, to protect the rights of women, promote gender equality and eliminate discrimination and violence against women	Thailand	Accepted	4	Women's rights
59	Ensure all detainees be properly charged and brought to trial without delay, or released, and that an independent body in Gambia investigate allegations of ill-treatment, torture and extra-judicial executions	Australia	Accepted	4	Torture and other CID treatment, Extrajudicial executions, Detention conditions,
61	Ensure non-discrimination in access to adequate housing, and prevent forced evictions, as well as the threat of forced evictions, on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity	United States	Rejected	4	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Right to housing,
62	Ensure that all LGBT persons fully and equally enjoy their human rights, in conformity with Gambia's international obligations, and as an immediate step, to repeal the provisions in the Criminal Code that criminalize sexual activity among persons of the same sex	Sweden	Rejected	4	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
63	Ensure that no forced evictions or restrictions on access to adequate housing are imposed on the basis of sexual orientation	Canada	Rejected	4	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Right to housing,
64	Ensure that reports of human rights violations by the police, the army and the National Intelligence Agency relating to unlawful arrest, detention, and torture of journalists, human rights defenders and opposition members are investigated and those responsible are brought to justice	Canada	Accepted	4	Torture and other CID treatment, Human rights violations by state agents, Human rights defenders, Freedom of the press, Detention conditions,
65	Establish a national human rights institution according to the Paris Principles	Libya	General Response	5	NHRI
66	Establish a national human rights institution according to the Paris Principles	France	General Response	5	NHRI
67	Establish a national human rights institution according to the Paris Principles	Niger	General Response	5	NHRI
68	Establish a national human rights institution according to the Paris Principles	Spain	General Response	5	NHRI
69	Extend an open and standing invitation to Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council and respond positively to visits requests issued by the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Special Rapporteur on the right to education	Spain	General Response	5	Torture and other CID treatment, Special procedures, Rights of the Child, Right to education,

70	Favourably consider the requests for country visits of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Special Rapporteur on the right to education	Belarus	Accepted	3	Special procedures, Rights of the Child, Right to education,
71	Focus on the development of law enforcement capacities in order to fight impunity	Germany	Accepted	4	Impunity
72	Following the recommendations of CEDAW, introduce measures to eliminate negative harmful cultural practices and stereotypes that discriminate women	Slovenia	General Response	4	Women's rights, Treaty bodies,
73	Follow-up on the recommendations by CEDAW and HRC with regard to discrimination against women introduce measures to eliminate cultural practices that discriminate against women	Norway	General Response	4	Women's rights, Treaty bodies,
74	Fulfill obligation under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, by adopting and implementing legislation prohibiting female genital mutilation	Australia	General Response	5	Women's rights, Torture and other CID treatment, Rights of the Child, International instruments,
75	Further strengthen its efforts to reduce poverty in the country	Azerbaijan	Accepted	4	Poverty
76	Give more attention to improving the status of women and children	Algeria	Accepted	4	Women's rights, Rights of the Child,
77	Give particular attention to human rights protection of people with disabilities in order to secure their rights	Ukraine	Accepted	4	Disabilities
78	Government's efforts to ensure quality service delivery in the justice sector also include measures to strengthen the independence of the judiciary in line with the United Nations Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary	Ghana	No Response	4	Justice
79	Guarantee equal treatment and non discrimination of women also with regard to areas concerning personal status, particularly, adoption, marriage, divorce and inheritance according to international human rights standards	Netherlands	Rejected	4	Women's rights
80	Guarantee the free exercise of activities of human rights defenders	France	General Response	4	Human rights defenders
82	Harmonize its national laws in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in accordance with relevant guidelines by Treaty bodies	Democratic Republic of Congo	Accepted	5	Women's rights, Treaty bodies, Rights of the Child, International instruments,
85	Implement the constitutional review of the death penalty and to confirm commitment to a moratorium with a view to abolishing death penalty	Italy	General Response	5	Death penalty

88	In line with CEDAW recommendations, address the problem of maternal and infant mortality and make every effort to increase women's access to health services	Kazakhstan	Accepted	4	Women's rights, Treaty bodies, Right to health,
89	In line with the observations by the Human Rights Committee, address the issues of unlawful arrest and detention by the security agencies, and any allegations of torture and ill-treatment of persons in their custody	Ghana	General Response	4	Treaty bodies, Torture and other CID treatment, Human rights violations by state agents, Detention conditions,
90	In line with the recommendations of the Human Rights Committee with regards to discrimination against women, take measures to ensure that national laws, customary laws and some aspects of Sharia law be interpreted and implemented in accordance with the principle of what most favors the individual	Mexico	General Response	4	Women's rights, Treaty bodies,
91	Increase level of education to cover disabled children	Kyrgyzstan	Accepted	4	Rights of the Child, Right to education, Disabilities,
92	Integrate the legislative and legal provisions of the international human rights treaties ratified by the Gambia in its own legislation	Kazakhstan	General Response	5	International instruments
93	Intensify efforts to improve the existing conditions in detention centres and prisons	Slovakia	Accepted	4	Detention conditions
94	Intensify measures to effectively combat child sexual abuse and exploitation	Azerbaijan	Accepted	4	Rights of the Child
95	Introduce legislation criminalizing FGM and domestic violence and launch an awareness and education campaign as part of implementing the legislation	Canada	General Response	5	Women's rights, Torture and other CID treatment, Rights of the Child,
96	Investigate at earliest cases of forced disappearances and to proceed to sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	France	General Response	5	International instruments, Enforced disappearances,
98	Issue an open and standing invitation to United Nations human rights special procedures mandate holders	Argentina	General Response	5	Special procedures
99	Issue an open and standing invitation to United Nations human rights special procedures mandate holders	Chile	General Response	5	Special procedures
100	Maintain and strengthen the measures undertaken to date to ensure the effective promotion and protection of women rights, which obviously requires the provision of the necessary minimum resources for this purposes, as well as the financial support from the international community	Venezuela	Accepted	4	Women's rights, Technical assistance,

102	Modify the current legislation to eliminate discrimination based on sexual orientation	Chile	Rejected	5	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
103	Multiply efforts to expand the coverage of education and expand services to include the disabled	Libya	Accepted	4	Right to education
104	Not carry out public execution and work towards the abolition of the death penalty, considering as a first measure the imposition of a moratorium	Argentina	General Response	5	Death penalty
105	Prevent, investigate and punish cases of torture and other ill-treatment, such as extra-judicial executions and enforced disappearances to this end, establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment	Spain	General Response	5	Torture and other CID treatment, Extrajudicial executions, Enforced disappearances,
107	Promote human rights education and training in all types of education, as well as for public officials in order to generate a greater understanding about human rights and help cultivate a human rights culture within the society	Thailand	Accepted	4	Human rights education and training
109	Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility	Brazil	Accepted	5	Rights of the Child
113	Redouble efforts in the area of poverty eradication, including by allocating adequate human and financial resources and providing support and material assistance to the disadvantaged groups in the country	Malaysia	Accepted	5	Poverty
114	Repeal all provisions criminalizing sexual activity between consenting adults	Canada	Rejected	5	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
115	Repeal all provisions of law criminalising sexual activity between consenting adults	United States	Rejected	5	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
117	Request technical assistance from the various United Nations bodies, responsible in particular for the protection of children's rights and of persons with disabilities so that in order to ensure the effectiveness of the rights of these vulnerable persons	Burkina Faso	Accepted	1	Technical assistance, Rights of the Child, Disabilities,
118	Rigorously enforce legislative instruments that protect and strengthen the rights of the child	Australia	Accepted	4	Rights of the Child
119	Seek the assistance of the international community in its efforts to combat poverty and to providing the necessary social services to its population based on the national priorities determined by the Government of Gambia	Egypt	Accepted	1	Technical assistance, Poverty,
120	Seek the assistance of the international community to reduce poverty	Republic of Congo	Accepted	1	Technical assistance, Poverty,

121	Seek to obtain financial assistance in order to implement poverty reduction plans	Kuwait	Accepted	1	Technical assistance, Poverty,
122	Seek, as necessary, international assistance in the elaboration and implementation of programmes for the promotion of human rights	Algeria	Accepted	1	Technical assistance
123	Step up cooperation with the special procedures and eventually consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council	Latvia	General Response	4	Special procedures
124	Step up efforts to combat all forms of discrimination towards women, in particular, by adopting legislation prohibiting traditional harmful practices, such as FGM	Brazil	General Response	5	Women's rights, Torture and other CID treatment,
125	Step up measures to comprehensively address the problem of violence against women, including FGM, by expediting the enactment of the Women's Bill, and by implementing social, educational and legal safeguards and increasing public awareness campaigns to sensitize the community on the issue	Malaysia	Accepted	4	Women's rights, Torture and other CID treatment, Human rights education and training,
127	Strengthen its laws to effectively combat FGM	Cote d'Ivoire	General Response	4	Women's rights, Torture and other CID treatment, Rights of the Child,
128	Strengthen national education programmes in favour of girls and persons with disabilities	Niger	Accepted	4	Women's rights, Rights of the Child, Disabilities,
129	Strengthen the institutional human rights framework, including by establishing a national human rights institution	Algeria	General Response	5	NHRI
130	Strengthen work with international organizations to cooperate in supporting and improving the country's health system	Kyrgyzstan	Accepted	4	Right to health
131	Take action to combat violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity and repeal all provisions criminalizing sexual activity between consenting adults ensure non-discrimination in access to adequate housing and remedies for forced evictions on the basis of sexual orientation	United Kingdom	Rejected	4	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Right to housing,
132	Take additional measures to ensure non-discrimination, in particular against women	Cote d'Ivoire	Accepted	4	Women's rights
133	Take adequate measures to combat illiteracy and poverty	Djibouti	Accepted	4	Right to education, Poverty,
134	Take all necessary measures to avoid unlawful arrests and detentions	Germany	Accepted	4	Detention conditions

135	Take all necessary social, educational and legal measures to eliminate the practise of FGM	Italy	General Response	4	Women's rights, Torture and other CID treatment, Rights of the Child,
141	Take effective measures to make primary education free, enhance the quality of education, improve the literacy rate and increase enrolment in schools by abolishing or rationalizing tuition fees at all levels of the educational system as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child	Turkey	General Response	4	Treaty bodies, Right to education,
142	Take firm measures to prevent and stop the recurrence of 'witch hunts'	Italy	Rejected	4	Women's rights
143	Take further steps to address human rights abuses against women and children, especially domestic violence, forced and early marriages	Sudan	General Response	4	Women's rights, Rights of the Child,
144	Take legal measures to prohibit all forms of physical and mental violence against children in all settings and to arrange an adequate juvenile justice system	Slovenia	General Response	4	Rights of the Child, Justice,
145	Take measures to reduce infant mortality rates	Libya	Accepted	4	Rights of the Child
150	Toughen liability for sexual abuse, exploitation and child trafficking	Belarus	Accepted	4	Trafficking, Rights of the Child,
151	Use international technical and financial assistance to try to strengthen the institutional framework for the protection of human rights	Lebanon	Accepted	4	Technical assistance
152	With regard to the criminalisation of relations between adults of the same sex, consider harmonising domestic standards with international ones so as to ensure the full exercise of all human rights	Argentina	Rejected	3	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
153	Withdraw legislation that criminalizes homosexuality between consenting adults and to prosecute violence directed against persons because of their sexual orientation	Italy	Rejected	5	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

A= Action Category (see on [our website](#))

SMR = State making recommendation

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