

Responses to Recommendations

GHANA

Review in the Working Group: 5 May 2008

Adoption in the Plenary: 11 June 2008

Ghana's responses to recommendations (as of 25.02.2010):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Recommendations pending responses:	Summary:
22 REC accepted; 13 pending	No addendum	1 REC accepted; 2 rejected; 6 were commented but no clear position was given and 4 pending	4 REC	Accepted: 23 Rejected: 2 No clear position: 6 Pending: 4

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/8/36:

“68. In the course of the discussion, the following recommendations were made to Ghana:

1. To take the necessary measures in order to reinforce the campaign against discriminatory practices and violence against women (France); to strengthen its efforts in protecting women's rights (Switzerland) and to take further steps to address discrimination against women and vulnerable groups, including children (United Kingdom); to take proactive measures to ensure the equality of women in all matters related to property inheritance (Hungary) and call for the international community to provide full technical and financial support as a way of improving the national machinery for the advancement of women (Algeria);

2. To strengthen the funding for implementation (Czech Republic) and to effectively implement the 2007 Domestic Violence Act and strengthen the funding and improve the functioning of the Domestic Violence and Victim Support Units within the Police Service (Italy);

3. To adopt necessary steps to ensure that victims of violence are not obliged to pay costs of their medical examination and that trials of alleged perpetrators take place in due time to avoid their release in accordance with Art. 14 (4) of the Constitution, which may amount to impunity of perpetrators (Czech Republic);

4. To further strengthen judicial structures, adopt measures against corruption in the judiciary and introduce more education and training for police, courts and social services to ensure their effective and appropriate reaction to all cases of domestic as well as other kinds of violence against women (Czech Republic); to complete the reform of the judicial system (Switzerland);
5. To adopt legislative and other necessary measures including awareness-raising campaigns against harmful traditional practices and stereotypes (Czech Republic); to continue to eradicate cultural practices that violated the rights of women and girls (Mexico); to introduce measures to eliminate or modify customs and harmful traditional practices that discriminate against women, eliminate FGM, put an end to harmful widowhood rites and implement protective measures for this group in relation to eviction and inheritance, and halt the practice of trokosi (Canada); to establish and implement concrete measures in conformity with CEDAW to modify and eliminate customs and cultural and harmful traditional practices that discriminate against women (Slovenia); to take necessary measures to ensure that the prohibition of FGM has the desired effect on the ground (Ireland); to adopt concrete grassroots programmes to sensitize communities to abolish cultural practices which violate the human rights, life and dignity of women and young girls (Austria);
6. To strengthen its efforts to fully implement the recommendations adopted by the CRC and to prohibit all forms of violence against children (Finland); to take further measures to implement the overarching and setting-specific recommendations of the UN Study on violence against children (Finland); to take the necessary measures to prevent child abuse and neglect and investigate cases of domestic violence, ensuring that sanctions be applied to perpetrators (Italy); and to enhance its efforts in protecting children rights (Switzerland);
7. To take steps to ensure that the initial and second reports (overdue since 2001) on the implementation of measures contained in the ICCPR, as well as in the CAT are submitted in the near future (Hungary);
8. To consider favourably the request of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education and to allow the SR to visit the country (Hungary);
9. To remove impediments women may face in gaining access to justice and take special measures, in collaboration with the CHRAJ, to enhance women's awareness of their rights, and legal literacy to claim their rights (Hungary); to inform the general public on their rights and how to gain access to justice (The Netherlands); and to expand the legal aid services, in particular to rural areas (Austria);
10. To take steps to address problems related to high illiteracy rates in certain parts of the country, as well as the gender gap between boys and girls in secondary and tertiary education (Hungary); and to continue to give increased attention to the gender gap between girls and boys in their advancement at all levels of education (Algeria);
11. To take action in order to provide for effective education programmes with regard to HIV/AIDS prevention (Romania) and to expand coverage and access to services that prevent transmission of HIV from mother to child (Ireland);
12. To ratify the Convention on the Protection of Persons with Disabilities (Mexico);
13. To ratify the Optional Protocol on the Convention Against Torture (OP-CAT) (Mexico) and to do so as soon as possible (United Kingdom, Netherlands);
14. To continue improving economic, social and cultural rights (Cuba);
15. To take further action to combat corruption (Canada), especially in the public sector (Austria);
16. To share its experiences, inter alia, regarding the African Peer Review Mechanism and the National Reconciliation Commission (Switzerland);
17. To intensify necessary measures to combat and sanction police brutalities (Switzerland);

18. To effectively implement measures to harmonize norms of citizenship for foreign spouses to bring these norms in line with the CEDAW in the shortest time possible (Slovenia);

19. To systematically and continuously integrate a gender perspective in the follow up process to the UPR (Slovenia);

20. To allocate more resources, including through multilateral cooperation, to enhance the implementation of its respective laws, combating impunity, and to raise human rights and rule of law awareness where needed (Portugal);

21. To further strengthen the capacities of the CHRAJ by increasing its funding and resources (Austria);

22. To include a gender perspective and a rights-based approach in the implementation of its Rent Act (right to adequate housing) with the goal of overcoming gender-based inequalities (Brazil).

69. The recommendations listed above enjoy the support of Ghana.

70. Other recommendations noted in the report in paragraphs 16, 20, 24, 30, 38, 41, 46, 50 and 54 above, will be examined by Ghana which will provide responses, if any, in due time. Both will be noted in the outcome report to be adopted by the Human Rights Council."

Paragraph 16 (Czech Republic):

P - "That Ghana's Criminal Code be amended to decriminalize sexual activity between consenting adults."

Paragraph 20 (Finland):

NC - "Abolish by law the use of corporal punishment in all settings."

Paragraph 24 (Romania):

R - "Continue upholding the rule of law, raising public awareness of human rights standards, and fighting against discrimination, in particular against minority groups, immigrants, and children with disabilities."

P - "That consideration be given to revising the Criminal Code in order to repeal the provision that criminalizes the sexual activity between consenting adults."

Paragraph 30 (Mexico):

NC - "Adopt a legal moratorium on the use of death penalty."

NC - "Ratify the Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aiming at the abolition of the death penalty."

Paragraph 38 (Canada):

A - "Pass the Freedom of Information Bill"

NC - "Remove the death penalty from its legislation and become a party to the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR aiming at abolishing the death penalty."

Paragraph 41 (Italy):

NC - "Recommended the adoption of a legal moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to abolishing capital punishment in Ghana's national legislation."

Paragraph 46 (Switzerland):

NC - "Recommended the adoption of a moratorium leading to abolition of the death penalty."

Paragraph 50 (Slovenia):

R - "Effectively implement measures aimed at eliminating polygamy and bring the norms in line with the CEDAW in the shortest time possible."

P - "Ghana's Criminal Code be amended to decriminalise sexual activity between consenting adults."

Paragraph 54 (Portugal):

P - "Recommended the Government to take next step of abolishing the death penalty in its national legislation."

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