

2RP: Responses to Recommendations & Voluntary Pledges

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Second Review Session 19

Review in the Working Group: 29 April 2014
Adoption in the Plenary: 19 September 2014

Republic Democratic of the Congo's responses to recommendations (as of 14.11.2014):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
190 recs accepted, (163 of which were considered implemented or in process of implementation); 38 were noted and 1 was left pending	No addendum	The pending recommendation could not be accepted.	Accepted: 190 Noted: 39 Total: 229

Paragraph headers are as in the Report of the Working Group, but the nature of responses to recommendations may have subsequently been changed.

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/27/5:

133. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below enjoy the support of the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

A - 133.1 Take necessary steps to ratify or accede to major international human rights instruments which are still outstanding (Lesotho);

A - 133.2 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPED) (Tunisia);

A - 133.3 Ratify CPED (France);

- A - 133.4 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);
- A - 133.5 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (OP-CEDAW) (Portugal);
- A - 133.6 Consider ratifying OP-CEDAW (Paraguay);
- A - 133.7 Consider adhering to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Nicaragua);
- A - 133.8 Adopt legislation in accordance with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and have a thorough discussion in Parliament on the establishment of mixed chambers, in order to guarantee fair trials for those who have committed crimes against humanity (Netherlands);
- A - 133.9 Adopt provisions prohibiting polygamy, early marriages, female genital mutilation and levirate (Israel);
- A - 133.10 Fulfil its commitments under the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region to comprehensively fight against all armed groups, in particular the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (Rwanda);
- A - 133.11 Provide more resources and intensify implementation of programmes that would better ensure protection of women and children from abuse and violence (Philippines);
- A - 133.12 Ensure sufficient resources so that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) can fully carry out its mandate (Republic of Korea);
- A - 133.13 Attend to the appointment of members of the NHRC to enable it to commence its work (Zimbabwe);
- A - 133.14 Facilitate shortly the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (Uruguay);
- A - 133.15 Increase efforts to prevent and punish episodes of extrajudicial executions and illegal or arbitrary detentions (Italy);
- A - 133.16 Pursue the reforms in the penitentiary system with a view to ending overpopulation in prisons (Djibouti);
- A - 133.17 Increase medical, judicial, psychological and socioeconomic support to victims of sexual violence (Lithuania);
- A - 133.18 Ensure access to justice and full reparation for victims and survivors (Lithuania);
- A - 133.19 Strengthen the capacities of the judiciary, including by increasing the personnel and improving its working conditions (Luxembourg);
- A - 133.20 Implement recommendations of the 2011 international election observation missions with special emphasis on the enhancement of equal participation of women in political life (Czech Republic);

A - 133.21 Respect and promote the democratic principle of the right to participate in public and political life without discrimination, so that everyone can pursue their activities freely and without fear of intimidation (Germany);

A - 133.22 Continue to prioritize delivery of basic social services, such as primary education and health, giving particular attention to increasing access, improving infrastructure and curbing discriminatory practices, including in rural areas (Philippines);

A - 133.23 Ensure allocations for the implementation of the Government's poverty reduction strategy and ensure that international development aid is utilized for the realization of the right to an adequate standard of living (South Africa);

A - 133.24 Make economic, social and cultural rights a first priority, which means allocating sufficient resources (Germany);

A - 133.25 Continue the current efforts to finalize the process of adoption of a social security code and the establishment of a sustainable social security system (Egypt);

A - 133.26 Improve access for women and girls to basic health-care services (Malaysia);

A - 133.27 Establish a programme of medical, psychological and social assistance for teenage mothers and develop a support network for young women to continue their studies (Mexico).

134. The following recommendations enjoy the support of the Democratic Republic of the Congo which considers that they are already implemented or in the process of implementation:

A - 134.1 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) (Poland);

A - 134.2 Ratify CRPD (France);

A - 134.3 Consider ratifying CRPD (Paraguay);

A - 134.4 Ratify CRPD (Tunisia);

A - 134.5 Implement the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court into domestic law, as recommended previously (Australia);

A - 134.6 Implement the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in law and practice (Botswana);

A - 134.7 Fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute, including by incorporating provisions to cooperate promptly and fully with the International Criminal Court and to investigate and prosecute individuals found guilty of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes effectively before its national courts (Estonia);

A - 134.8 Adopt national legislation implementing the Rome Statute (Finland);

A - 134.9 Take necessary measures to combat impunity, by incorporating the Rome Statute into domestic legislation (France);

A - 134.10 Align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute, including by incorporating the provisions enabling cooperation with the Court (Latvia);



- A - 134.11 Incorporate expeditiously in domestic law the Rome Statute, to which the Democratic Republic of the Congo is party (Luxembourg);
- A - 134.12 Fully cooperate with the International Criminal Court for all open cases, especially for the execution of arrest warrants issued by the Court (Switzerland);
- A - 134.13 Conclude quickly the alignment of its domestic legislation with the provisions of the Rome Statute (Tunisia);
- A - 134.14 Adopt legislation for the implementation of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Paraguay);
- A - 134.15 Fully implement the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Poland);
- A - 134.16 Strengthen measures to protect women victims of rape during conflict, by integrating these measures in legislation (Madagascar);
- A - 134.17 Revise the Family Law to ensure gender equality (Norway);
- A - 134.18 Adopt provisions prohibiting polygamy, early marriage and female genital mutilation (Poland);
- A - 134.19 Withdraw the discriminatory provisions contained in their Family Code and adopt the draft law on gender equality (Israel);
- A - 134.20 Accelerate its efforts to establish the national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Tunisia);
- A - 134.21 Complete the nomination of members of the NHRC with a view to render it operational, if not done so yet (Niger);
- A - 134.22 Operationalize the NHRC and strengthen its capabilities in the technical, human and financial fields for better protection of human rights (Morocco);
- A - 134.23 Continue efforts for the establishment of a national human rights institution with an “A” status in conformity with the Paris Principles (Portugal);
- A - 134.24 Establish a national human rights commission, provide it with necessary resources for its proper functioning and ensure its conformity with the Paris Principles (France);
- A - 134.25 Speed up its efforts to ensure the functioning of the Commission in accordance with the Paris Principles on national human rights institutions (Indonesia);
- A - 134.26 Ensure that human rights defenders can exercise their rights without interference and ensure the effective establishment of the NHRC (Switzerland);
- A - 134.27 Implement article 3 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) and immediately establish an independent national mechanism for the prevention of torture with the mandate to visit all places of detention (Czech Republic);

- A - 134.28 Continue working towards the establishment of a national mechanism for the prevention of torture (Guatemala);
- A - 134.29 Establish a national preventive mechanism to prevent torture (South Sudan);
- A - 134.30 Establish the national mechanism for the prevention of torture under OP-CAT and appoint an independent and qualified expert, provided with necessary resources to exercise its mandate (Uruguay);
- A - 134.31 Establish a national agency aimed at preventing sexual and gender-based violence and at ensuring access to justice for these victims (Netherlands);
- A - 134.32 Continue its reforms to improve policies and programmes towards promotion and protection of all human rights (Lesotho);
- A - 134.33 Further improve and implement the relevant laws and policies to better protect the rights of women and children (China);
- A - 134.34 Step up efforts on gender promotion, the protection of children's rights and the fight against acts of sexual violence as envisaged in the national strategy in this regard (Niger);
- A - 134.35 Strengthen its protection for vulnerable groups, particularly women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and ethnic minorities, and adopt corresponding national legislation on the protection of those vulnerable groups (Russian Federation);
- A - 134.36 Strengthen measures to protect vulnerable persons (Senegal);
- A - 134.37 Ensure implementation of new measures to improve the business and investment climate in the country (South Africa);
- A - 134.38 Continue promoting a dialogue and national reconciliation to achieve peace and move towards the development of country (Nicaragua);
- A - 134.39 Extend its sovereign jurisdiction to the protection of the people of the country and take concrete steps to eliminate all negative forces operating in the eastern part of the country (Uganda);
- A - 134.40 Pursue ongoing efforts and negotiations that have as an objective to end the recurring armed conflicts in the eastern province of the country (Côte d'Ivoire);
- A - 134.41 Actively pursue its cooperation with United Nations mechanisms and the international community to restore security and establish the rule of law (Japan);
- A - 134.42 Cooperate with the International Criminal Court (Uruguay);
- A - 134.43 Collaborate with the special procedures mandate holders (Chad);
- A - 134.44 Strengthen its cooperation with the special procedures of Human Rights Council by responding positively to pending visit requests (Latvia);
- A - 134.45 Undertake activities to eliminate stereotypes, identifying the obstacles that hinder women from taking up their rightful place in society (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);

- A - 134.46 Strengthen the implementation of measures and provisions to eradicate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls (Chile);
- A - 134.47 Combat all forms of discrimination against persons with albinism (Guatemala);
- A - 134.48 Take all measures necessary to ensure the implementation of the Plan of Action, including the provision on birth registration (also late birth registration) free of charge, effective implementation of the free and compulsory primary education policy and access to basic health-care services (Slovenia);
- A - 134.49 Adopt measures to prevent the possibility of extrajudicial executions and to fully prevent the use of torture by State Security Forces (Spain);
- A - 134.50 Investigate all cases of torture and ill-treatment in detention, as recommended previously (Austria);
- A - 134.51 Try all perpetrators of torture, regardless of rank (Australia);
- A - 134.52 Take necessary measures to prevent any threat against human rights defenders and ensure their effective protection (Spain);
- A - 134.53 Adopt as soon as possible the law protecting human rights defenders (Sweden);
- A - 134.54 Take adequate measures for better protecting human rights defenders and journalists (Djibouti);
- A - 134.55 Establish a training programme for penitentiary, judicial and security personnel to ensure its consistent application (State of Palestine);
- A - 134.56 Make further efforts to improve the penitentiary system (Russian Federation);
- A - 134.57 Enact specific legislation to eradicate all sexual gender-based incidents of violence and punish the perpetrators of sexual violence (Namibia);
- A - 134.58 Strictly enforce the 2006 law on sexual violence and its zero tolerance policy (Norway);
- A - 134.59 Take more effective measures to combat incidents of sexual violence and intensify efforts to implement its reintegration and rehabilitation policies for victims of gender-based violence (Sierra Leone);
- A - 134.60 Take adequate measures to reduce and eradicate incidents of sexual gender-based violence committed by armed elements and establish and strengthen accountability mechanisms (Slovenia);
- A - 134.61 Continue its efforts to eradicate violence against women and children and continue implementing the national strategy to fight against sexual violence in order to eliminate this phenomenon (Sudan);
- A - 134.62 Double its efforts in its fight against sexual violence against women and girls (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);
- A - 134.63 Intensify the efforts to combat effectively violence against women and girls and prosecute perpetrators (Togo);

A - 134.64 Ensure that perpetrators of crimes of sexual violence are consistently brought to justice, and guarantee the protection of witnesses and survivors (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 134.65 Continue efforts towards the elimination of violence against women in all conflict areas, female genital mutilation and early and forced marriage (Paraguay);

A - 134.66 Continue to combat human trafficking and violence against children and women (Timor-Leste);

A - 134.67 Strengthen legal and policy frameworks, programmes and coordination measures to address child labour and sexual exploitation of children (Namibia);

A - 134.68 Improve training of security forces with regard to combating sexual violence against women and girls and ensure accountability of perpetrators (Austria);

A - 134.69 Strengthen the implementation of the National Strategy against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence by accelerating the judicial system and security sector reform, in order to improve access to justice, protect the population and guarantee the right to the security of persons (Canada);

A - 134.70 Implement a zero tolerance policy to eradicate all forms of sexual and domestic violence against women (Costa Rica);

A - 134.71 Investigate and prosecute all perpetrators of serious human rights abuses, especially acts of rape and sexual violence, regardless of their rank and affiliation (Croatia);

A - 134.72 Develop appropriate mechanisms to prevent all forms of violence against women, effectively prosecute perpetrators of such violence and provide adequate redress for victims (Slovakia);

A - 134.73 Implement the July 2013 recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, focusing on the recommendations under paragraph 10 and, inter alia, investigate violations of women's rights committed by Congolese security forces and armed groups and ensure access to justice for all women affected by sexual violence during the conflict (Czech Republic);

A - 134.74 Create a framework for the socioeconomic rehabilitation and reintegration of women victims of sexual violence in the regions affected by the conflict (Djibouti);

A - 134.75 Intensify the fight against sexual violence and the prosecution and punishment of those responsible (Senegal);

A - 134.76 Strengthen the efforts aimed at fighting against violence and sexual slavery and at providing medical, legal, psychological and socioeconomic assistance to victims (Ecuador);

A - 134.77 Investigate, prosecute and punish systematically all cases of sexual violence against girls and women, organize awareness-raising campaigns on the subject of sexual violence and put in place a national hotline (Hungary);

A - 134.78 Exert more efforts to provide care to victims of sexual violence in collaboration and assistance with its partners and the international community (South Sudan);

A - 134.79 Continue its efforts to address sexual and gender-based violence, in particular by developing effective mechanisms to prevent violence against women and girls (Indonesia);

A - 134.80 Continue its efforts to eliminate gender-based violence and enhance public security (Singapore);

A - 134.81 Investigate, prosecute and take all adequate measures to reduce and eradicate incidents of sexual gender-based violence committed by armed elements (Israel);

A - 134.82 Strengthen the ability to prevent and combat the impunity that often surrounds sexual violence, first of all by prosecuting and bringing to justice those responsible for these crimes (Italy);

A - 134.83 Continue its efforts to implement the national strategy of November 2009 to combat sexual violence and fulfil its action plan, which includes the fight against impunity, the protection of victims and security sector reform (Libya);

A - 134.84 Increase the protection of victims of sexual violence by providing them with the necessary support to facilitate their psychological and physical rehabilitation (Luxembourg);

A - 134.85 Continue implementing effectively the 2006 law on sexual violence and the zero tolerance policy (Madagascar);

A - 134.86 Adopt additional measures aimed at providing assistance for victims of sexual violence and combating this scourge (Argentina);

A - 134.87 Strengthen without delay the measures to fight against sexual violence and amplify efforts to ensure gender equality and women's participation in peacebuilding, as recommended previously (Switzerland);

A - 134.88 Continue the efforts for the protection of children and the elimination of violence against them (Algeria);

134.89 Accelerate the implementation of legislation prohibiting the worst forms of child labour (Madagascar);

A - 134.90 Take all measures to eliminate child labour and illegal mining (Australia);

A - 134.91 Intensify the fight against the exploitation of children in all its forms (Cape Verde);

A - 134.92 Prevent and eradicate child labour through a national strategy (Chile);

A - 134.93 Ensure the elimination of the sale and trafficking of children for sexual exploitation (Egypt);

A - 134.94 Take immediate measures in order to comply fully with the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (OP-CRC-AC) (Lithuania);

A - 134.95 Adopt additional measures within the Action Plan to fight against forced recruitment of children aimed at the prevention, protection and social reintegration of such minors (Spain);

A - 134.96 Step up the efforts to ensure the non-recruitment and demobilization of child soldiers (Togo);

A - 134.97 Develop and implement a new disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme for dealing with armed groups, ensuring that former combatants are given realistic opportunities to reintegrate into the community and that children involved with armed groups are treated in line with international law (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 134.98 Continue to work to ensure full implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325 and 2122 on women, peace and security, including by increasing the active and equal participation of women in peacebuilding initiatives and decision-making processes at all levels (Ireland);

A - 134.99 Ensure that children captured by the Forces armées de la République démocratique du Congo are treated primarily as victims, that they have access to justice and that their reintegration into their communities is facilitated (Austria);

A - 134.100 Further strengthen specific plans for the demobilization of children and their social reintegration (Brazil);

A - 134.101 Ensure that as part of the national disarmament, demobilization and targeted reintegration programme, special attention is given to the rights of women and children, particularly to prevent repeated recruitment by armed groups and to ensure that they can enjoy their fundamental rights (Canada);

A - 134.102 Ensure that the national legislation enables the establishment and exercise of jurisdiction on war crimes related to conscription, recruitment and use of children in armed conflict (Costa Rica);

A - 134.103 Continue the actions aimed at duly implementing the Action Plan to fight against the recruitment and use of children and other serious violations of the rights of the child by the armed forces and security services of 2012, and of the National Action Plan against the worst forms of child labour of 2011 (Ecuador);

A - 134.104 Fully implement the plan of action to combat the recruitment and use of child soldiers (Germany);

A - 134.105 Implement the Action Plan to end the recruitment and use of children, signed at the United Nations in 2012 (Lithuania);

A - 134.106 Install a vetting mechanism to remove persons responsible for serious human rights and child rights violations from the security forces (Austria);

A - 134.107 Take further steps to strengthen the independence of the judiciary, including by allocating sufficient resources and adequate training to judges and prosecutors (Thailand);

A - 134.108 Create a strong, independent judiciary by training more judges, prosecutors and court clerks and establishing mixed chambers (United States of America);

A - 134.109 Seek assistance to increase the number and scope of its magistrate courts to address the many legal problems it faces (Sierra Leone);

A - 134.110 Concentrate efforts to establish an independent, efficient, responsible and properly resourced judicial system (Chile);

A - 134.111 Pursue judicial reform to improve access to justice by promoting a better geographical coverage and upgrading the prison administration (Morocco);

A - 134.112 Take the necessary measures to ensure the independence of the judiciary and create specialized mixed chambers in support of judgements of crimes under international law (Switzerland);

A - 134.113 Continue activities aimed at strengthening the judiciary and promoting access to justice, including through expanding the provision of free legal aid to victims of sexual violence, training members of the judiciary to fight against sexual violence and promoting awareness against the stigmatization of victims (Brazil);

A - 134.114 Take measures to complete the reforms in the judicial system and in the defence and security sectors (Djibouti);

A - 134.115 Give priority attention to addressing the challenges faced by the national judicial system, including implementing the zero tolerance policy for perpetrators of violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Ghana);

A - 134.116 Provide gender-sensitive human rights education to all police and military, and try all perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence, regardless of rank (Australia);

A - 134.117 Continue strengthening the judicial system in order to put a real end to impunity for human rights violations (Republic of Korea);

A - 134.118 Pursue its efforts to improve its justice system and its commitment to fight against impunity (Timor-Leste);

A - 134.119 Hold accountable security forces who commit human rights violations, including those involving child soldier recruitment and sexual violence (United States of America);

A - 134.120 Continue the efforts to attain the respect for the rights and fundamental freedoms of the entire population, and adopt all necessary measures to guarantee the fight against impunity of perpetrators of crimes, acts of violence and all human rights violations (Argentina);

A - 134.121 Investigate, prosecute and punish all cases of summary and extrajudicial executions, and provide adequate compensation to victims (Chile);

A - 134.122 Take necessary measures to ensure that individuals suspected of committing crimes under international law and other serious human rights violations are thoroughly investigated and brought to justice (Botswana);

A - 134.123 Ensure that civilian officials or military personnel implicated in providing support to foreign or Congolese armed groups responsible for crimes against humanity are suspended from their positions, investigated and appropriately prosecuted (Croatia);

A - 134.124 Strengthen efforts to enhance the capacities of law enforcement agencies and judicial organs (Ethiopia);

A - 134.125 Engage firmly against sexual violence, ensure the right of victims to obtain justice and redress, combat persistent impunity and strengthen the capacities of the national agency fighting against sexual violence (France);

A - 134.126 Improve support to victims of sexual violence and facilitate their access to justice, notably by simplifying the administration of justice and their access to medical and psychosocial care (Belgium);

A - 134.127 Adopt specific additional measures to strengthen the fight against impunity with regard to cases of sexual violence against women and provide greater care for victims (Spain);

A - 134.128 Strengthen the capacities of judicial institutions in order to bring those responsible for sexual violence to justice (Lithuania);

A - 134.129 Take all necessary measures to facilitate access for victims to justice and ensure that they obtain redress (Luxembourg);

A - 134.130 Strictly enforce relevant laws, with equal emphasis on care and rehabilitation, and prosecute those responsible in order to provide meaningful results and ensure the protection of women and children, especially in the eastern part of the country (Thailand);

A - 134.131 Take all necessary steps to ensure freedom of the media and duly address all cases of restrictions on the media (Slovakia);

A - 134.132 Assure transparent and credible elections by ensuring freedom of peaceful assembly and expression for all persons, including members of political parties, candidates and members of the press (United States of America);

A - 134.133 Bring all perpetrators of violence against journalists and human rights defenders to justice and ensure that journalists and human rights activists are able to pursue their activities, including by expressing criticism of government policies, without intimidation and harassment (Austria);

A - 134.134 Ensure that the freedoms of expression and peaceful assembly are respected in conformity with international standards and that members of political parties, journalists and human rights activists are able to exercise their activities and to criticize the Government without being subject to intimidation, reprisals or harassment (Belgium);

A - 134.135 Enhance the engagement towards increasing the role of civil society, especially by widening the space for political debate and ensuring the right of human rights defenders, opposition parties and journalists to freely carry out their activities (Italy);

A - 134.136 Ensure that the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly are respected and all citizens, including journalists and human rights defenders, are able to pursue their activities without intimidation (Romania);

A - 134.137 Revise the election law to guarantee a 30 per cent representation of women on electoral lists, as this would be positive step towards equality (Norway);

A - 134.138 Continue the promotion of economic and social development, and maintain domestic peace and stability to provide a solid basis for the protection and promotion of human rights (China);

A - 134.139 Continue its efforts to improve the public health and education systems, as a mean to reduce poverty and to advance in the economic and social development of the country (Cuba);

A - 134.140 Continue making progress on the fight against poverty, with the appropriate social policies for its people, in particular for those most in need, with the cooperation and technical assistance that the country requires (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

A - 134.141 Continue to take measures to eradicate poverty and to ensure better access to education and health care (Morocco);

A - 134.142 Pursue and deploy in the whole territory the programmes and projects for the development of rural infrastructure, in particular those aimed at guaranteeing access to drinking water (Côte d'Ivoire);

A - 134.143 Ensure the effective implementation of the national strategy to combat maternal and infant mortality and to increase access for women and girls to basic health-care services (Egypt);

A - 134.144 Ensure the effective implementation of the national strategy on maternal and child mortality, including through addressing root causes of under-5 mortality, such as poverty, undernutrition, harmful practices, and lack of access to safe drinking water, health-care services and education (Ireland);

A - 134.145 Continue, in cooperation with the relevant international organizations, to improve access to quality health care for all its people (Singapore);

A - 134.146 Implement policies to ensure free education throughout the country (Namibia);

A - 134.147 Continue allocating adequate funding for education to increase the number of schools and teachers, improve the quality of teaching and school infrastructure and ensure equal access of girls to all levels of education (State of Palestine);

A - 134.148 Enhance efforts to provide free quality education in all parts of the country (Sudan);

A - 134.149 Ensure the effective implementation of free primary education throughout the country (Timor-Leste);

A - 134.150 Strengthen measures to progressively ensure free primary education (Ethiopia);

A - 134.151 Allocate at least 25 per cent of the national budget for education and eliminate all discretionary fees in order to ensure free primary education for all children (Hungary);

A - 134.152 Consider adopting legal provisions to ensure that primary education is free and compulsory for all children without discrimination (Egypt);

A - 134.153 Extend the free primary education policy throughout the country (Zimbabwe);

A - 134.154 Ensure adequate funding for education to increase the number of schools and teachers and ensure equal access of girls to all levels of education (South Africa);

A - 155 Continue its efforts to include awareness of human rights within the school curricula (Libya);

A - 134.156 Continue its efforts to provide free primary education for all throughout the country (Malaysia);

A - 134.157 Allocate adequate funding to improve its education system (Malaysia);

A - 134.158 Continue the implementation of the strategic plan for the development of literacy and non-formal education 2012–2016 (Algeria);

A - 134.159 Ensure that primary education is free and of quality and contains special programmes for the local population, including Pygmies (Mexico);

A - 134.160 Pay particular attention to indigenous Pygmy peoples, in order to guarantee their access to land and natural resources (Benin);

A - 134.161 Continue working towards the recognition of indigenous peoples at the national level (Guatemala);

A - 134.162 Ensure land rights of indigenous communities within protected natural parks, in particular Pygmies. Likewise harmonize projects of greenhouse gas reduction, deforestation reduction and forest degradation in line with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Mexico);

A - 134.163 Put in place adequate measures to protect civilians, in particular innocent women and children, in any situation of armed violence, and to create the necessary conditions to abate the present situation of the millions of internally displaced persons (Ghana).

135. The following recommendations will be examined by the Democratic Republic of the Congo which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council in September 2014:

N - 135.1 Ensure that all persons, including members of the national army, the police and intelligence service, who are suspected of having committed crimes of international law and other grave human rights violations, are brought before the courts in fair trials that do not lead to the death penalty (Belgium).

136. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and would thus be noted:

N - 136.1 Consider the ratification of CPED and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW) (Cape Verde);

N - 136.2 Consider ratifying ICRMW (Ghana);

N - 136.3 Take appropriate steps to ratify various international treaties including the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (ICCPR-OP-2) and OP-CEDAW (Romania);

N - 136.4 Abolish the death penalty in law and ratify ICCPR-OP-2 (France);

N - 136.5 Remove the death penalty from its criminal statutes and ratify ICCPR-OP-2 (Australia);

N - 136.6 Abolish the death penalty and ratify ICCPR-OP-2 (Germany);

N - 136.7 Ratify ICCPR-OP-2 and provide for the de jure abolition of the death penalty (Hungary);

N - 136.8 Abolish the death penalty and sign and ratify ICCPR-OP-2 (Portugal);¹

N - 136.9 Ratify the OP-CRC-AC (Portugal);

N - 136.10 Become a party to the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Chad);

N - 136.11 Ratify the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Tunisia);

- N - 136.12 Undertake constitutional and legislative reforms aimed at the full abolition of the death penalty (Spain);
- N - 136.13 Amend the Criminal Code as to abolish the death penalty (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);
- N - 136.14 Adopt a law abolishing the death penalty (Togo);
- N - 136.15 Adopt a law to abolish the death penalty (Benin);
- N - 136.16 Ensure the implementation of an official moratorium on all executions, commuting death penalty sentences by imprisonment periods, with a view to the definitive abolition of the death penalty (Uruguay);
- N - 136.17 Take all necessary measures to implement the commitment to abolish the death penalty (Argentina);
- N - 136.18 Take again into consideration the possibility to soon abolish the de jure death penalty (Italy);
- N - 136.19 Intensify its efforts to establish an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to abolishing it, and in the meantime immediately remove all provisions on national laws which are in breach of international human rights law (Lithuania);
- N - 136.20 Adopt a law abolishing the death penalty (Montenegro);
- N - 136.21 Abolish the death penalty in order to allow abolitionist countries to consider the possibility of extraditing persons suspected of having committed crimes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Rwanda);
- N - 136.22 Ensure the speedy adoption of the law on protection of human rights defenders by the Parliament and its immediate and effective implementation (Czech Republic);
- N - 136.23 Adopt a law on the protection of human rights defenders (Mali);
- N - 136.24 Combat violations and violence against human rights defenders, particularly by adopting a law protecting them (France);
- N - 136.25 Adopt urgently legislation for complementarity with the Rome Statute and provide means for implementation (Sweden);
- N - 136.26 Ensure its domestic legislation establishes universal jurisdiction over war crimes, especially with regard to the use of children in hostilities and sexual violence, including rape (Sierra Leone);
- N - 136.27 Enhance engagement with regional and international partners to gather support, as it may deem necessary, for building structural and operational capacities and augmenting existing human rights mechanisms (Philippines);
- N - 136.28 Request the international community assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo in strengthening the operational capacities of its provincial human rights divisions within the country (Uganda);

N - 136.29 Strengthen its cooperation with the United Nations, through a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council and by submitting reports due on the application of international human rights instruments that the country is part of (Portugal);

N - 136.30 Issue an open invitation to the United Nations special mechanisms (Uruguay);

N - 136.31 Issue an open invitation to Special Procedures (Guatemala);

N - 136.32 Eventually consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders (Latvia);

N - 136.33 Formalize its acceptance of the special procedures by issuing a standing invitation to all special procedures (Montenegro);

N - 136.34 Fully cooperate with the Human Rights Council Independent Expert on technical cooperation and advisory services in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);

N - 136.35 Establish — with the involvement of the Congolese civil society and the support of the international community in the process — independent and impartial specialized mixed chambers within the national judicial system to address crimes committed under international law and other serious human rights violations (Finland);

N - 136.36 Investigate without delay allegations of arbitrary detention of journalists, activists and political opponents and report before the holding of the local elections (Canada);

N - 136.37 Free all persons arrested as a result of their political opinion or because they took part in peaceful demonstrations, and ensure that charges against them are dismissed (Belgium);

N - 136.38 Ensure the full enjoyment of freedom of expression and of the press by removing all of the restrictions imposed, including by decriminalizing defamation, in accordance with its obligations under ICCPR and its commitment taken during the previous review (Estonia).

Endnote

1 The text of the recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: “Abolish the death penalty and sign and ratify the two Optional Protocols to the ICCPR (Portugal).”

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