

Recommendations & Pledges

GHANA

Second Review Session 14

Review in the Working Group: 23 October 2012
Adoption in the Plenary: 14 March 2013

Ghana's responses to recommendations (as of 21.05.2013):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
123 recs accepted (9 of which were considered as already implemented and 91 of which were considered as in the process of implementation) and 25 rejected	No addendum	No additional information provided	Accepted: 123 Rejected: 25 No clear position: 0 Pending: 0 Total: 148

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/22/6:

123. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below enjoy the support of Ghana:

A - 123.1. Expedite the ratification of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the child (CRC) (India);

A - 123.2. Ratify the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on the

involvement of children in armed conflict (OP-CRC-AC), and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (OP-CRC-SC) (Sudan);

A - 123.3. Ratify OP-CRC-AC and OP-CRC-SC (Greece);

A - 123.4. Consider early ratification of the newest OP to CRC on a communications procedure (Slovakia);

A - 123.5. Consider ratifying the Palermo Protocol supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Philippines);

A - 123.6. Consider ratifying ILO Convention 189 (2011) concerning decent work for domestic workers (Philippines);

A - 123.7. Ratify before the end of the third UPR cycle those Conventions to which Ghana is a signatory (Hungary);

A - 123.8. Put to an early referendum all recommendations of the Constitutional Review Commission approved by the Government that require changes to the Constitution, including the removal of the death penalty (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 123.9. Integrate into its domestic law the various international human rights instruments to which it is a party (Chad);

A - 123.10. Implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women from 2006 to bring article 7 of the Constitution and section 10 of the Citizenship Act in line with article 9 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (Slovenia);

A - 123.11. Intensify its efforts to complete the alignment of national legislation with the provisions of the Rome Statute and to expedite the process of ratification of OP-CAT (Tunisia);

A - 123.12. Develop and implement a National Action Plan for human rights, in order to framework a systematic approach to the promotion and the protection of human rights in the country (Indonesia);

A - 123.13. Give momentum to the process of completing the drafting of a National Human Rights Action Plan (NAHRAP) which would enable the country to address all human rights concerns in a comprehensive and holistic manner (Kenya);

A - 123.14. Continue its fight to promote and protect women's rights (Bangladesh);

A - 123.15. Continue its current efforts in the field of promotion and protection of women's rights (Egypt);

A - 123.16. Continue to prioritize the promotion and the protection of the rights of women (South Africa);

A - 123.17. Redouble its efforts to ensure the protection of the rights of women and children (Luxembourg);

A - 123.18. Make efforts to achieve gender equality, including through adoption of the Property Rights of Spouses Bill and the Intestate Succession Bill (Iraq);

A - 123.19. Enforce the prohibition of torture while reflecting on the condition of detention centres (Turkey);

A - 123.20. Explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home (Austria);

A - 123.21. Report back to the Working Group of the UPR on the subject of access to justice, at the next review of Ghana for the UPR (Netherlands);

A - 123.22. Accelerate necessary measures for training police personnel on the principles of human rights and the minimum treatment of prisoners and detainees according to a clear curriculum (Iraq);

A - 123.23. Carry out awareness-raising campaigns to promote the birth registration of all children, particularly those living in poverty, and adopt necessary measures to guarantee effective access to free birth registrations for new-borns (Mexico);

124. The following recommendations enjoy the support of Ghana, which considers that they are already implemented.

A - 124.1. Criminalize and punish the practice of acts of racial discrimination (Portugal);

A - 124.2. Combat discrimination, in particular against minorities and immigrants (Romania);

A - 124.3. Build on its achievement and redouble its efforts to combat police brutality through administrative and judicial sanctions against perpetrators, training and education for serving police officers, and consider including relevant human rights education materials in the cadets' training curriculum (Timor-Leste);

A - 124.4. Take measures in order to fight against impunity in torture and ill-treatment, especially in cases of police brutality and excessive use of force (France);

A - 124.5. Ensure that the fundamental legal safeguards for persons detained by the police are respected (Poland);

A - 124.6. Adopt and apply legislation that effectively improves detention conditions in prison centres and ensure the respect of judicial guarantees offered to detainees (Spain);

A - 124.7. Ensure the separation of juveniles and adults in prison cells, through, inter alia, establishing juvenile detention centres (Namibia);

A - 124.8. Take steps to prevent, and ensure accountability for, acts of violence perpetrated against individuals, including on the basis of their sexuality (Canada);

A - 124.9. Ensure that complete and impartial investigations are conducted into allegations of attacks and threats against persons based on their sexual orientation or gender identity and bring those responsible to justice in conformity with the international standards (Belgium);

125. The following recommendations enjoy the support of Ghana, which considers that they are in the process of implementation.

A - 125.1. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED), OP-CAT, OP-CRC-AC and OP-CRC-SC (Spain);

A - 125.2. Consider the ratification of CRPD, and OP-CRC-SC (Rwanda);

A - 125.3. Proceed swiftly with the ratification of OP-CAT (Estonia);

A - 125.4. Ratify and implement OP-CAT at the earliest possible date (Czech Republic);

A - 125.5. Ratify OP-CAT, and introduce human rights education for police and security forces (Australia);

A - 125.6. Complete the process of full alignment of its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and ratify the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Slovakia);

A - 125.7. Strengthen the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) through financial and human resources (Switzerland);

A - 125.8. Further strengthen CHRAJ for its compliance with the Paris Principles (Tunisia);

- A - 125.9. Effectuate the expansion of the mandate of the CHRAJ mandate (Denmark);
- A - 125.10. Accelerate the adoption of pending bills and intensify efforts in order to see more strengthened implementation of the measures decided and instruments created, including in terms of the difficult fight against harmful traditional practices, protection of children, inequality of rights between sexes, and access to justice and strengthening of its effectiveness (Cape Verde);
- A - 125.11. Take measures to ensure a proper legal framework for the Affirmative Action Policy (Bulgaria);
- A - 125.12. Develop consequential strategies to fulfil the affirmative action policies of 40 per cent of women in public decision-making processes (South Sudan);
- A - 125.13. Remain steadfast in pursuing its impressive policies towards gender equality, particularly by strengthening measures to eradicate gender-based violence (Lesotho);
- A - 125.14. Take immediate action against discrimination of women by effectively enforcing women's right to equal treatment as it is guaranteed in the Ghanaian constitution, for example, by ensuring and promoting access to education (Germany);
- A - 125.15. Designate a national mechanism for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Poland);
- A - 125.16. Ratify without delay OP-CAT and, in this context, establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture as provided by this instrument (Luxembourg);
- A - 125.17. Improve, as a matter of urgency, conditions in prisons and detention centres, in particular inmates' access to food, medical care and overcrowding (Slovakia);
- A - 125.18. Continue efforts to reduce overcrowding in the prison system and ensure that the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners are observed (Austria);
- A - 125.19. Redouble its efforts to promote and protect women's rights, including dealing with the widespread violence against women (Trinidad and Tobago);
- A - 125.20. Continue to adopt measures to investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of acts of violence against women (Chile);
- A - 125.21. Strengthen awareness-raising campaigns on the issue of violence against women, bringing perpetrators of such crimes to justice (Italy);
- A - 125.22. Undertake concrete steps in order to prevent violence against women, including domestic violence, also through awareness-raising and educational efforts (Poland);
- A - 125.23. Continue the implementation of the strategic plan regarding domestic violence, in particular violence against women and girls (Algeria);
- A - 125.24. Take all necessary legislative and practical measures to eradicate violence against women, in all its forms, and to promote gender equality (Romania);
- A - 125.25. Continue to give full attention to this most important issue (domestic violence) and to fully implement the Domestic Violence Act and its roadmap (Indonesia);
- A - 125.26. Fully implement the Domestic Violence Act and ensure the effective functioning of DOVVSU (Austria);
- A - 125.27. Abolish all discriminatory legal provisions towards women and increase its efforts in combating all forms of violence against women, including marital rape, child and other forced marriages, and female genital mutilation (Portugal);
- A - 125.28. Allocate more resources for establishing shelters for women subject to domestic violence

and provide accommodation services for girls deprived of access to education (Turkey);

A - 125.29. Intensify efforts to address gender disparities and combat violence against women including through the strengthening of law enforcement in accordance with its Domestic Violence Act as well as media and education programmes aimed at increasing public awareness and sensitivities on the rights of women (Malaysia);

A - 125.30. Further strengthen the system, including through adequate funding, to allow all victims of violence to receive protection, services including coverage of the costs of their medical examination and to eliminate long delays in court proceedings (Czech Republic);

A - 125.31. Ensure that effective and prompt investigations are carried out into all allegations of domestic violence and female genital mutilation, and that those responsible are brought to justice (Norway);

A - 125.32. Continue its efforts in the field of women's rights in order to, amongst other things, enforce the 2007 Domestic Violence Act and laws prohibiting harmful practices against women, including trokosi and female genital mutilation (Brazil);

A - 125.33. Take steps to fully implement the 2007 Domestic Violence Act, inter alia by ensuring that effective and prompt investigations are carried out for any allegations of domestic violence and female genital mutilation, and that those responsible are brought to justice (Canada);

A - 125.34. Continue to fight against female genital mutilation (Italy);

A - 125.35. Continue efforts to fight against female genital mutilation (Senegal);

A - 125.36. Step up efforts to fight female genital mutilation (Uganda);

A - 125.37. Effectively prevent and prosecute female genital mutilation (Germany);

A - 125.38. Adopt all measures, as a matter of priority, to eliminate female genital mutilation (Greece);

A - 125.39. Establish awareness campaigns on the prohibition of harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation and Trokosi (Switzerland);

A - 125.40. Intensify measures to prevent and combat harmful traditional practices, including female genital mutilation, which occur especially in rural areas, and to investigate such acts in order to prosecute and punish the perpetrators (Uruguay);

A - 125.41. Close as soon as possible the witch camps (Switzerland);

A - 125.42. Take all possible measures to abolish the practice of witch camps (Denmark);

A - 125.43. Exert all efforts to ensure traditional practices are compatible with human rights obligations, including female genital mutilation, through enhancing the enforceability of relevant laws in a proper way (Republic of Korea);

A - 125.44. Monitor the customary law to ensure that traditional practices be aligned with its obligations in the area of human rights, especially with the provisions of international instruments to which Ghana is a State party (Uruguay);

A - 125.45. Intensify its efforts against harmful traditional practices and in favour of living conditions in prisons and psychiatric hospitals (Tunisia);

A - 125.46. Step up its efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and protect and assist trafficked victims (Philippines);

A - 125.47. Prevent and combat trafficking in human beings, by protecting victims and ensuring their access to medical, social, legal and counselling services; by ensuring adequate conditions for the victims to make complaints; and by conducting investigations and punishing those responsible

(Kyrgyzstan);

A - 125.48. Enhance the prevention of and combat trafficking in human beings, including internal and cross-border trafficking of women and children for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labour, by inter alia implementing anti-trafficking legislation, protecting victims and offering necessary help and assistance (Poland);

A - 125.49. Take all necessary measures for the prevention and combating of child trafficking, and for the provision of effective remedies for victims (Republic of Korea);

A - 125.50. Prohibit all forms of corporal punishment of children and ratify the three Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Portugal);

A - 125.51. Take urgent measures to eradicate child labour and child trafficking (Spain);

A - 125.52. Fully implement the Ghana Child Labour Monitoring System and link these efforts with programmes to promote remediation and ensure adequate resources for the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit for the pursuit of prosecutions (United States of America);

A - 125.53. Implement more effectively the legal framework prohibiting child labour (Italy);

A - 125.54. Take necessary measures that would reduce, at the first stage, the widespread use of child labour (Turkey);

A - 125.55. Continue its combat against the use of child labour, especially in the mining industry and cocoa production, including implementation of measures on their rehabilitation, reintegration and education (Thailand);

A - 125.56. Identify and implement best practices to combat child labour in violation of international standards in the fishing industry on Lake Volta (United States of America);

A - 125.57. Strengthen legal advice and assistance for people in need (Germany);

A - 125.58. Continue ensuring that all detainees have access to a lawyer of their choice, including through the implementation of an enhanced legal aid system that reaches all regions (Palestine);

A - 125.59. Fully implement the 2003 law on juvenile justice (Algeria);

A - 125.60. Intensify its efforts to address the problem of birth registration since lack of birth registration makes children born in poor families vulnerable to other human rights violations, including human trafficking (Botswana);

A - 125.61. Continue the efforts to improve the birth registration figures, having in mind that considerable improvement has already been achieved, as birth registration increased from around 30 per cent in 2000 to over 60 per cent in 2010 (Brazil);

A - 125.62. Amend the Right to Information Bill in line with the recommendations made by CHRAJ (Austria);

A - 125.63. Take immediate steps toward the adoption of the freedom of information Bill, building on its efforts to improve good governance, accountability and transparency (Canada);

A - 125.64. Continue to promote its socio-economic development by reducing poverty, and increasing inputs into health care and education (China);

A - 125.65. Redouble its efforts to reduce unemployment and poverty, thereby ensuring that each and every Ghanaian can benefit from the fruits of the country's impressive economic growth (Trinidad and Tobago);

A - 125.66. Continue redistributing income from petroleum exports to improve the well-being of its population, including construction of basic infrastructure and housing for low-income population as

well as public health programmes (Thailand);

A - 125.67. Continue efforts to improve the mental health sector and combat maternal mortality (Djibouti);

A - 125.68. Continue efforts to provide access to health care to all the population under a health insurance system at the national level (Djibouti);

A - 125.69. Continue to implement programmes and measures to prevent and combat HIV/AIDS (Cuba);

A - 125.70. Continue to implement the HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment programmes to further reduce the prevalence (Singapore);

A - 125.71. Further increase efforts to reduce infections and to combat discrimination against persons infected with HIV/AIDS (Greece);

A - 125.72. Prioritize the expansion of the successful HIV/AIDS Technical Support Units to all regions which do not have them in place (South Africa);

A - 125.73. Avail itself of additional funds for HIV/AIDS programmes, thereby encouraging the international community to match the funds in the fight against the HIV/AIDS epidemic (South Sudan);

A - 125.74. Continue, in assistance with development partners and civil society, its fight against HIV and AIDS through advocacy, joint planning, monitoring and evaluation, for the eventual elimination of the disease (Bangladesh);

A - 125.75. Ensure the realization, without discrimination, of the right to education for all (Portugal);

A - 125.76. Continue to place emphasis on promoting universal access to education and improving the quality of its education system (Singapore);

A - 125.77. Take the necessary steps to more effectively enforce compulsory education regulations, thus ensuring that equal access to education is a reality in all parts of the country (Hungary);

A - 125.78. Continue with its efforts in enhancing girls' access to primary, secondary and tertiary education (Sri Lanka);

A - 125.79. Make further efforts to increase girls' enrolment in school, as well as awareness-raising in society regarding the importance of girls' education (Sudan);

A - 125.80. Protect the rights of its most vulnerable children and ensure their full participation in education (Estonia);

A - 125.81. Continue its efforts to increase the national net enrolment rate for compulsory and free basic education and to further improve the quality of education being received by Ghanaian children in school, in line with the observations made by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (Bulgaria);

A - 125.82. Consolidate its efforts in the implementation of its national priorities, including in the spheres of education, health and social services (Zimbabwe);

A - 125.83. Continue to implement socio-economic development strategies, particularly policies to try and guarantee quality education and health services for all the population (Cuba);

A - 125.84. Speed up its implementation of the 2006 Persons with Disability Act (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 125.85. Strengthen the promotion and the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (Senegal);

A - 125.86. Adopt programmes to sensitize and encourage the community for positive engagement with persons with disabilities, and ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) (Sudan);

A - 125.87. Improve its domestic legal framework on the rights of persons with disabilities in line with the provisions of the relevant international convention (Italy);

A - 125.88. Urgently strengthen efforts to reform policy so as to improve the lives of Ghanaians with disabilities in practice (Australia);

A - 125.89. Undertake effectively policy measures and develop the necessary infrastructure to address issues concerning the rights of persons with disabilities (Malaysia);

A - 125.90. Roll out the necessary measures for the oversight of activities of psychiatric hospitals and prayer camps in conformity with CRPD (Mexico);

A - 125.91. Continue its constructive engagement with the international community, particularly its development partners, allowing Ghana to pursue other measures to improve the welfare of its people and advance human rights (Philippines);

126. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Ghana.

R - 126.1. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (ICCPR- OP2) (Australia, Spain, Rwanda);

R - 126.2. Ratify ICCPR-OP2, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Switzerland);

R - 126.3. Impose an immediate official moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing capital punishment entirely as recommended by the Constitution Review Commission, while commuting the existing sentences to life imprisonment terms (Slovakia);

R - 126.4. Abolish the death penalty (Greece);

R - 126.5. Abolish de jure the death penalty (Spain);

R - 126.6. Consider abolishing the death penalty (Slovenia);

R - 126.7. Consider abolishing the death penalty or formalize the current de facto moratorium (Chile);

R - 126.8. Consider abolishing the death penalty or formalizing the current de facto moratorium (Mexico);

R - 126.9. Consider abolishing the death penalty or establish an official moratorium on its use (Namibia);

R - 126.10. Take the necessary steps with a view to formally abolishing the death penalty (Turkey);

R - 126.11. Continue the current practice of granting clemency and commuting death sentences, and establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its final abolition (Germany);

R - 126.12. Abolish by law the death penalty and consider ratifying ICCPR-OP2 (France);

R - 126.13. Adopt a formal moratorium on the application of the death penalty, while it awaits de jure abolition (Belgium);

R - 126.14. Ratify ICCPR-OP2, and formalize, in the meantime, the current de facto moratorium on the death penalty (Uruguay);

R - 126.15. Take the necessary measures to remove the death penalty from existing laws and sign and ratify ICCPR-OP2 aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Norway);

R - 126.16. Decriminalize same-sex relations between consenting adults (France);

R - 126.17. Decriminalize sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex (Slovenia);

R - 126.18. Decriminalize sexual activities between consenting adults and raise further awareness to promote tolerance in this area (Czech Republic);

R - 126.19. Consider taking effective measures to combat the climate of homophobia (Slovenia);

R - 126.20. Adopt measures and take steps aimed at raising public awareness to fight against the climate of homophobia that prevails in the country (Belgium);

R - 126.21. Adopt proactive measures at all levels to combat violence, stigmatization and discrimination towards persons on the basis of their sexual orientation (Portugal);

R - 126.22. Eliminate the type of crime of “unnatural sexual relations”, and adopt measures to eradicate discrimination motivated by sexual orientation and gender identity (Spain);

R - 126.23. Ensure that the provisions in the Constitution that guarantee equality and dignity are equally applied to members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community and ensure thorough and impartial investigation into all allegations of attacks and threats against individuals targeted because of their sexual orientation or gender identity (Norway);

R - 126.24. Consider the report of the High Commissioner on sexual orientation and gender identity and determine which of the recommendations can be taken into account in the further detailing of government policies (Netherlands);

R - 126.25. Train police, first responders, justice system and social services officials to respect and fully protect all human rights of every Ghanaian, including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (United States of America);

127. The above recommendations from 126.1. to 126.15. cannot enjoy the support of Ghana until the referendum on the Constitution takes place.

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