

Responses to Recommendations

ETHIOPIA

Review in the Working Group: 9 December 2009
 Adoption in the Plenary: 19 March 2010

Ethiopia’s responses to recommendations (as of 01.04.2010):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
98 REC accepted; 32 rejected; 12 pending	The delegation provided responses to questions and REC made during the review. Only few REC among the 12 pending were specifically identified: 1 was accepted and 1 received an unclear position. The delegation also accepted a REC on “the ratification of the OP-CRC” without indicating which OP.	The delegation read out the same information as contained in the addendum. Switzerland asked for clarification on which OP-CRC was accepted, having made a REC on both OP. The delegation provided a really unclear answer and it was not possible to understand which one was accepted.	Accepted: 99 Rejected: 32 No clear position: 3 Pending: 8

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/13/17:

“97. The following recommendations listed below enjoy the support of Ethiopia:

A - 1. Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Democratic Republic of the Congo);

A - 2. Consider implementing recommendations of relevant treaty bodies in accordance with their national priorities (Pakistan);

A - 3. Formulate a national plan of action on human rights and strengthen the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC), for example, by assisting in opening regional offices and providing access to all detention centres (Canada);

A - 4. Undertake efforts to ensure that EHRC complies with relevant international standards (India);

A - 5. Strengthen the functions of EHRC and the Ombudsman to bring them into line with the Paris Principles (Ghana);

- A - 6. Continue to strengthen the institutional framework so that the State is able to respond adequately and efficiently to future challenges in areas of public health, education, culture, environment and State administration (Nicaragua);
- A - 7. Intensify efforts in the areas of human rights education and capacity-building and organize training seminars on human rights for those working in relevant institutions and bodies (Egypt);
- A - 8. Step up the awareness-raising campaigns concerning human rights by translating international instruments concerning human rights into the various national languages (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- A - 9. Strengthen instruments to protect human rights which could positively improve social, economic and cultural rights (Angola);
- A - 10. Continue towards ensuring that adequate instruments are put in place, enabling the involvement of Ethiopian citizens in the promotion and protection of human rights (Switzerland);
- A - 11. Undertake specific measures to ensure implementation of international treaties and domestic legislation designed to protect the rights of citizens (Finland);
- A - 12. Continue to work for strengthening its human rights infrastructure in cooperation with relevant United Nations human rights organs (Pakistan);
- A - 13. Strengthen cooperation with the international community and the United Nations human rights bodies in order to consolidate and promote human rights in the country (Angola);
- A - 14. Continue efforts, with the support of the international community, to ensure timely reporting to treaty bodies (Russian Federation);
- A - 15. Cooperate fully with the special procedures and respond positively to the outstanding requests for visits by mandate-holders (Netherlands);
- A - 16. Consider receiving the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council in Ethiopia (Norway); 1
- A - 17. Consider responding affirmatively to the visits requested by human rights mandateholders, within the context of its cooperation with OHCHR (Brazil);
- A - 18. Address all urgent appeals sent by the United Nations special procedures mandateholders (Ireland);
- A - 19. Make combating discrimination against vulnerable girls a national priority and adopt a comprehensive strategy to eliminate discrimination on any grounds against all vulnerable groups, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Azerbaijan);
- A - 20. Increase the efforts to improve the social status of women in society and enhance political and social rights (Belarus);
- A - 21. Guarantee fully the rights of women by effectively applying the family code, in particular of provisions relating to the minimum marital age, by harmonizing the respective existing regional legislation, by adopting a specific law to eradicate violence against women and by prosecuting and sanctioning those responsible for such acts (France);
- A - 22. Ensure access of women to education and control of resources with a view to promptly eliminating inequality between men and women (Mexico);
- A - 23. Further implement laws to effectively guarantee equality between men and women (Holy See);
- A - 24. Address the gender disparity as well as women's limited access to education, their limited political representation and limited participation in decision-making (Azerbaijan);

- A - 25. Intensify its efforts of awareness-raising and education with regard to the respect of rights of women, in particular in areas where discriminatory practices prevail (Congo);
- A - 26. Intensify its efforts to counter gender discrimination (Slovakia);
- A - 27. Continue efforts aimed at combating female genital mutilation, inter alia through the implementation of programmes sensitizing the population about its harmful effects (Egypt);
- A - 28. Continue building on ongoing efforts by fostering open discussions in communities still engaging in female genital mutilation practice (Canada);
- A - 29. Undertake an awareness-raising campaign against sexual violence (Austria);
- A - 30. Implement specific legislation to combat violence, in particular sexual violence against women and children (Austria); 2
- A - 31. Provide, together with NGOs, safe places and assistance to victims of sexual violence (Austria);
- A - 32. Continue to take measures to eradicate all forms of violence against women including female genital mutilation, ensure the effective implementation of legal instruments in this connection, and allocate more resources to the Ministry for Women Affairs, the police and the judiciary and broaden awareness-raising campaigns in this respect (Spain);
- A - 33. Make all efforts to take the necessary measures to ensure that there is an effective prohibition of female genital mutilation (Argentina);
- A - 34. Continue efforts to overcome abductions and domestic violence involving women and children (Kyrgyzstan);
- A - 35. Take all necessary measures to prevent trafficking in persons, especially children, including the incorporation of international standards into national legislation, training of personnel involved in the fight against human trafficking, criminal prosecution of traffickers and the protection of victims of trafficking (Belarus);
- A - 36. Take necessary measures to ensure that women, girls and boys are prevented from being trafficked, sexually exploited or sold for prostitution (Argentina);
- A - 37. Step up efforts to prevent children from being engaged in trafficking, sexual exploitation and prostitution (Ghana);
- A - 38. Apply effective strategies and measures to reduce inconsistencies between laws and practice, including with regard to access to land for women, the gender gap in employment and trafficking in women (Norway);
- A - 39. Strengthen efforts to combat early and forced marriages (Angola);
- A - 40. Adopt specific measures to deal with the causes of the increasing problem of street children and to prevent and to punish sexual exploitation of children (France);
- A - 41. Implement fully the following recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: (a) ensure adequate resources to investigate cases of sexual abuse and exploitation and prosecute and impose adequate sentences for such crimes; (b) make combating discrimination against vulnerable girls a national priority and adopt a comprehensive strategy to eliminate discrimination on any grounds against all vulnerable groups; (c) enhance the security in refugee camps and take all necessary measures to protect girls against sexual exploitation, establish accessible complaints mechanisms, investigate cases of abuse fully and prosecute the perpetrators (Slovenia);
- A - 42. Strengthen measures to prevent recruitment of children in the armed forces (Azerbaijan);

- A - 43. Take measures to achieve timely registration of all births and create an adequate and credible birth registration system (Poland);
- A - 44. Investigate cases of sexual abuse and exploitation and prosecute and impose adequate sentences for such crimes (Holy See);
- A - 45. Effectively investigate and prosecute all cases of violence against women and children (Austria);
- A - 46. Provide adequate resources for the effective prosecution of cases of sexual violence (Austria);
- A - 47. Continue its efforts so that all forms of sexual violence against women and children are prosecuted and sanctioned and that victims obtain immediate reparation and protection (Switzerland);
- A - 48. Better educate security and law enforcement authorities at all levels about the basic rights of the citizens and enhance citizens' possibilities to make complaints about mistreatment by the authorities (Finland);
- A - 49. Improve the investigative capacity of police and enhance judicial action on trafficking to allow for more prosecutions of trafficking offenders, particularly perpetrators of internal child trafficking (United States);
- A - 50. Continue its efforts in the direction of providing for freedom of thought, conscience and religion as well as an environment of religious tolerance existing in Ethiopia (Azerbaijan);
- A - 51. Guarantee that all national and international NGOs operating in Ethiopia can do so freely and without fear of harassment, intimidation or arbitrary arrest (Netherlands);
- A - 52. Further engage constructively with civil society in its human rights activities in the country (Brazil);
- A - 53. Take all necessary measures to ensure full respect for the rights of association and assembly, including with regard to the ability of NGOs to function, which would be in line with Ethiopia's Constitution and its international obligations (Sweden);
- A - 54. Ensure that the freedom of association is guaranteed in accordance with the provisions of article 22 of International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) (Ireland);
- A - 55. Ensure that the procedures governing registration of civil society organizations are in conformity with international human rights standards, transparent, nondiscriminatory, expeditious and inexpensive, and allow for the possibility to appeal (Norway);
- A - 56. Put in place measures to support the work of human rights defenders (Ireland);
- A - 57. Take action to ensure the safety and freedom of action of human rights defenders (Finland);
- A - 58. Promptly respond to complaints of harassment, intimidation or arbitrary arrests of human rights defenders, and take adequate measures for their safety (Norway);
- A - 59. Guarantee genuine freedom of expression to all political leaders and the media, in light of the next elections (France);
- A - 60. Adopt all necessary measures to provide for free and independent media which reflect a plurality of opinions, including those of minority groups and political opposition parties (Germany);
- A - 61. Fully and effectively implement the Freedom of Mass Media and Access to Information Proclamation (Norway);
- A - 62. Take steps to ensure civil and political rights are upheld, including freedom of expression and freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention (Australia);

- A - 63. Ensure that no one is detained for political reasons (Netherlands);
- A - 64. Take concrete steps to ensure free and fair elections in 2010, including through full implementation of the electoral Code of Conduct (United Kingdom);
- A - 65. Strictly implement the principles of the electoral Code of Conduct in the coming election (Norway);
- A - 66. Ensure that appropriate mechanisms for addressing grievances are put in place well ahead of the upcoming elections (Canada);
- A - 67. Continue the efforts to tackle unemployment in urban areas (Sudan);
- A - 68. Take measures deemed appropriate to guarantee the right of children to food, and to this end, request the assistance of institutions, programmes and international organisms competent on this issue (Algeria);
- A - 69. Give priority to programmes for upgrading land and water resources to reduce the long-term vulnerability caused by drought and allowing the population to satisfy its needs in water and food; and, in this regard, request the assistance of competent United Nations agencies and programmes (Algeria);
- A - 70. Request necessary technical assistance to build its capacity to deal with the issues and challenges faced in the fields of education, infrastructure, health, housing, agriculture, and ensuring food security (Pakistan);
- A - 71. Strengthen measures aimed at poverty eradication and improvement of access to safe drinking water, as well as social services (South Africa);
- A - 72. Develop a constructive partnership with the United Nations and NGOs working on food and medical assistance, and guarantee safe access to the country, including in areas where violent actions against federal authorities take place; this partnership should constitute one of the cornerstones of the new agriculture and land-use policies in Ethiopia (Belgium);
- A - 73. Achieve food security through, among others, securing adequate food assistance, increasing food production, adopting better agricultural technology and improving the food distribution system (Bangladesh);
- A - 74. Realize effectively the plans to overcome poverty and achieve sustainable development (Russian Federation);
- A - 75. Continue to fight poverty with the support and cooperation of the international community (Bangladesh);
- A - 76. Implement further measures, with regard to maternal mortality and child mortality, to save mother and child (Holy See);
- A - 77. Undertake further measures to consolidate the national health system in order to cut down on the spread of serious diseases (Kyrgyzstan);
- A - 78. Continue the efforts to provide the needed health services coverage as well as intensify efforts for the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS (Yemen);
- A - 79. Continue the positive efforts to improve access to health for all its citizens, including through cooperation and strengthened international financial assistance (Cuba);
- A - 80. Fight malaria and HIV/AIDS with the support of the international community (Bangladesh);
- A - 81. Seek to strengthen achievements in realizing the right to education, in particular with respect to free primary education and its obligation towards girls and boys (Algeria);
- A - 82. Strengthen efforts to improve the literacy rate of girls and women (Brazil);

A - 83. Continue to take the necessary measures to ensure free and mandatory primary education and increase public expenditure in the area of education (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya);

A - 84. Continue to advance and gradually improve the quality of education provided, as part of the wide programme adopted by Ethiopia to this end (Cuba);

A - 85. Continue to facilitate education for all with due regard to girls' education and nondiscriminatory access and ensuring its quality (Bangladesh);

A - 86. Continue the efforts to make primary and general secondary education and related training free of charge, with the help of the international community (Sudan);

A - 87. Continue to promote the development of the education system (Kyrgyzstan);

A - 88. Continue its efforts to protect internally displaced persons (Congo);

A - 89. Consider developing a policy aimed at assisting and protecting internally displaced persons and refugees (South Africa);

A - 90. Request necessary technical and financial assistance from the international community, in particular United Nations organs and programmes, to continue to take care of refugees and internally displaced persons (Côte d'Ivoire);

A - 91. Take further measures to ensure that any efforts to counter terrorism are carried out in full compliance with its human rights obligations, including respect for due process and freedom of expression and assembly (Sweden);

A - 92. Formulate more precisely, in collaboration with international organizations, its needs in terms of technical assistance in identified priority areas (Djibouti);

A - 93. Continue seeking official development assistance as well as technical assistance from development partners with a view to finding solutions to the identified challenges hindering the enjoyment of human rights (Nigeria);

A - 94. Continue cooperation with regional and international human rights mechanisms, in particular in the areas of technical cooperation and training (Saudi Arabia);

A - 95. Request the necessary assistance from the international community to allow it to strengthen its capacities and to assist it in overcoming the difficulties and constraints it faces in the area of human rights (Morocco);

A - 96. Request technical and financial assistance from the international community, in particular United Nations organs and programmes, with a view to putting into practice national policies to follow-up on recommendations formulated by the Human Rights Council in the context of the Universal Periodic Review (Côte d'Ivoire);

A - 97. Seek cooperation of OHCHR as well as NGOs in the follow-up to the universal periodic review (Austria);

A - 98. Establish an effective and inclusive process to follow-up on recommendations emerging from the universal periodic review (Norway);

98. The following recommendations will be examined by Ethiopia, which will provide responses in due time. The response of Ethiopia to these recommendations will be included in the outcome report to be adopted by the Human Rights Council at its thirteenth session:

A - 1. Consider ratifying (Democratic Republic of the Congo)/ ratify (Spain) the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), and sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to CPRD (Spain);

P - 2. Sign and ratify (Spain)/consider signing and/or ratifying (Argentina) the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED);

P - 3. Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Spain);

P - 4. Sign and ratify (Spain)/ become party to (Canada) the Optional Protocol to ICCPR;

P - 5. Sign and ratify (Spain, United Kingdom)/accede to (Czech Republic) the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and establish a national preventive mechanism accordingly (Czech Republic);

P - 6. Sign (Spain) and ratify (Austria, Spain)/ become party to (Canada) the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

NC - 7. Sign (Spain)/ accede to (France)/ ratify (Austria, Spain, Switzerland)/ become party to (Canada) the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;

NC - 8. Sign (Spain) and ratify (Austria, Spain, Switzerland)/ become party to (Canada) the Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict;

P - 9. Ensure effective birth registration of all children, raise the age of criminal responsibility in compliance with CRC and adopt specific measures to strengthen protection of human rights of children from vulnerable groups, such as children in detention, internally displaced children and children of refugees (Czech Republic);

NC - 10. Undertake effective disciplinary and criminal procedures against members of the security forces involved in cases of sexual violence (Austria);

P - 11. Strengthen efforts made to address the causes of ethnic conflicts on its territory and take necessary measures to prevent and sanction the forced recruitment of minors under the age of 18 (Mexico);

P - 12. Adopt appropriate measures to disseminate widely and ensure full observance of the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (Norway).

99. The following recommendations did not enjoy the support of Ethiopia:

R - 1. Sign (Spain) and ratify (Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland)/ become party to (Canada) the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;

R - 2. Consider signing and/or ratifying (Argentina)/ratify (Switzerland) the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

R - 3. Further its commitment to human rights by becoming a party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Canada);

R - 4. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, including accession to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court(Slovakia);

R - 5. Open regional offices of the EHRC, starting with an office in Jijiga (United Kingdom);

R - 6. Issue an open-ended and standing invitation to all special procedures; and more specifically respond positively to the requests for visits by the Special Rapporteurs on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and on the right to education, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, and the Special Rapporteurs on torture and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (Spain);

R - 7. Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);

- R - 8. Issue a standing invitation for all special procedures and respond positively to all outstanding invitations (Slovenia);
- R - 9. Extend a standing invitation to all United Nations special procedures mandateholders (Ireland);
- R - 10. Issue a standing invitation to all United Nations special procedures and respond favourably to all outstanding requests (Canada);
- R - 11. Issue a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and in particular accept a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, which has already been requested twice (Poland);
- R - 12. Agree to the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression (Australia);
- R - 13. Allow for greater humanitarian access to the Ogaden so that organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and United Nations relief agencies can provide assistance to victims of conflict (United States);
- R - 14. Give favourable consideration to prohibit the death penalty and corporal punishment in the Constitution and Ethiopian legislation in the area of the right to life (Mexico);
- R - 15. Abolish the death penalty (Spain);
- R - 16. Amend the related legislation to establish an immediate moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing capital punishment generally in line with the General Assembly resolutions 62/149 and 63/168 as well as ICCPR-OP 2 (Slovakia);
- R - 17. Commute the pending death sentences to imprisonment terms (Slovakia);
- R - 18. Undertake credible and independent investigations of alleged human rights violations in the Somali Region (United Kingdom);
- R - 19. Authorise the launching of an independent international inquiry on the allegations on the violations of human rights in the Somali region since 2007, and bring those responsible to justice (Switzerland);
- R - 20. Take effective measures, in line with the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to protect all children from torture, cruel and degrading treatment, particularly from members of the military (Germany);
- R - 21. Strengthen the human rights education and training of military forces and police, prison and judicial staff, and ensure their accountability for any violations of human rights, in particular for violence or sexual violence against women, children and persons of minority sexual orientation or gender identity (Czech Republic);
- R - 22. Decriminalize consensual same-sex activity between adults (Czech Republic);
- R - 23. Amend the provisions of the 2009 Charities and Societies Proclamation inconsistent with international human rights standards, including with respect to freedom of expression, association and assembly (Canada);
- R - 24. Allow exceptions to the Charities and Societies Proclamation to better enable NGOs, including those working on human rights, to receive funding and to operate effectively (United Kingdom);
- R - 25. Repeal the Proclamation for Registration of Charities and Societies and promote the development of an independent, transparent, and effective civil society and human rights community (United States);
- R - 26. Amend the Proclamation for the Registration and Regulation of Charities and Societies so as to bring it into conformity with international human rights standards (Netherlands);

R - 27. Avoid requiring re-registration of civil society organizations (Norway);

R - 28. Release imprisoned opposition party members and allow their full participation in the 2010 elections (Canada);

R - 29. Encourage the development of integrationist multiracial organizations, including political parties, in line with ICERD and in accordance with a previous recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Germany);

R - 30. Conduct a review to examine the ethnic balance in government and develop diversification strategies to comply with the tenets set forth in its ethnic federalism policies (United States);

R - 31. Consider ways to depoliticize ethnicity and promote policies of inclusion (Brazil);

R - 32. Amend the Anti-Terrorism Proclamation with a view to bringing this Proclamation into conformity with international human rights standards and narrow the definition of terrorism used (Netherlands);

Notes

1 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: receive the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council in Ethiopia (Norway).

2 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: enact specific legislation to combat violence, in particular sexual violence against women and children (Austria).

Disclaimer: This classification is not official and is based on United Nations documents and webcast. For questions, comments and/or corrections, please write to info@upr-info.org