

## Responses to Recommendations

### CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Review in the Working Group: 4 May 2009  
 Adoption in the Plenary: 23 September 2009

#### Central Africa's responses to recommendations:

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Recommendations pending responses:	Summary:
64 REC accepted; 0 rejected; 35 pending	No addendum	The delegation commented human rights issued contained in the pending REC, sometimes mentioning the REC and sometimes not but not clear position was given.	4 REC	Accepted: 64 Rejected: 0 No clear position: 31 Pending: 4

#### List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/12/2:

**“74. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue have been examined by Central African Republic and the recommendations listed below enjoy the support of the Central African Republic:**

A - 1. Consider ratifying the Convention on the Political Rights of Women (Argentina; Djibouti);

A - 2. Consider ratifying (Turkey) / Ratify (Mexico) the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW);

A - 3. Consider ratifying of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Democratic Republic of the Congo);

A - 4. Ratify (Mexico, Austria) / Consider ratifying (Djibouti) / Sign and ratify (Belgium) the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on the involvement of children in armed

conflict; and implement it nationally (Belgium);

A - 5. Consider ratifying (Turkey) / Timely ratify (Japan) the Optional Protocols to the CRC;

A - 6. Sign (Gabon) / Consider signing (Portugal) the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; at the opening for signature ceremony in New York in 2009 (Portugal);

A - 7. Continue efforts undertaken with a view to incorporating provisions of international instruments into domestic legislation and becoming a party to international instruments to which it is not yet a party (Chad);

A - 8. Continue to implement its poverty reduction strategy paper as a framework for dialogue and reference for all questions regarding national development policies (Tunisia);

A - 9. Continue to address reinstating of the rule of law through a fair and transparent electoral process and governance reform, reducing poverty which has caused worsening security, establishing basic infrastructure and creating jobs, with the support of the United Nations and the international community (Japan);

A - 10. With the support of the international community, further strengthen the national security forces and law enforcement agencies through various capacity-building measures (Bangladesh);

A - 11. Continue its extensive reforms with a view to addressing institutional shortcomings and Weaknesses, and develop an integrated agenda of human rights and public security as well as the development agenda towards poverty and illiteracy eradication (Nigeria);

A - 12. Consider implementing, with the assistance of OHCHR, a training and awarenessraising programme on international human rights and humanitarian law for members of the security forces, law enforcement officials and judicial officials (Algeria);

A - 13. In the context of reforming the security sector, review training materials used by security forces in order to include child protection as a preventive measure against recruiting children in the armed forces (Canada);

A - 14. Implement a thorough training and awareness programme in international humanitarian and human rights law for members of the security forces (United Kingdom);

A - 15. Establish a permanent coordination structure for different security forces to consistently address various issues such as the training of the military and the provision of weapons to them; and ensure that members of the security forces receive training in humanitarian and human rights law and that they follow a programme for gender awareness at all ranks (Belgium);

A - 16. Ensure comprehensive training and education for all security forces and prison staff in human rights and international humanitarian law, and adopt legal and other necessary measures to ensure their full accountability for any violations of these norms (Czech Republic);

A - 17. Continue efforts to promote all universally agreed human rights and fundamental freedoms (Egypt);

A - 18. Continue resisting attempts to enforce any values or standards beyond the universally agreed ones (Egypt);

A - 19. Take all possible measures to ensure respect and promotion of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law (Argentina);

A - 20. Further strengthen its cooperation with the international community, including OHCHR and treaty bodies (Republic of Korea);

A - 21. Implement the recommendations made by the Human Rights Committee following its

consideration of the country's periodic report (Ghana);

A - 22. Progressively accomplish human rights goals as set forth in Human Rights Council resolution 9/12, in particular increased cooperation with all mechanisms of the United Nations human rights system, including special procedures and treaty bodies (Brazil);

A - 23. Further work to improve women's political participation, educational opportunities and status in marriage and to reduce the maternal mortality rate (Japan);

A - 24. Continue exercising its sovereign right of implementing its penal code in conformity with universally agreed human rights standards, including the application of the death penalty (Egypt);

A - 25. Continue to firmly fight arbitrary executions and impunity, assure the protection of the civilian population and promote the return of refugees and displaced persons to their regions of origin (Azerbaijan);

A - 26. Enhance awareness-raising campaigns to combat and eradicate female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to young women (Italy);

A - 27. Continue efforts to combat violence against women and to eradicate negative traditions (Azerbaijan);

A - 28. Launch wide education campaigns against the phenomenon of violence against perceived witches together with concrete measures to protect victims or potential victims of such attacks (Czech Republic);

A - 29. Demonstrate firm commitment to preventing the unlawful recruitment of child soldiers by directing the Ministry of the Interior to systematically monitor self defense militias (United States of America);

A - 30. Take all necessary measures to combat the recruitment and use of children in hostilities, including by releasing children associated with the conflict (Mexico);

A - 31. Take appropriate action to adopt and amend domestic legislation, including the Penal Code, and effectively implement this legislation to protect children from all forms of violence (Slovenia);

A - 32. Continue applying strategies to reduce criminality, address sexual abuse and child trafficking, and protect civilians from criminals (Angola);

A - 33. Continue efforts to put a halt to banditry and to help alleviate the suffering of its people by reforming its security services (Republic of the Congo);

A - 34. Strengthen efforts to guarantee minimum conditions for those held in police custody and detention centres in accordance with international standards, and follow up the specific recommendations of United Nations bodies in this regard (Netherlands);

A - 35. Continue strengthening its Court of Justice with a view to its carrying out its constitutional role without fear or favour (Nigeria);

A - 36. Take all appropriate action to end the impunity of perpetrators of human rights crimes and cooperate with the International Criminal Court in this regard (Slovenia);

A - 37. Ensure that all reported human rights violations are investigated and that those responsible for such violations, including police officials and personnel within the security forces, are prosecuted and punished (Norway);

A - 38. Immediately investigate all cases of grave human rights violations and end impunity of perpetrators (Austria);

A - 39. Implement legal sanctions against those who commit human rights abuses in the security

forces, in addition to administrative sanctions such as dismissal (United Kingdom);

A - 40. Focus its attention more on the serious issues of combating impunity; investigate human rights violations systematically and prosecute and punish those responsible for such violations, without exception (Republic of Korea);

A - 41. Ensure that members of the security forces suspected of violations of human rights or humanitarian law be rapidly handed over to justice for investigation and judgment; severe vetting action linked to recruiting and promotion is encouraged (Belgium);

A - 42. Continue national efforts in the area of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and in the reform of institutions involved in security and promotion of the rule of law (Mexico);

A - 43. Intensify measures to promote the rule of law while consolidating peace and stability through dialogue and national reconciliation mechanisms (Viet Nam);

A - 44. Give human rights defenders legitimacy and recognition through supportive statements and ensure that they are protected in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (Norway);

A - 45. Adopt further measures to ensure in practice the protection of journalists against threats and attacks, including imprisonment in contravention of their right to freedom of expression (Czech Republic);

A - 46. Take tangible and concrete steps to conduct free and fair Presidential elections without undue delay (United Kingdom);

A - 47. Continue its policy of national reconciliation and implement the decisions of the inclusive political dialogue (Democratic Republic of Congo);

A - 48. Continue to put in place effective strategies to reduce poverty, particularly in rural areas (Azerbaijan);

A - 49. Take further measures to combat maternal mortality and, among others, give specific follow-up to the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child concerning availability of free medical assistance to pregnant women (Netherlands);

A - 50. With the assistance of the international community, undertake a multi-pronged approach to improve the situation of children with greater focus on ensuring universal primary education, reducing infant and child mortality and rehabilitating child combatants (Bangladesh);

A - 51. Guarantee the right to education of all children and take effective measures to substantially increase the rate of attendance in primary schools (Italy);

A - 52. Given the low level of children's education and the illiteracy rates, implement measures necessary to change the landscape in this area and promote the reintegration of child soldiers in society (Azerbaijan);

A - 53. Accord the greatest priority to measures aimed at better ensuring the economic and social rights of its population, particularly by devoting more resources to programmes to combat poverty and illiteracy (Viet Nam);

A - 54. Take as soon as possible the necessary measures to safeguard the rights of internally displaced persons and refugees, ensure the protection of the civilian population in accordance with international standards and give follow-up to the specific recommendations in this regard of the Human Rights Committee and the Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights of internally displaced persons (Netherlands);

A - 55. Implement the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement; enact a national law on internal

displacement with provisions for protecting displaced children; effectively address the basic needs of persons affected by internal displacement; and take every measure to ensure the protection of civilians (Austria);

A - 56. Take measures as necessary to ensure free circulation of humanitarian workers so that they may access refugees and displaced persons (Canada);

A - 57. As recommended by CRC, solicit and receive technical and financial assistance from the international community, particularly from United Nations bodies and programmes, to give tangible form to various sections of the poverty reduction strategy paper, especially restoration of security, consolidation of peace and prevention of conflict, promotion of good governance, reconstruction of the economy and diversification and development of human capital (Algeria);

A - 58. Continue its efforts to ensure human rights, despite the variety of real constraints facing it, with the support of OHCHR and the whole international community (Burkina Faso);

A - 59. Seek from the international community, and especially from United Nations programmes and agencies, support for strengthening or, if not already available, for creating capacity-building and technical assistance programmes, especially in the areas of human rights education, child labour, security, assistance to families and communities in fighting the effects of poverty and HIV/AIDS, education and juvenile justice (Cote d'Ivoire);

A - 60. Seek technical and financial support from the international community to achieve the MDGs and overcome its economic difficulties exacerbated by the current financial crisis (Djibouti);

A - 61. Seek technical and financial support from the international community so that efforts undertaken for good governance are not compromised (Republic of the Congo);

A - 62. Ask for further support from the international community to improve its human rights situation through technical assistance as appropriate (Chad);

A - 63. Ask the international community for assistance to strengthen its capacity, thereby supporting it in its actions, particularly to attain the MDGs (Morocco);

A - 64. Seek technical assistance in various areas from the international community, particularly OHCHR (Gabon);

**75. The following recommendations will be examined by the Central African Republic, which will provide responses in due time. The responses to these recommendations will be included in the outcome report adopted by the Human Rights Council at its twelfth session:**

NC - 1. Consider acceding to (Brazil) / Accede to (Azerbaijan) / Consider ratifying (Turkey) / Ratify (Mexico) the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT);

NC - 2. Sign (United Kingdom) / Sign and ratify (France) the CAT and its Optional Protocol (OP-CAT); in order to provide a further disincentive against torture by the security forces and police (United Kingdom);

P - 3. Rapidly accede to (France) / Consider ratifying (Argentina) the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; and accept the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (Argentina);

NC - 4. Ratify (Portugal) / Consider ratifying (Argentina) / Accede to (Azerbaijan) the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights Aimed at the Abolition of the Death Penalty (ICCPR-OP 2);

P - 5. Consider ratifying the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights; the OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa; the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless

Persons; the Convention on the Nationality of Married Women; international conventions on apartheid; and OP-CAT (Argentina);

NC - 6. Give tangible form to its wish to refurbish the National Human Rights Commission (Democratic Republic of the Congo);

NC - 7. Establish a national commission for human rights, with sufficient guarantees of independence and adequate material and human resources, which would work in close cooperation with the United Nations (Spain);

NC - 8. Speed up its efforts to ensure the proper functioning of the National Human Rights Commission in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ghana);

**P - 9. Adapt internal legislation to international standards regarding national human rights institutions, including the Paris Principles (Argentina);**

NC - 10. Avail itself of technical assistance offered by OHCHR to submit its overdue reports (Algeria);

NC - 11. Respond to the Human Rights Committee's request to submit information within one year on the follow-up given to its recommendations in 2005 on female genital mutilation (Portugal);

NC - 12. Make every effort to submit the reports to the treaty bodies in a timely fashion; and increase its level of response to the questionnaires sent by special procedures (Turkey);

**P - 13. Extend an open and ongoing invitation to all human rights mechanisms to visit the country (Mexico);**

NC - 14. Consider extending (Latvia)/ Issue (Norway) a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council;

NC - 15. Cooperate actively with the special procedures of the United Nations (Azerbaijan);

NC - 16. Review all national legislation relating to the principle of non-discrimination, particularly as it applies to women and minorities, including sexual minorities, so that it complies fully with international instruments that prohibit all forms of discrimination (Czech Republic);

NC - 17. Modify legislative provisions that may discriminate against women and in particular speed up the process of bringing the Family Code in line with international instruments (Italy);

NC - 18. Bring the Family Code in line with international instruments (Portugal);

NC - 19. Rapidly review the Family Code to abrogate all discriminatory provisions against women (France);

NC - 20. Make efforts to abolish the death penalty and to ratify ICCPR-OP 2 (Brazil);

NC - 21. Seize the opportunity raised by the ongoing review of the Penal Code to consider abolishing capital punishment and acceding to ICCPR-OP 2 (Italy);

NC - 22. Use the revision of the Criminal Procedure and Criminal Codes to tackle the question of the death penalty (Portugal);

NC - 23. Remove any reference to the death penalty from the penal code (France);

NC - 24. Abolish definitively the death penalty (Portugal, Germany, Spain);

NC - 25. Prevent extrajudicial killings by members of the military, including the Presidential guard, and bring to justice those members of the military responsible for extrajudicial killings (United States);

NC - 26. Put an end to cases of torture and ill-treatment in prisons and police stations (France);

NC - 27. Abolish polygamy and adopt a plan to fight the scourge of female genital mutilation, criminalizing this practice and mobilizing public opinion against it, and adopt measures to reduce violence against women, both rape and domestic violence (Spain);

NC - 28. Prohibit female genital mutilation and take further steps to prevent and address the occurrence of female genital mutilation (Sweden);

NC - 29. Take necessary measures to implement CEDAW, especially with emphasis on issues of violence and abuse based on gender (Canada);

NC - 30. Remove any reference to the crime of witchcraft from the penal code (France); Amend the Penal Code to decriminalize witchcraft (United Kingdom); Delete the crime of witchcraft from the penal code (Czech Republic);

NC - 31. Speed up measures to ensure reintegration into the community of minors giving up their weapons, making it possible to comply with the agreements undertaken by the Government and the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity with the United Nations; and conclude and implement these agreements in the case of other remaining irregular forces (Spain);

NC - 32. Take concrete measures to abolish self-defence militias, to maintain order through regular security forces and to facilitate the end of forced child recruitment by all armed groups (Austria);

NC - 33. Increase efforts to investigate and prosecute the individuals known to be responsible for the serious human rights violations that took place in the north of the Central African Republic between 2005 and mid-2007; ensure that victims are guaranteed remedy, including the right to compensation and reparation; and continue efforts to improve the protection of the civilian population (Sweden);

NC - 34. Adopt within its domestic legislation a law based on the Statute of the International Criminal Court criminalizing war crimes, the crime of genocide and crimes against humanity in the Criminal and the Military Justice Codes (Canada);

NC - 35. Take the necessary steps to ensure that journalists are able to operate without intimidation or interference (Norway).”

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