

## Responses to Recommendations

### BENIN

Review in the Working Group: 7 May 2008

Adoption in the Plenary: 12 June 2008

#### Benin's responses to recommendations:

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Recommendations pending responses:	Summary:
No response, all pending	No addendum	33 REC accepted; 1 rejected	None	Accepted: 33 Rejected: 1 No clear position: 0 Pending: 0

#### List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/8/39:

“56. In the course of the discussion, the following recommendations were made to Benin:

- 1. Recommended that Benin strengthen its cooperation with special procedures of the Human Rights Council, by accepting visits, replying to communications, urgent measures as well as to questions by special procedures (Mexico);
- 2. Recommended to Benin to take steps to promote institutions and human rights bodies and to search the support of the international community (Brazil);
- 3. Recommended that Benin systematically and continuously integrate a gender perspective in the follow-up process to the review (Slovenia);
- 4. Recommended that Benin reinforce measures to ensure that women are no longer subjected to forced marriage. This could be supported by developing and implementing comprehensive educational measures on the provisions of the Persons and Family Code and on other relevant laws (Denmark);
- 5. Recommended to Benin to take the necessary steps to strengthen its fight against discriminatory practices and violence against women (France);
- 6. Recommended that Benin consider decriminalizing homosexual activities between consenting adults (Belgium);

- 7. Recommended that Benin continue its efforts to completely abolish the death penalty, respecting thus the right to life of every human being (Holy See);
- 8. Invited Benin to consider the abolition of death penalty and to consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Mexico);
- 9. Recommended that Benin, following the recommendation of the Committee against Torture, establish without further delay an effective and independent national preventive mechanism (Denmark);
- 10. Recommended that Benin urgently amend its criminal law to comply with international relevant standards (Denmark);
- 11. Recommended that Benin develop an awareness campaign to address traditional beliefs that are harmful to the rights of children, especially their right to life (Holy See);
- 12. Recommended that Benin establish torture as a criminal offence in accordance with article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and stipulate that obeying orders of superiors can not justify it (Canada);
- 13. Recommended that Benin take measures to ensure that torture is defined and listed as a specific offence within Benin's criminal law (United Kingdom);
- 14. Recommended that Benin ensures that no statement obtained under torture or duress can be invoked in proceedings and that orders from a superior may not be invoked as a justification of torture (Denmark);
- 15. Recommended that Benin should investigate allegations of torture and ill treatment and bring to justice those responsible in line with international standards (Canada);
- 16. Recommended that Benin display greater firmness in preventing abuses of police custody, torture and ill-treatment and brings criminal proceedings against the perpetrators of such violations (Denmark);
- 17. Recommended that Benin take effective measures to ensure that prison conditions are consistent with international standards (Netherlands);
- 18. Recommended that Benin take further steps to establish and implement laws against domestic violence and the trafficking of women and children, and to ensure that existing laws prohibiting female genital mutilation are reviewed and enforced throughout the country (United Kingdom);
- 19. Recommended to Benin to better apply the existing laws concerning trafficking in children and human being (Canada);
- 20. Recommended that Benin promote the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography which could contribute to the efforts of Benin in its protection of children (Mexico);
- 21. Recommended to Benin to accelerate and strengthen its efforts to elaborate laws and policies to deal with female genital mutilation practices (Canada);
- 22. Recommended to Benin to give more importance to the schooling of girls in its education programmes, which would certainly contribute to combat female genital mutilation (Mauritania);
- 23. Recommended to Benin to establish as a priority a reform of the judiciary by strengthening a justice system which would be better able to combat impunity and corruption, including by putting an end to exaggerated pre-trial detention (Canada);

- 24. Recommended to Benin to consider , with targeted international support, the extension of free education up to the secondary level; and to continue the information campaign in favour of admitting girls to school (Algeria);
- 25. Recommended to Benin that it continue its efforts to ensure greater promotion of the rights of women in particular those of girls in the areas of education and health care (Tunisia);
- 26. Recommended that Benin intensify its efforts to favour support and material assistance to the most marginalized families and the most underprivileged families to effectively guarantee the rights of children through a sufficient standard of living and the right to education inter alia (Belgium);
- 27. Encouraged Benin, in particular in the areas of economic, social and cultural rights, to continue achieving its progress (Cuba);
- 28. Encouraged Benin to intensify its efforts to guarantee to its people the right to food and all other human rights (Republic of Korea);
- 29. Recommended to Benin to continue its focus on the eradication of poverty and in ensuring general well-being of its people (Nigeria);
- 30. Recommended that Benin continue its acceleration of the poverty alleviation strategies with a view to allowing the economic emancipation of the poorer communities, including women and other vulnerable groups (South Africa);
- 31. Recommended to Benin to develop a national policy and further measures concerning disabled persons in order to give disabled children access to social and health services (Ireland);
- 32. Recommended that Benin continue to strengthen its efforts to provide for better legal protection for vulnerable groups and to guarantee their rights on the ground (Netherlands);
- 33. Recommended that Benin explore ways to partner with the international community in the context of international cooperation in the provision of technical assistance to deal with challenges caused by the difficult economic situation (South Africa);
- 34. Recommended that Benin share with the least developed countries its efforts to overcome its challenges in enhancing economic cooperation with other developing and developed countries at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels (Sudan).”

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