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Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Central African Republic

* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in French

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-first session from 5 to 16 November 2018. The review of Central African Republic was held at the 9th meeting, on 9 November 2018. The delegation of Central African Republic was headed by H.E. Mr. Jean Christophe NGUINZA, Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Protection. At its 14th meeting, held on 13 November 2018, the Working Group adopted the report on Central African Republic.

2. On 10 January 2018, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Central African Republic: Angola, Pakistan and Slovenia.

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 Central African Republic:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/31/CAF/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/31/CAF/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/31/CAF/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Brazil, Germany, Liechtenstein, Portugal (on behalf of the Group of friends of the NMIRFs, Slovenia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) was transmitted to the Central African Republic through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

[To be completed by 23 November 2018]

A. Presentation by the State under review

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 84 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

6. **The following recommendations will be examined by the Central African Republic, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fortieth session of the Human Rights Council:**

6.1. **Continue the steps in the legislative sphere in order to bring it into full compliance with the international obligations of the Republic in the area of human rights (Russian Federation);**

- 6.2. **Ratify Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure (Croatia, Montenegro);**
- 6.3. **Fully implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Portugal);**
- 6.4. **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sierra Leone);**
- 6.5. **Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Burundi, Sudan);**
- 6.6. **Finalise the process of ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Democratic Republic of Congo);**
- 6.7. **Ratify the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Togo);**
- 6.8. **Ratify and fully implement the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Estonia);**
- 6.9. **Strengthen cooperation with international and regional bodies in the area of human rights (Democratic Republic of Congo);**
- 6.10. **Strengthen cooperation with international and human rights bodies (Botswana);**
- 6.11. **Ensure that national candidates to United Nations Human Rights Treaty Body elections are selected through an open and merit-based process (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 6.12. **Continue to strengthen its administrative and legal capacities, and all other pertinent mechanisms aimed at facilitating national cohesion and reconciliation (Comoros);**
- 6.13. **Pursue efforts to disseminate a culture of human rights and build institutional capacities in human rights fields (Tunisia);**
- 6.14. **Continue to mobilize resources and seek necessary international assistance to enhance its capacity to promote and protect human rights (Nigeria);**
- 6.15. **Redouble efforts to restore State authority across all its territory (Congo);**
- 6.16. **Ascertain the needs for technical assistance in order to seek increased assistance from its bilateral and multilateral partners (Congo);**
- 6.17. **Continue its efforts in engaging international and regional partners in capacity-building activities towards effective delivery of its national priorities, policy measures and plans related to improving the human rights situation (Philippines);**
- 6.18. **Strengthen the commitment of the implementation of human rights policies and national legislations (Ethiopia);**
- 6.19. **Continue efforts for strengthening the role of human rights institutions for consolidating peace and inclusive development (Nepal);**
- 6.20. **Ensure quick adoption and implementation of the National Policy for the Protection of Children and the National Strategic Plan for Housing (Ghana);**

- 6.21. **Restore the normal functioning of state institutions by firmly engaging in search for a peaceful solution to the conflict, giving priority to the collaboration with the African Union Mediation, in order to fully honour its commitments to human rights (Angola);**
- 6.22. **Continue to ensure the effectiveness of the National Commission on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms which was established in 2017 (Indonesia);**
- 6.23. **Provide the National Commission on Human and Fundamental Freedoms with a central office with the necessary human and financial resources for its functioning, and promote the establishment of offices throughout the country. (Mexico);**
- 6.24. **Comply with the Paris Principles to ensure the class A status of the Central African National Commission for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, in particular through the allocation of adequate resources and powers of investigation (Netherlands);**
- 6.25. **Provide the National Commission for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms with substantial means to comply with the Paris Principles (Niger);**
- 6.26. **Enable the National Commission for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms to function effectively (Senegal);**
- 6.27. **Fully capacitate the National Commission on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and ensure its functioning according to the Paris Principles (South Africa);**
- 6.28. **Guarantee the investigation capacity of the National Commission on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms related to individual complaints of human rights violations (Spain);**
- 6.29. **Allocate a substantial budget to the National Commission for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and provide it with the personnel and equipment necessary for its adequate functioning (Togo);**
- 6.30. **Allocate necessary funding for effective functioning of the National Commission on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, and the Special Criminal Court (Ukraine);**
- 6.31. **Provide the National Commission for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms with sufficient resources and take measures to harmonize it with the Paris Principles. (Uruguay);**
- 6.32. **Ensure that the National Commission on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms is properly resourced to ensure that it can independently implement its action plan (Australia);**
- 6.33. **Allocate an adequate budget to the National Commission for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in order to allow it to better achieve its mandate (Canada);**
- 6.34. **Harmonize the National Human Rights Commission with the Paris Principles and give it headquarters and enough resources (Costa Rica);**
- 6.35. **Improve the human rights status of minority groups and decriminalize homosexuality (Germany);**

- 6.36. **Abolish the death penalty and ratify the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at abolishing the death penalty (Cyprus, Lithuania, Mexico, Portugal, Spain)**
- 6.37. **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Croatia);**
- 6.38. **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and take necessary legislative measures to abolish death penalty (Denmark, Estonia, Ukraine)**
- 6.39. **Abolish the death penalty still contained in the Penal Code of 2010 and accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR (Germany)/ Abolish the death penalty and accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Republic of Moldova)/ Abolish the death penalty for all crimes and accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Iceland)/ Definitively abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights. (Luxembourg)/ Formally abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);**
- 6.40. **Intensify efforts aimed at abolishing the death penalty (Georgia);**
- 6.41. **Expedite efforts aimed at the abolition of the death penalty, including the process of revision of the provisions of the Criminal Code (Rwanda);**
- 6.42. **Restart the process to abolish the death penalty through the revision of the provisions of the Criminal Code (Armenia);**
- 6.43. **Abolish the death penalty within this UPR cycle (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 6.44. **Consider expediting the process leading to the effective abolishment of death penalty (Mozambique);**
- 6.45. **Abolish the death penalty from its laws (Costa Rica);**
- 6.46. **Undertake steps to support initiatives to achieve peace and security, to rebuild State institutions, including the national security forces and the Judiciary, and to fulfil the urgent humanitarian needs of the population (Armenia);**
- 6.47. **Continue to strengthen efforts to terminate hostilities; and strengthen disarmament, demobilization, repatriation and reintegration of armed groups, as a precondition for strengthening the rule of law, justice and recovery (Honduras);**
- 6.48. **Further, advance disarmament, demobilization, repatriation and reintegration of the armed groups to achieve peace and security (Lesotho);**
- 6.49. **Continue efforts with a view to achieving the disarmament and demobilisation of armed groups operating in the territory in order to restore security in the country (Senegal);**
- 6.50. **Prioritise implementation of the Security Sector Reform Strategy and National Programme for DDDR (South Africa);**
- 6.51. **Continuously strive towards enhancing State capacity to consolidate the gains of peace and disarmament through the dismantling and suppression of mercenaries and foreign-armed actors in all parts of the country (Botswana);**

- 6.52. Multiply its efforts to ensure sustainable security in the country (Burundi);
- 6.53. Continue its efforts to strengthen security by rehabilitating administrations in charge of sovereign areas of government (Cameroon);
- 6.54. Put an immediate end to the current sectarian violence in the country (Sierra Leone);
- 6.55. Strengthen the reconciliation process in the country (Sudan);
- 6.56. Continue to take effective measures to promote the peace, reconciliation and disarmament process (China);
- 6.57. Continue initiatives aimed at restoring peace and security, restoring the State apparatus, notably the national security forces and the judiciary system (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 6.58. Continue to promote reconciliation and co-existence among the various communities as well as human rights education and culture of peace throughout the country (Lao, Peoples Democratic Republic);
- 6.59. Develop public policies and awareness-raising campaigns to prevent incitement to violence, among other causes for ethnic or religious reasons, and to investigate and sanction persons or entities that incite violence (Argentina);
- 6.60. Take all appropriate measures to prevent abuse, torture and other degrading treatment committed by the security forces, and carry out effective investigations in order that those responsible for these crimes are brought to the justice (Spain);
- 6.61. Amend the Criminal Code to expressly define torture in conformity with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Portugal);
- 6.62. Establish the National Preventive Mechanism in accordance with the obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ukraine);
- 6.63. Establish, in accordance with its obligations resulting from the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture, the National Preventive Mechanism to control rights of persons in all detention places and authorize access to all detention places as well as to civil society organizations (Czechia);
- 6.64. Improve the conditions of detention and the prison system in general, and ensure the respect of the lawful period for custody (Luxembourg);
- 6.65. Facilitate the work of the Special Criminal Court (France);
- 6.66. Provide permanent work facilities for the Special Criminal Court investigators, magistrates, and support staff (United States of America);
- 6.67. Continue to operationalise the Special Criminal Court, including by providing adequate resources and support to enable the court to fulfil its mandate (Australia);
- 6.68. Strengthen efforts to combat impunity, guaranteeing that the Special Criminal Court and the National Commission on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms have the necessary means in order to ensure effective functioning (Brazil);

- 6.69. **Ensure the quick setting up of the Special Criminal Court, ensuring its independence and impartiality (Chile);**
- 6.70. **Continue efforts to restore and strengthen its judicial system and to end impunity for serious human rights violations, in particular by giving full support to the Special Criminal Court (Republic of Korea);**
- 6.71. **Fighting impunity and better document human rights violations (France);**
- 6.72. **Facilitate a process of reconciliation of dialogue between all components of society (France);**
- 6.73. **Strengthen the judicial system in view of protecting; in particular, vulnerable people, especially children and women (France);**
- 6.74. **Support initiatives to achieve peace and security, restore and strengthen State institutions, including the justice system, and ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid to those in need (Hungary);**
- 6.75. **Give higher priority to the justice sector, including the Special Criminal Court, through an increased allocation of state resources (Sweden);**
- 6.76. **Organize mobile court hearings in remote areas where court buildings have been destroyed (Sweden);**
- 6.77. **Develop and adopt legislation that obligates national courts to ensure the safety and the right to privacy for victims and witnesses, and to establish an independent protection programme to ensure its implementation (Sweden);**
- 6.78. **Take special measures to monitor, identify, and report serious human rights violations including sexual and gender based violence including through investigative missions to the western parts of the Central African Republic, to prevent and ensure accountability for crimes committed, as well as to exclude these crimes from impunity and amnesty processes (Sweden);**
- 6.79. **Train police, gendarmes, prosecutors, and judges on best practices for investigating and prosecuting case of sexual and gender-based violence (United States of America);**
- 6.80. **Reinforce measures to strengthen the rule of law and good governance, ensuring strict and responsible management of financial resources from the Mining sector (Angola);**
- 6.81. **Continue its efforts to reform its legal and security systems in order to have a good rendering of justice, sustainable peace and strongly anchoring the culture of human rights (Burkina Faso);**
- 6.82. **Restrict from the judicial system, ensuring that it is independent and giving it enough financial and human resources, and guaranteeing access to justice for all in all of the territory (Costa Rica);**
- 6.83. **Continue its ongoing efforts to promote and reform the judiciary (Egypt);**
- 6.84. **Refrain from appointing individuals suspected of human rights abuses and crimes under international law to positions where they may commit further abuses or crimes (Iceland);**
- 6.85. **Intensify measures to ensure the protection of human rights and international humanitarian law, by investigating and punishing perpetrators of**

crimes against the civilian population and humanitarian actors, as well as the perpetrators of other human rights violations and international humanitarian law (Argentina);

6.86. Fully capacitate and support the Truth, Justice, Reparation and National Reconciliation Commission (South Africa);

6.87. Continue and strengthen the fight against impunity, ensuring that those who have been found guilty of human rights violations are brought to justice. (Luxembourg);

6.88. Refrain from granting amnesty to those responsible for serious crimes under international law, or serious human rights violations (Hungary);

6.89. Reaffirm the rights of victims of human rights violations to know the truth as well as redress reparation (Hungary);

6.90. Ensure a vetting mechanism of all security forces regarding possible human rights abuses and provide thorough training on compliance and promotion of human rights (Norway);

6.91. Take effective measures to combat impunity of perpetrators of such crimes (Portugal);

6.92. Develop a transitional justice strategy, drawing inspiration from the recommendations of the mapping exercise 2017, in order to provide more coordination and more consistency in the range of judicial and non-judicial mechanisms and processes (Belgium);

6.93. Fight impunity and support national and international investigation of human rights violations including the investigation by the Special Criminal Court of the Central African Republic (Czechia);

6.94. Ensure accountability for human rights violations, including within the armed forces and all parties of the peace process (Estonia);

6.95. Continue to promote the rule of law in order to ensure effective implementation of human rights (Lao, Peoples Democratic Republic);

6.96. Strengthen the protection of human rights defenders (France);

6.97. Ensure a safe environment for human rights defenders, journalists and other civil society actors by investigating all allegations of ill-treatment and by adopting the draft Bill on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (Ireland);

6.98. Take measures to promptly and impartially investigate the recent deadly attacks against journalists and bring perpetrators to justice (Lithuania);

6.99. Adopt a law related to the freedom of information in line with international standards (Benin);

6.100. Take measures to protect human rights defenders (Canada);

6.101. Combat hate speech and extremism (Iraq);

6.102. Continue with its determined efforts in promoting reconciliation and peaceful coexistence among its people irrespective of religious or any differences (Nigeria);

6.103. Deploy sustained efforts to put an end to hateful speech and incitement to violence, whilst preserving at the same time freedom of expression (Belgium);

- 6.104. **Implement article 151 of the Penal Code and prosecute all acts of human trafficking (Germany);**
- 6.105. **Adopt and implement in an effective manner legislation aimed at protecting indigenous populations against slavery (Benin);**
- 6.106. **Develop a national strategy of employment that would promote gender equality (Serbia);**
- 6.107. **Consider the setting up of a new strategy to combat poverty (Niger);**
- 6.108. **Review the national legal framework on the issue of housing, land and property, and develop and implement a national strategy in this respect (Serbia);**
- 6.109. **Prioritise government programmes to address poverty, particularly affecting women and children (South Africa);**
- 6.110. **Continue to strengthen its social policies, for a better quality of life of its people, in particular, of the most vulnerable sectors of society (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 6.111. **Improve access for humanitarian agencies and organizations to ensure affected people's immediate and critical needs are met (Australia);**
- 6.112. **Continue its efforts to improve road infrastructures (Cameroon);**
- 6.113. **Continue to promote economic and social development, reduce poverty and better guarantee the rights of women, children and people with disabilities (China);**
- 6.114. **Continue to promote economic and social development with the goal of eradicating poverty and improving the standard of life of the population (Djibouti);**
- 6.115. **Continue working to improve healthcare and education services for a better standard of living of its population, in particular, to work on expanding literacy programmes (Cuba);**
- 6.116. **Increase health expenditure and ensure seamless access for women and girls to reproductive and sexual health care (India);**
- 6.117. **Continue strengthening efforts to ensure the physical and mental health of the family as part of Central African Republic constitutional mandate (Indonesia);**
- 6.118. **Continue efforts to improve access to healthcare for vulnerable groups (Maldives);**
- 6.119. **Continue efforts aimed at reinforcing the health sector, particularly through the formulation of the Third National Plan on Healthcare Development (Morocco);**
- 6.120. **Strengthen the efforts to ensure the right to education and health services (Norway);**
- 6.121. **Enhance programmes for healthcare (Tunisia);**
- 6.122. **Take measures to improve the functioning of health care centres, ensure the availability of medicines and psychological support adapted to the victims (Algeria);**
- 6.123. **Take into consideration the good practices and experiences of other countries in the design and implementation of its Strategic Human Resources**

Development Plan for Health 2017-2021 (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);

- 6.124. **Take all necessary measures to reduce preventable neonatal and maternal mortality (Estonia);**
- 6.125. **Continue to prioritize the reform of the education system in the initiatives of reconciliation, including concrete measures to that effect (Honduras);**
- 6.126. **Implement the right to education to its fullest possible extent by improving the school infrastructure and recruiting trained teaching staff (India);**
- 6.127. **Undertake all efforts to rebuild schools and protect them (Portugal);**
- 6.128. **Take measures to prevent parties to conflicts from requisitioning schools, notably on the basis of the guidelines for the protection of schools and universities against military use during armed conflicts (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 6.129. **Enhance measures to ensure universal access to quality education, particularly for the most marginalized and deprived populations, including by rebuilding school infrastructure and carrying out a teacher recruitment and training programme (Republic of Moldova);**
- 6.130. **Continue efforts to ensure general primary education and eradicate illiteracy (Russian Federation);**
- 6.131. **Continue efforts to promote human rights education and international programmes in this area (Sudan);**
- 6.132. **Continue the necessary measures to increase the gross schooling enrolment rate, with special attention to girls (Viet Nam);**
- 6.132. **Consolidate the education system through, *inter alia*, early childhood development and provision of universal primary schooling (Zimbabwe);**
- 6.134. **Raise awareness among the population on the right to education for all and take into account the specific needs of children with disabilities by setting up specialized centers for their education. (Algeria);**
- 6.135. **Improve the rate of schooling (Cameroon);**
- 6.136. **Further strengthen its effort to provide full access to education for all children and to reduce illiteracy in cooperation with relevant UN agencies and other partners (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 6.137. **Continue the concerted efforts to improve and strengthen the mechanisms put in place to combat harmful socio-cultural practices against women and children (Ethiopia);**
- 6.138. **Step up efforts to achieve gender equality by ensuring effective implementation of the Parity Law (Lithuania);**
- 6.139. **Set the minimum age of marriage to 18 years for both men and women (Mexico);**
- 6.140. **Continue the work to ensure the equal rights and opportunities for women (Russian Federation);**
- 6.141. **Continue efforts to fight gender violence, especially violence against women (Tunisia);**

- 6.142. Increase efforts in favour of gender equality and combat discrimination against women, addressing issues such as sexual violence, early and forced marriages, women's participation in public administration and women's access to education (Uruguay);
- 6.143. Guarantee the participation and inclusion of women, youth, members of civil society and traditional and religious leaders in the negotiations for peace (Argentina);
- 6.144. Continue its efforts to increase the presence of women in the decision-making process (Cameroon);
- 6.145. Establish a warning and fighting mechanism against forced and early marriages (France);
- 6.146. Continue its ongoing efforts to promote the rights of women (Egypt);
- 6.147. Continue efforts to combat female genital mutilations and other harmful traditional practices (Morocco);
- 6.148. Continue to combat violence against women and combat the practice of harmful surgeries regarding female genital organs that occurs in the country (Russian Federation);
- 6.149. Adopt legal provisions criminalizing marital rape (Iceland);
- 6.150. Continue its efforts regarding the fight against gender-based violence (Cameroon);
- 6.151. Take steps to eradicate female genital mutilation and to raise awareness against this harmful practice among the different ethnic groups (Croatia);
- 6.152. Strengthen its measures to combat the phenomenon of Female Genital Mutilation (Cyprus);
- 6.153. Thoroughly investigate and prosecute all cases of sexual violence committed against women and girls (Sierra Leone);
- 6.154. Intensify the efforts to prosecute acts of violence and provide with additional means the Joint Unit of rapid intervention and repression of acts of violence against women and children so that it can offer services of attention to the victims (Spain);
- 6.155. Ensure implementation of and ongoing funding for the National Action Plan for the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, thereby guaranteeing in particular medical, psychological and legal services for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and assuring participation of women at every stage of the political processes (Netherlands);
- 6.156. Take further effective measures to address all forms of sexual violence against women and girls (Nepal);
- 6.157. Intensify efforts to address sexual and gender base violence by ensuring that the Rapid Reaction and Repression of Sexual Violence Mixed Unit has the necessary capacity to perform its tasks (Lithuania);
- 6.158. Intensify measures to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual violence, with victims centered approach; and increasing human and financial resources for implementation; (Honduras);

- 6.159. **Develop and implement a national strategy to combat and respond to sexual violence, including conflict related sexual violence (Iceland);**
- 6.160. **Develop and implement a national strategy on sexual violence while also ensuring that all relevant state authorities are trained in how to respond to, investigate and prosecute, cases of sexual violence against women. (Ireland);**
- 6.161. **Continue its action to condemn and prosecute all violations and abuse of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular against women, children and other vulnerable groups, and ensure the respect of international humanitarian and human rights law (Italy);**
- 6.162. **Devote primary attention to the protection of women's rights, also by combatting all forms of discrimination and violence against them, including female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriages (Italy);**
- 6.163. **Prioritize the investigation and prosecution of cases of sexual violence, including the provision of adequate protection for victims and witnesses (Latvia);**
- 6.164. **Adopt more effective measures to end impunity related to sexual and gender-based violence, including by rehabilitating the judicial infrastructure outside the capital (Norway);**
- 6.165. **Continue to adopt and enhance inclusive prevention and protection measures to address sexual and gender-based violence and ensure adequate assistance for victims (Philippines);**
- 6.166. **Take urgent measures to stop the serious human rights violations committed against women and children, including sexual violence, recruitment of child soldiers and the use of children as human-shields during the conflict (Portugal);**
- 6.167. **Take effective measures to prevent sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls and provide adequate assistance to victims of this crime (Republic of Korea);**
- 6.168. **Adopt a comprehensive strategy to ensure proper investigation of sexual and gender-based violence and conflict related sexual violence with a view to end impunity for such crimes and implement comprehensive support programmes for the victims (Republic of Moldova);**
- 6.169. **Strengthen efforts to combat violence against women and ensure the investigation, prosecution and punishment of all cases of violence against women and the full operationalization of the joint Unit for Rapid Intervention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children (Rwanda);**
- 6.170. **Strengthen efforts to promote the integration of young people and women into the labor market, in particular through professional and vocational training (Viet Nam);**
- 6.171. **Guarantee the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons (Zimbabwe);**
- 6.172. **Take every measure necessary to prevent sexual violence perpetrated against girls and women by combatants and armed civilians and to increase efforts to put an end to the widespread impunity for these acts (Belgium);**
- 6.173. **Elaborate a strategy aimed at putting an end to sexual violence against women with special attention given to IDP women inside the country (Brazil);**

- 6.174. Strengthen the capacities of the Joint Unit for Rapid Intervention and Repression of Violence against Women and Children in order to better meet the needs of these vulnerable groups (Canada);
- 6.175. Overhaul Article 294 of the Criminal Code to ensure full protection against sexual-based discrimination and gender identity-based discrimination (Canada);
- 6.176. Establish and implement a strategic plan to combat sexual violence, ensuring psycho-social support to victims and accountability by those who commit such crimes (Chile);
- 6.177. Investigate all cases of torture against women and bring perpetrators to trial and impose the appropriate penalties upon the perpetrators (Costa Rica);
- 6.178. Continue to implement effective measures in the fight against violence against women, investigating allegations of violence and prosecuting perpetrators (Djibouti);
- 6.179. Develop a comprehensive policy and an implementing strategy to address children's rights (Armenia);
- 6.180. Adopt urgently a bill on the protection of childhood, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol for the sale of children, and redouble efforts to eradicate the recruitment of children in armed conflicts. (Uruguay);
- 6.181. Investigate allegations of serious and systematic violations of the rights of children perpetrated by any sides of the belligerent parties (Costa Rica);
- 6.182. Increase efforts within the policy framework for the protection of childhood (Iraq);
- 6.183. Consider developing a comprehensive policy and an implementing strategy to address children's rights (Georgia);
- 6.184. Strengthen the protection of the rights of the child through state enforcement and monitoring of the existing legislative framework regarding child labour (Germany);
- 6.185. Continue efforts to promote the rights of the child by strengthening measures to protect their rights including through the development of a comprehensive policy (Maldives);
- 6.186. Explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings (Montenegro);
- 6.187. Investigate all reported cases of sexual exploitation against children, and to develop a national action plan with measures to protect children against sexual violence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.188. Prevent armed group members responsible for human rights abuses, including abuses against children, from being integrated into the armed forces, police, or gendarmerie (United States of America);
- 6.189. Continue efforts to protect children from human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law by all parties to the conflict, including killing, kidnapping, recruitment of child soldiers, and denial of access to health and education services and to humanitarian assistance (Republic of Korea);

- 6.190. Ensure implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child to protect children in armed conflict (Philippines);
- 6.191. Criminalize the recruitment and use of children in hostilities, and penalize perpetrators and ensure integration of those children. (Honduras);
- 6.192. Take all the necessary measures to ensure children's rights, notably by strengthening efforts to combat and prevent the recruitment of children and promote their rehabilitation and re-integration into society (Italy);
- 6.193. Step up efforts to ensure that demobilized child soldiers enjoy their right to education (Lesotho);
- 6.194. Strengthen the process of re-integration of demobilized child soldiers, in particular by facilitating their access to education. (Luxembourg);
- 6.195. Take active measures to prevent the recruitment and use of children by armed groups (Rwanda);
- 6.196. Strengthen its efforts on the protection of children, in particular prevention of recruitment and use of children by parties to the conflict, and the rehabilitation of children affected by armed conflict, including child victims of sexual violence (Slovenia);
- 6.197. Criminalize recruitment, sexual violence and the use of children in hostilities and intensify measures to provide psychological care and protection to boys and girls victims of such crimes (Argentina);
- 6.198. Fully implement the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict to address continuing recruitment of child soldiers and ensure their demobilisation and reintegration into society (Australia);
- 6.199. Strengthen its international policy for the demobilization and social reinsertion of children recruited by armed groups and criminalize, through national legislation, the recruitment of children in armed conflicts (Chile);
- 6.200. Prevent and end the use and recruitment of child soldiers, and guarantee reintegration and access to education of former child soldiers (Djibouti);
- 6.201. Improve the conditions of persons with disabilities (Iraq);
- 6.202. Adopt the necessary laws to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities and ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. (Mauritius);
- 6.203. Strengthen policies and measures aimed at protecting children with disabilities and children with albinism from attacks and prosecute perpetrators (Sierra Leone);
- 6.204. Continue developing actions to promote the rights of persons with disabilities and their participation in the development of the country, in particular through the expansion of access of children with disabilities to education at all levels (Cuba);
- 6.205. Enhance the protection of rights of refugees and internally displaced persons (Czechia);
- 6.206. Ensure protection and assistance for displaced persons, in accordance with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (Norway);

6.207. Continue its efforts regarding the problem of internally displaced persons as well as refugees (Cameroon).

7. 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

[French Only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Central African Republic was headed by H.E Mr. SAMBA Léopold Ismael, Ambassadeur, Représentant Permanent, and composed of the following members:

- Monsieur NGBENG MOKOUE Firmin, Chargé de Mission en matière des droits de l’homme au Ministère de la Justice;
 - Monsieur SABORO Serge Hervé, Conseiller Juridique, près de la Mission Permanente Centrafricaine à Genève.
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