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Universal periodic review

## Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\*

### Kuwait


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## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-fifth session from 20 to 31 January 2020. The review of Kuwait was held at the 15th meeting, on 29 January 2020. The delegation of Kuwait was headed by the Minister of Finance, Minister of State for Economic Affairs, Mariam Alaqeel. At its 17th meeting, held on 31 January 2020, the Working Group adopted the report on Kuwait.
2. On 14 January 2020, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Kuwait: Bulgaria, Namibia and Philippines.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Kuwait:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/35/KWT/1);
  - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/35/KWT/2);
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/35/KWT/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Belgium, Germany, Liechtenstein, Slovenia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Kuwait through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

## I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

### A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Minister of Finance and Acting Minister of State for Economic Affairs opened the statement of Kuwait by expressing gratitude for the Human Rights Council, OHCHR and members of the troika, among others.
6. The delegation stated that the efforts made by Kuwait in the field of various human rights had contributed to improving its ranking in the global prosperity index, from 80th in 2017 to 66th out of 149 countries in 2018.
7. The Minister explained that in order to respect its international obligations, Kuwait had established a permanent national committee under the guise of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, responsible for the preparation of reports and follow-up to recommendations relating to human rights. Furthermore, Kuwait had received visits from a number of special procedures mandate holders.
8. The Minister mentioned the visit of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, at the invitation of the Government, in February 2017.
9. The delegation highlighted the progress made by Kuwait in the field of human rights, including the development of the national development plan that set targets for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and the establishment of a political incubator at Kuwait University to promote the participation of Kuwaiti women in the political field.
10. The delegation shed light on the issuance of Law No. 8 of 2010 on the rights of persons with disabilities and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2013. Kuwait had established the Public Authority for Persons with Disabilities to be the governmental coordination authority on disability supervising the

implementation of Law No. 8 of 2010 and the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

11. In the area of health services, Kuwait had taken measures to guarantee priority in providing health services for persons with disabilities and rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities in health centres in residential areas.

12. In the employment domain, the Government had developed an employment strategy that aimed to provide training and capacity-building for persons with disabilities.

13. The Government was proceeding with clear goals to solve the issue of illegal residents. The Council of Ministers had adopted a plan to address the situation of illegal residents based on a set of principles, the most important of which were justice, equality and observance of the humanitarian and social aspects that did not violate the laws and regulations in force in the country.

14. In 2011, the Council of Ministers had adopted resolution No. 409/2011, aimed at addressing the living conditions of illegal residents, including those not registered in the central system, by facilitating access, inter alia, to free education, official documents and driving licences. Records indicated that the number of such residents prior to the invasion of 1990 amounted to 220,000, but that their numbers had then decreased to 120,000 and had further diminished to 85,000 by the end of 2018. The decrease in the number of illegal residents was the result of a long process of status modification implemented by a central authority created for the purpose in 2010.

15. In the field of contract law, Kuwait had taken steps to ensure compliance with the 19 International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions it had ratified. The Public Authority for Manpower was established to regulate the employment of more than 1.6 million individuals from 171 countries.

16. In 2015, Kuwait had adopted Law No. 68 concerning domestic labour, which sought to protect the rights of workers and delineate clearly the responsibilities of domestic workers and their employers. A centre had been established that provided shelter for women and other forms of assistance, such as legal guidance, health services and free meals.

17. Kuwait was keen to criminalize all forms of trafficking in persons in a manner consistent with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. In 2013, the Government had adopted Law No. 91, which aimed to combat trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, and included hefty penalties for the perpetrators of such crimes, as well as appropriate measures to assist and protect victims.

18. The Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies had organized several training courses for judges, prosecutors and members of the public in this field, in order to strengthen the capacity of national staff in the fight against trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants.

19. The Council of Ministers had also adopted a national strategy to prevent trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, based on a three-pronged approach: prevention, protection and international cooperation.

20. The delegation reiterated that government efforts in providing humanitarian assistance aimed at alleviating the suffering of humanity resulting from poverty, disease, hunger, natural disasters and crises resulting from wars in different regions of the world were a fundamental pillar of human rights, as stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In 2018, as many as 106 States across Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean had become beneficiaries of Kuwaiti-funded development projects in a variety of sectors, including health, education, transport and communications, water and sanitation, agriculture and irrigation, manufacturing and energy.

21. The delegation stated that Kuwait had worked in solidarity with the victims of various humanitarian crises around the world, hosting three donor conferences to support the humanitarian situation of the displaced and refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic. Kuwait

had also provided \$1.9 billion to alleviate the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and \$200 million to cover humanitarian needs in Iraq.

22. The delegation stated that its international goal was to promote and protect human rights, in compliance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to collaborate with the work of the international community to advance human rights and strengthen the work of the Working Group and the Human Rights Council.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

23. During the interactive dialogue, 122 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

24. Argentina valued the initiatives taken to comply with recommendations of the universal periodic review, despite persisting problems.

25. Qatar welcomed the establishment of the Human Rights Office and progress in child's rights and care services for the elderly.

26. Australia commended Kuwait for its efforts to resolve the legal status of the Bidoon. It noted the restrictions on public gatherings.

27. Austria encouraged Kuwait to impose a moratorium on the death penalty.

28. Azerbaijan welcomed the progress made in the implementation of recommendations from the previous review.

29. Bahamas noted efforts in the areas of children, persons with disabilities, health, education, employment and gender equality.

30. Bahrain noted progress in the protection of human rights, including those related to women, children and persons with disabilities.

31. Bangladesh noted the commitment of Kuwait to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

32. Belarus noted measures to improve national legislation and strengthen institutions to protect human rights.

33. Belgium noted the progress made in the areas of human rights since the previous review.

34. Benin noted the adoption of legislation in the area of human rights and the establishment of a committee to implement the strategy on human trafficking.

35. Bhutan commended Kuwait for the numerous efforts made in improving the human rights situation, including the adoption of various laws.

36. Botswana noted the legislative and policy developments since the previous review.

37. Brazil encouraged Kuwait to take steps towards the abolition of the death penalty and criminalizing violence against women.

38. Brunei Darussalam noted the protection of the social, economic and political rights of women and their access to health care.

39. Bulgaria noted progress in the empowerment of women and in the promotion of the rights of the child.

40. Burkina Faso invited Kuwait to increase efforts to combat violence against women and children.

41. Burundi noted measures to protect the rights of the child and persons with disabilities and the adoption of development plans aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals.

42. Cambodia commended Kuwait for its efforts towards the empowerment of women.

43. Canada commended the steps taken to enhance gender equality and improving the living and working conditions of migrant workers.

44. Chad welcomed the adoption of national strategies and policies to promote and protect human rights.
45. Chile highlighted the progress made to protect the rights of the child, persons with disabilities and combating trafficking in persons.
46. China welcomed efforts to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals into the country's development plan and to protect the rights of women and children.
47. Comoros welcomed the adoption of legislation and the implementation of a national strategy to combat trafficking in persons.
48. Côte d'Ivoire encouraged Kuwait to continue with efforts to ensure better protection of human rights.
49. Croatia welcomed the Government's commitment to cooperating with the United Nations human rights mechanisms.
50. Spain welcomed the progress achieved, especially the creation of the National Bureau for Human Rights.
51. Cyprus noted the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals into the national policies of Kuwait and the adoption of policies to combat trafficking.
52. Czechia welcomed the establishment of the National Anti-Corruption Office and progress on child protection.
53. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea commended progress in the protection of human rights through the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
54. Kuwait intervened to state that the Public Authority on Manpower was the authority in charge of regulating the labour market. The Authority had established a balance between the interest of workers and employers and worked in line with international regulations and guidelines.
55. Kuwait abided by international labour standards and ILO conventions to protect its 1.6 million workers from 171 States. In the national legislation, there was no mention of the name *kafil* or sponsor. The relationship between employers and workers was constantly being reviewed.
56. The delegation stated that law No. 68 of 2015 protected the rights of domestic workers and had been commended by the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children. The Authority had established a specialized department for domestic labour. Kuwait had some 730,000 domestic workers. Officials of the Authority had started considering complaints from domestic workers and had examined 2,485 complaints since April 2019. The authority oversaw labour legislation obligations, including those concerning domestic work.
57. In order to reinforce efforts to combat human trafficking, Kuwait had adopted law No. 91 of 2013 on human trafficking and the smuggling of immigrants. The law was in line with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols. In that light, the Council of Ministers had adopted a national strategy consisting of three main pillars: prevention, protection and partnership.
58. In the light of that measure, a committee had been established to make Kuwait free of human trafficking. The committee had recently adopted a national referral regime in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration in order to deal with human trafficking. The law was rigorous in combating this crime and provided the General Prosecutor with the powers to deal with it.
59. Concerning the personnel of its law enforcement agencies and detention centres, Kuwait had sought to benefit from the good practices adopted by others in compliance with international human rights conventions that preserve the dignity of inmates while committing to minimal standards of treatments of prisoners, including female prisoners. That approach included allowing visits by various local, regional and international organizations working in the field of human rights, chief among them the International Committee of the Red Cross,

which had conducted approximately 214 visits to various prisons and detention centres nationwide between 2016 and 2019.

60. Denmark commended the commitment of Kuwait to working with United Nations mechanisms and noted the steps to promote women's rights.

61. Djibouti expressed appreciation for the adoption of legislation on employment, persons with disabilities and the protection of the environment.

62. The Dominican Republic thanked Kuwait for its presentation.

63. Ecuador recognized progress made to implement the national development plan to eradicate discrimination against women.

64. Egypt commended the adoption of legislation to protect human rights and the respect for the country's international commitments.

65. Eritrea commended efforts to promote gender equality and encouraged Kuwait to provide women with the right to guardianship and custody over their children.

66. Ethiopia commended harmonization of the Sustainable Development Goals with the medium-term development plan and provision of free basic medical services to women.

67. Fiji commended the women's empowerment agenda and the voluntary pledge towards a comprehensive national human rights plan.

68. France applauded the progress on human rights.

69. Gabon praised the commitment of Kuwait to aligning its national development plan with the Sustainable Development Goals and encouraged it to continue in that direction.

70. Georgia appreciated the efforts to harmonize Sustainable Development Goals with the national development plan and its goal of eradicating discrimination against women.

71. Germany commended the completion by Kuwait of membership of the Security Council and its cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms.

72. Ghana commended the human rights department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the family insurance fund of the Ministry of Justice.

73. Greece welcomed the participation of women in the Government and the efforts on child protection and the eradication of child labour.

74. Guyana congratulated efforts to align the Sustainable Development Goals with "Kuwait Vision 2035" and human rights training for public sector workers.

75. Honduras congratulated Kuwait on the adoption of the national strategy to combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling in 2018.

76. Iceland made a number of recommendations.

77. India appreciated the steps taken to empower women, combat human trafficking and promote the rights of migrant workers.

78. Indonesia welcomed the establishment of the National Bureau for Human Rights and domestic legislation on migrant workers.

79. The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomed the ratification of human rights instruments, cooperation with United Nations mechanisms and measures to combat human trafficking.

80. Iraq welcomed the laws adopted on women's rights, family and participation in public life.

81. Ireland urged Kuwait to establish the National Bureau for Human Rights in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles) and implement a moratorium on the death penalty.

82. The delegation of Kuwait intervened to state that, since the Government had officially adopted the Sustainable Development Goals, a decision had been taken to include the Goals in the second development plan for the period 2015–2020. Numerous achievements had been

made regarding the Sustainable Development Goals, thus contributing to the promotion of human rights in Kuwait. For instance, the country had adopted many political pillars for comprehensive and integrated economic and social development, leading to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals on human rights, among which were the reduction of poverty, the total elimination of hunger, the provision of grants for international cooperation and the provision of free education from kindergarten to university.

83. The delegation also stated that, concerning the independence of the judiciary, the constitution guaranteed full independence for the judicial authorities. The judiciary had full technical competencies, including the assessment of evidence without interference. In addition, law No. 23 of 1990 regulating the judicial authorities granted judges a number of safeguards and immunities. According to the Constitution, Kuwait had a Supreme Judicial Council charged with administering the affairs of judges, which had full jurisdiction on the appointments of judges and prosecutors. Law No. 23 did not give the Supreme Council any authority to interfere in cases of the Office of the Prosecutor or the courts. The Council was comprised of senior judges and the Attorney General, as well as the representative of the Ministry of Justice, who may attend but not take part in decision-making.

84. Italy appreciated the efforts made since the previous cycle of the universal periodic review.

85. Japan appreciated the steps taken concerning the rights of people with disabilities, including the measures promoting employment in the private sector.

86. Jordan commended the openness of Kuwait to international mechanisms and the adoption of relevant laws and policies on human rights.

87. Kenya acknowledged the adoption of legal, institutional and policy human rights measures.

88. Kyrgyzstan welcomed institutional measures related to the rights of children, persons with disabilities, women and family issues.

89. The Lao People's Democratic Republic welcomed measures related to the rights of women and children and to harmonizing the Sustainable Development Goals with development plans for 2035.

90. Lebanon acknowledged the efforts of Kuwait to consolidate the rule of law and strengthen fundamental freedoms.

91. Lesotho applauded alignment of the country's policies and strategies with the Sustainable Development Goals and its reporting record to the treaty bodies.

92. Libya welcomed the adoption of policies and strategies to promote fundamental freedoms and policies consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals.

93. Malaysia appreciated efforts to integrate Sustainable Development Goals into the national development plans and the awareness-raising measures for the police and security services.

94. Maldives welcomed the ratification of many instruments and training and educational programmes.

95. Malta made recommendations.

96. Mauritania welcomed legislative and institutional measures to protect human rights and strengthen national human rights mechanisms.

97. Mauritius recognized the efforts of Kuwait to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the legislative amendments, initiatives and programmes to implement the recommendations of the universal periodic review.

98. Mexico acknowledged the legislation and programmes aimed at improving the rights of persons with disabilities.

99. Mongolia welcomed Act No. 109 of 2014 and the measures taken regarding the rights of children, persons with disabilities, education and trafficking in persons.

100. Montenegro welcomed the establishment of the Supreme National Committee. It urged Kuwait to investigate child labour and punish the perpetrators.
101. Morocco welcomed the national policies and strategies aimed at promoting fundamental freedoms and bringing them into line with the Sustainable Development Goals.
102. Mozambique welcomed the allocation by Kuwait of 0.7 of gross national product to development aid and awareness-raising of the rights of foreign workers.
103. Myanmar commended the review of legislation regarding women's rights and the introduction of standard contracts for migrant workers.
104. Namibia was pleased with the country's reporting record to the treaty bodies and efforts regarding the rights of women and children.
105. Nepal welcomed the adoption of Kuwait Vision 2035, progress regarding health care and measures regarding domestic workers.
106. Netherlands welcomed the amended law of military service but remained concerned at the situation of vulnerable groups.
107. The Niger welcomed progress on child rights, the fight against corruption and trafficking, and the establishment of the Human Rights Office.
108. Nigeria took positive note of the efforts in support of women's empowerment and the protection of vulnerable groups.
109. The Republic of North Macedonia remained concerned about gender discrimination and reported infringements of freedom of opinion and expression.
110. Norway noted positive reforms protecting guest workers, while expressing concern about the implementation of new legislation on workers' rights.
111. Oman praised the development of strategies and programmes to meet the country's human rights targets.
112. Pakistan appreciated women's enhanced role in decision-making and the commitment to protect the rights of persons with disabilities.
113. Philippines noted with appreciation policy measures to advance the rights of children and persons with disabilities.
114. Portugal welcomed new legislation to eliminate child labour and the establishment of the Human Rights Office.
115. Armenia noted the initiatives to protect the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and workers.
116. Republic of Korea welcomed developments concerning the rights of migrant workers, women and persons with disabilities.
117. Romania commended progress in child protection, combating corruption, implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and an integrated approach to human rights.
118. The Russian Federation commended efforts made towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and combating discrimination against women.
119. Saudi Arabia took note of efforts deployed to promote and protect human rights.
120. Senegal acknowledged the adoption of legal and institutional measures in support of gender equality.
121. Serbia commended the country's collaboration with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, and legislation on the rights of working women.
122. Sierra Leone welcomed reforms regarding labour laws, including a law on domestic workers extending labour protections.



123. Singapore commended efforts to realize Sustainable Development Goal 5 on gender equality, through collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.
124. Slovakia presented recommendations.
125. Slovenia welcomed the Private Sector Employment Act safeguarding working women's rights and encouraged Kuwait to adopt a law on equality.
126. Somalia noted the commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights.
127. South Sudan appreciated the Government's efforts to promote and protect human rights.
128. Cuba noted that the national report referred to various initiatives and policies to promote the rights of women.
129. Sri Lanka commended the efforts to create conditions for women to obtain their rights and to grant greater protection to migrant workers.
130. The State of Palestine noted the efforts to combat human trafficking and protect the rights to health.
131. The Sudan commended efforts in cooperating with the Human Rights Council and accepting the recommendations from the previous cycle of the universal periodic review.
132. The Syrian Arab Republic commended efforts to implement recommendations from the previous cycle of the universal periodic review.
133. Tajikistan noted the country's commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights through domestic laws and international obligations.
134. Thailand welcomed efforts to empower women and improve the rights of migrant workers, including through the 2015 Domestic Workers Act.
135. Timor-Leste appreciated measures to counter trafficking in persons and the adoption of Law No. 68 on domestic workers.
136. Togo welcomed the progress made by Kuwait, in particular the 2015 Law on Domestic Workers, and encouraged it to continue its efforts.
137. Tunisia commended the national programmes on the empowerment of women, on the development of education and on enforcing the rights of persons with disabilities.
138. Turkey welcomed the laws to safeguard the rights of working women and the initiatives to improve the conditions of migrant workers.
139. Turkmenistan welcomed the human rights policies in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and the project with OHCHR on human rights.
140. Ukraine commended the cooperation with the special procedures and the steps taken to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities.
141. The United Arab Emirates thanked Kuwait for the detailed report demonstrating the progress made in protecting human rights.
142. The United Kingdom recognized progress in the conditions of domestic workers but was concerned at the continued use of the *kafalah* system.
143. The United States welcomed the steps taken by Kuwait to hold accountable security officials who committed abuses.
144. The delegation of Kuwait intervened to state that it had hosted the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities at the end of 2018. The delegation stated that the Special Rapporteur had commended Kuwait for improving the situation of all persons with disabilities and had called for efforts to be stepped up and capacities improved to make interventions in that field sustainable. The Government had amended the law to bolster and develop the rights of persons with disabilities. A draft amendment had been presented to the *Umma* Council in order to amend the definition of persons with disabilities and bring it into line with international conventions.

145. The delegation further stated that the law guaranteeing the rights of persons with disabilities also guaranteed all services and benefits to non-citizens. Disabled persons who were non-Kuwaitis could receive identity documents and medical care pursuant to Law No. 8 of 2010. Kuwaiti women married to non-Kuwaitis could receive housing that met the basic conditions of well-being. Kuwait had also organized a number of publicity and media campaigns to promote the integration of persons with disabilities into society. The Office for Persons with Disabilities had launched a manual with a view to correcting erroneous terminology concerning persons with disabilities and had published a national code on accessibility and a national framework on facilitating Internet access for persons with disabilities.

146. Uruguay noted with concern that seven persons were executed in 2017, ending four years of a de facto moratorium on the death penalty.

147. Uzbekistan noted that Kuwait had taken a number of legislative, institutional and administrative measures to ensure the protection and promotion of human rights.

148. Venezuela commended the efforts of Kuwait to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and their programmes for the empowerment of women.

149. Viet Nam highlighted the ongoing national efforts of Kuwait to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

150. Yemen welcomed the generous humanitarian and development assistance provided by Kuwait for the sake of peace.

151. Zambia welcomed the delegation of Kuwait and commended the national report and the update provided.

152. Zimbabwe noted that Kuwait had implemented policies and strategies aimed at protecting the human rights of its citizens.

153. Afghanistan commended the enforcement of the Domestic Workers Act and other reforms in line with ILO conventions.

154. Albania commended the ratification by Kuwait of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

155. Algeria commended Kuwait for ratifying various international conventions and its promotion of a human rights framework.

156. The delegation of Kuwait concluded their statements by reiterating the country's commitment to the universal periodic review and the promotion and protection of human rights and international mechanisms. The universal periodic review mechanism was an opportunity to help States improve and enhance their compliance under international human rights law.

## **II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

**157. The following recommendations will be examined by Kuwait, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council.**

**157.1 Ratify the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro) (Slovenia);**

**157.2 Ratify the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (France);**

**157.3 Accede to the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Togo);**

**157.4 Accede to the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Croatia);**

- 157.5 **Abolish the death penalty and ratify the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Iceland) (Portugal);**
- 157.6 **Abolish the death penalty, establish a moratorium on all pending executions and ratify the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Slovakia);**
- 157.7 **Establish a moratorium on executions and consider ratifying the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Uruguay);**
- 157.8 **Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to ratifying the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);**
- 157.9 **Consider abolishing the death penalty and accede to the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Malta);**
- 157.10 **Consider acceding to the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Mongolia);**
- 157.11 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile) (Togo) (Afghanistan) (Denmark) (Honduras);**
- 157.12 **Ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention against Torture and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Portugal);**
- 157.13 **Consider ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ukraine);**
- 157.14 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Albania) (Ghana);**
- 157.15 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Slovakia);**
- 157.16 **Accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and put in place a transparent process that addresses the concerns of the Bidoon people (Ireland);**
- 157.17 **Ensure implementation of the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (Ukraine);**
- 157.18 **Further strengthen efforts to ensure the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Indonesia);**
- 157.19 **Continue cooperation programmes with the International Labour Organization (Ukraine);**
- 157.20 **Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 157.21 **Further strengthen technical cooperation with OHCHR and other mechanisms and support for the human rights funds (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 157.22 **Support international relief efforts and support the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Algeria);**
- 157.23 **Strengthen cooperation with human rights mechanisms, especially with special procedures mandate holders (Ecuador);**

- 157.24 Continue its human rights policies in cooperation with the various State authorities (Egypt);
- 157.25 Continue active cooperation with human rights mechanisms (Azerbaijan);
- 157.26 Continue to provide support to the United Nations and its specialized agencies that provide humanitarian assistance, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Iraq);
- 157.27 Continue to support international humanitarian organizations (Libya);
- 157.28 Continue working on submitting periodic reports in accordance with the human rights conventions (Bahrain);
- 157.29 Continue the ongoing review of national laws to ensure that they are in line with the international human rights instruments (Bangladesh);
- 157.30 Continue cooperation with the United Nations and its mechanisms in the area of technical training on human rights (Oman);
- 157.31 Continue with accession, ratification and implementation of the international human rights instruments in close collaboration with OHCHR and other United Nations bodies (Armenia);
- 157.32 Consider withdrawing interpretive declarations and reservations to several international instruments in line with the proposals by the international human rights treaty bodies (Armenia);
- 157.33 Continue efforts to strengthen the relationship with OHCHR (Somalia);
- 157.34 Continue to submit State reports related to international human rights instruments on their scheduled dates (State of Palestine);
- 157.35 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sierra Leone);
- 157.36 Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Niger);
- 157.37 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Namibia);
- 157.38 Take measures to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Saudi Arabia);
- 157.39 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Croatia) (Honduras);
- 157.40 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Togo) (Burkina Faso) (Honduras) (Sri Lanka);
- 157.41 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and engage in collaboration with sending countries (Indonesia);
- 157.42 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger);
- 157.43 Consider ratifying the conventions relating to the status of refugees and stateless persons (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 157.44 Strengthen the independence of the national human rights institution (Timor-Leste);
- 157.45 Finalize the creation of the national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Tunisia);

- 157.46 Increase undertakings towards the effectiveness of the recently created governmental human rights agencies of the State of Kuwait (Turkmenistan);
- 157.47 Strengthen the independence of the national human rights institution (Ukraine);
- 157.48 Strengthen the protection of human rights nationally (United Arab Emirates);
- 157.49 Amend the 1979 Public Gatherings Act, the 2015 Cybercrime Law, and the 2006 Press and Publications Law to protect the freedoms of association, peaceful assembly and expression, and release those detained for exercising these rights (United States of America);
- 157.50 Take practical measures to increase the capacity of all national mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights (Uzbekistan);
- 157.51 Take further steps to disseminate a culture of human rights (Uzbekistan);
- 157.52 Strengthen the normative and institutional framework for the protection of human rights (Yemen);
- 157.53 Improve the monitoring of the implementation of universal periodic review recommendations through well-established and exhaustive mechanisms (Zimbabwe);
- 157.54 Further integrate a human-rights based approach into the various national development processes (Zimbabwe);
- 157.55 Develop a law prohibiting domestic violence (Albania);
- 157.56 Provide additional training in the field of human rights for the purpose of implementing recommendations received (Algeria);
- 157.57 Define as crimes domestic violence, sexual violence and marital rape, with penalties proportional to the seriousness of these offences (Chile);
- 157.58 Repeal criminal provisions that punish consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex, as well as demonstrations of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual identity (Chile);
- 157.59 Continue to support and strengthen civil society (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 157.60 Fully operationalize the national human rights institution to ensure it complies with the Paris Principles, and continue to engage meaningfully with civil society (Australia);
- 157.61 Continue efforts for legislative and institutional reform (Egypt);
- 157.62 Fully implement the Domestic Workers Act and investigate and prosecute all abuses and violence against domestic workers (Austria);
- 157.63 Abolish the provisions set out in articles 153 and 197 of the Criminal Code and create effective and independent complaint mechanisms for reporting sexual and domestic violence (Germany);
- 157.64 Take steps to ensure the full implementation of the Private Sector Employment Act No. 6 of 2010 to ensure the protection of migrants and foreign workers (Ghana);
- 157.65 Strengthen the independence of the national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Greece);
- 157.66 Amend the Printing and Publications Act, Cybercrime Act and Communication Law to bring them in line with international standards on the right to freedom of expression (Iceland);
- 157.67 Amend restrictive laws regulating the rights to association, peaceful assembly and freedom of expression, both online and offline, so that they are

fully compliant with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, particularly articles 19 and 21 (Ireland);

157.68 Intensify the programmes, activities and training for human rights issues for police and military personnel (Bahamas);

157.69 Continue strengthening national human rights mechanisms (Malaysia);

157.70 Carry out awareness-raising activities for the general public to improve their knowledge of human rights (Mauritius);

157.71 Promote regional and international cooperation in combating terrorism with respect to human rights (Bahrain);

157.72 Strengthen the role of national mechanisms and institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Bangladesh);

157.73 Strengthen the independence of the Human Rights Office and bring it in line with the Paris Principles (Portugal);

157.74 Intensify efforts to raise awareness in the area of human rights and expand human rights training programmes for public and law enforcement officials (Republic of Korea);

157.75 Share with other countries the national experience in support of and strengthening the institution of the family as a natural and fundamental group unit of society (Belarus);

157.76 Strengthen women's rights by amending the Nationality Law to ensure Kuwaiti women have equal rights with men to transmit citizenship and by beginning data collection on gender-based violence and ensuring access to justice for all victims, to include domestic workers (United States of America);

157.77 Reform the Kuwaiti nationality law of 1959 to grant women the right to pass their nationality on to their children (Denmark);

157.78 Review the personal status laws and the Nationality Act to eliminate all discrimination against women, including granting Kuwaiti women equal rights with men in passing on their nationality to their children (Austria);

157.79 Amend the Nationality Act to enable Kuwaiti women to transfer nationality to their children and spouses on an equal basis with men (Iceland); Amend the Nationality Act to guarantee that women can transmit their nationality, on an equal basis with men, to their spouses and children (Mexico);

157.80 Continue the adoption and implementation of legislative and judicial administrative measures to guarantee the welfare and rights of children, boys and girls (Cambodia);

157.81 Adopt a national workplan on the rights of children in the juvenile justice system (Chad);

157.82 Continue efforts to ensure gender equality (Sudan);

157.83 Accelerate the law reform process, by repealing or amending all discriminatory provisions relating to marriage and family relations (Timor-Leste);

157.84 Take further steps to repeal and abolish discriminatory laws, and guarantee to provide rights equally to all, in particular to women and children (Botswana);

157.85 Remove all gender-discriminatory provisions from the Nationality Law (Czechia);

157.86 Ensure equality between all citizens, both in law and in practice, regardless of gender, gender identity or sexual orientation (Australia);

- 157.87 Continue efforts to create appropriate conditions, as well as legislative and institutional mechanisms, for gender equality (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 157.88 Continue efforts deployed to promote equality between men and women (Egypt);
- 157.89 Combat discriminations against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual and intersex people and repeal provisions from the Criminal Code that criminalize consensual sexual relations between same-sex adults (France);
- 157.90 Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand anti-discrimination legislation to include prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);
- 157.91 Continue enhancing the values and principles of cultural diversity and globalization, by raising awareness through action campaigns (Kenya);
- 157.92 Continue efforts to promote gender equality (Malaysia);
- 157.93 Continue to implement legislative measures for the promotion of gender equality and non-discrimination (Nepal);
- 157.94 Guarantee personal autonomy and individual rights, as enshrined in the Constitution, by prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, as well as by allowing a medical gender change to be reflected in a person's identity documents (Netherlands);
- 157.95 Continue efforts aimed at promoting gender equality (Romania);
- 157.96 Carry out further work to ensure equality between men and women (Russian Federation);
- 157.97 Streamline ongoing programmes aimed at gender equality, particularly closing the gender gap in leadership positions, including the judiciary (Sierra Leone);
- 157.98 Continue to promote gender equality in the workplace and reduce the wage gap (Sri Lanka);
- 157.99 Step up programmes and projects to enhance the role of the family, in accordance with human rights values (Sudan);
- 157.100 Take the necessary measures to ensure humanitarian aid reaches those in need in cooperation with the Governments of the countries concerned (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 157.101 Continue measures to implement Kuwait Vision 2035 in order to reinforce human rights (Tunisia);
- 157.102 Continue granting humanitarian aid to least developed countries (United Arab Emirates);
- 157.103 Continue playing an active role regionally and internationally (United Arab Emirates);
- 157.104 Continue to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and promote socioeconomic sustainable development in order to provide a solid foundation for the people of Kuwait to enjoy all human rights (China);
- 157.105 Continue making contribution by providing support to developing countries in their efforts to improve the enjoyment of human rights (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 157.106 Strengthen the productive role championed through the Kuwait Fund for Development (Ethiopia);
- 157.107 Adopt a comprehensive, gender-responsive and disability-inclusive approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, consistent with

**the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 (Fiji);**

**157.108 Continue efforts to fulfil the seven pillars included in the development plans for 2035 (Gabon);**

**157.109 Further pursue efforts to promote sustainable economic and social development within the framework of Kuwait Vision 2035 and other national development plans (Guyana);**

**157.110 Pursue the implementation of plans to strengthen human development programmes (Jordan);**

**157.111 Continue the role of the Kuwait Fund for Development in supporting development efforts throughout the world (Jordan);**

**157.112 Maintain the international role of Kuwait as a humanitarian actor (Jordan);**

**157.113 Consider the impact of climate change on human rights in national planning and decision-making (Bahamas);**

**157.114 Scale up efforts to protect the environment (Oman);**

**157.115 Continue working on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (Russian Federation);**

**157.116 Continue efforts to implement the development strategy to achieve Kuwait Vision 2035 (Somalia);**

**157.117 Re-establish the moratorium on executions (Belgium);**

**157.118 Re-establish the de facto moratorium on the application of the death penalty (Spain); Reinstatement the moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its complete abolition (Germany);**

**157.119 Establish a moratorium on the application of the death penalty with a view to its complete abolition (France);**

**157.120 Reinstatement the de facto moratorium on the death penalty and move towards complete abolition (Denmark);**

**157.121 Abolish the death penalty (Timor-Leste);**

**157.122 Enact legislation to prevent and combat domestic and gender-based violence (Ukraine);**

**157.123 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty and advance towards the abolition of this practice (Chile);**

**157.124 Adopt measures to establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Cyprus);**

**157.125 Adopt measures to combat domestic violence (Cyprus);**

**157.126 Consider positively the reinstatement of a moratorium on executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Fiji);**

**157.127 Take further measures towards the elimination of domestic violence (Azerbaijan);**

**157.128 Consider introducing a de jure moratorium on capital executions, with a view to fully abolishing death penalty (Italy);**

**157.129 Launch awareness campaigns to put an end to all forms of domestic violence (Lesotho);**

**157.130 Incorporate in legislation the absolute prohibition of torture in all circumstances, including in regard to anti-terrorism activities, specifying that nobody can invoke a superior order to justify torture (Mexico);**



- 157.131 Consider establishing a moratorium on executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (North Macedonia);
- 157.132 Take concrete steps towards the abolition of the death penalty (Norway);
- 157.133 Consider concrete and immediate legal measures to abolish the death penalty (Romania);
- 157.134 Take proactive measures to prevent the use of torture by law enforcement agents and investigate all allegations of torture without delay (Slovakia);
- 157.135 Adopt the necessary measures to ensure that acts of torture are criminalized as offences in criminal law and punishable by penalties proportional to the seriousness of the crime, in line with the Convention against Torture (Argentina);
- 157.136 Take all necessary measures to prevent, combat and penalize domestic and gender-based violence, including sexual violence and marital rape (Argentina);
- 157.137 Strengthen legal accountability for illegal fundraising activities to support terrorist organizations (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 157.138 Share experience in the field of strengthening the judicial system with other countries and continue the training of judges on the implementation of international conventions in their verdicts (Turkey);
- 157.139 Build the capacity of judges and specialists for dealing with the vulnerable (Turkey);
- 157.140 Implement additional measures to combat domestic violence that make available mechanisms for protection, access to justice and effective reparation for victims of violence (Dominican Republic);
- 157.141 Continue to strengthen the complaints mechanisms for victims of domestic violence and ensure that all allegations of domestic violence are promptly and thoroughly investigated (Fiji);
- 157.142 Take measures to prevent arbitrary detention and abuses of State authority, including by ensuring the effective guarantee of due process and the avoidance of systematic and sustained pretrial detention (Malta);
- 157.143 Engage effectively with human rights advocates when they report procedural irregularities and due process concerns in respect of particular cases or classes of cases (Malta);
- 157.144 Ensure the implementation of decisions issued by the courts, especially the rulings related to family disputes (Malta);
- 157.145 Protect freedom of expression for all, including online, by repealing legislation that does not comply with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 157.146 Guarantee the right to freedom of expression and association for all people and especially for journalists, activists and human rights defenders (Uruguay);
- 157.147 Guarantee fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression and freedom of speech (Botswana);
- 157.148 Adopt measures to guarantee the unrestricted exercise of freedom of expression, particularly in social media (Spain);

- 157.149 Assure the compliance of relevant existing laws with international standards of freedom of expression to ensure the full protection of human rights defenders, journalists and bloggers (Czechia);
- 157.150 Amend the relevant laws on public gatherings and non-governmental organizations to guarantee the freedoms of association and peaceful assembly, in line with international standards (Czechia);
- 157.151 Determine and publish clear, objectively verifiable criteria for naturalization and provide by law judicial remedies (Austria);
- 157.152 Amend and repeal all laws and policies restricting freedom of opinion and expression, and protect human rights defenders, journalists and bloggers from persecution and harassment (Germany);
- 157.153 Take further steps to guarantee freedom of expression and of the media, as well as ensuring that journalists are free to practice in a safe and enabling environment (Greece);
- 157.154 Ensure a safe and enabling space for civil society and human rights defenders, including by ending all forms of harassment against defenders (Iceland);
- 157.155 Ensure a safe and enabling space for journalists and human rights defenders and fully guarantee the rights to freedom of expression, opinion and peaceful assembly, in line with international standards (Italy);
- 157.156 Ensure a safe and enabling environment to civil society and human rights defenders, including through the prohibition and punishment of all forms of harassment and reprisals (Mexico);
- 157.157 Continue enhancing the protection of the right to freedom of expression (Mongolia);
- 157.158 Ensure freedom of expression in all forms and take concrete steps to ensure the independence of the media, prevent censorship and promote transparency in public affairs (Norway);
- 157.159 Continue efforts to preserve freedom of religion and belief and ensure respect for all religions, in accordance with the law (Pakistan);
- 157.160 Refrain from undue restrictions on freedom of expression and harmonize communications and media legislation with internationally recognized standards (Slovakia);
- 157.161 Reinforce measures to investigate and punish cases of trafficking in persons, especially for the purpose of sexual exploitation, and those involving girls, boy and adolescents in forced labour, and guarantee assistance to victims (Ecuador);
- 157.162 Strengthen mechanisms to prevent the exploitation and abuse of migrant workers, and ensure full respect for their human rights (Ecuador);
- 157.163 Repeal the *kafalah* sponsorship system (Italy);
- 157.164 Continue to support the efforts of the United Nations to combat trafficking in persons (Libya);
- 157.165 Take further measures to investigate all cases of human trafficking for the purposes of forced labour and sexual exploitation, and prosecute and punish all perpetrators (Montenegro);
- 157.166 Strengthen measures to combat human trafficking and protect the rights of the victims (Nigeria);
- 157.167 Protect and assist all victims of trafficking, including victims of labour trafficking and domestic servitude, with full respect for their human rights (North Macedonia);

- 157.168 Continue to ensure the implementation of the national strategy on combating trafficking in persons (Philippines);
- 157.169 Continue the positive engagement with international actors to combat human trafficking (Saudi Arabia);
- 157.170 Maintain efforts to increase international cooperation in combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as well as exchanging and taking advantage of experiences and good practices in that area (Cuba);
- 157.171 Strengthen efforts to implement the national strategy to combat human trafficking (State of Palestine);
- 157.172 Establish a mechanism to protect the rights of domestic workers and impose sanctions on employers who violate the rights of their employees (Thailand);
- 157.173 Ensure all employers are aware of their obligations under Kuwaiti law concerning domestic workers, including the illegality of passport confiscation and debt bondage (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 157.174 Take measures to grant workers appropriate rights, including the freedom to change employers and leave the country (Afghanistan);
- 157.175 Ensure that the rights afforded to migrant workers are enforced for all categories of migrant workers, including domestic workers (Canada);
- 157.176 Strengthen the enforcement of provisions for the protection of foreign and domestic workers and for combating forced labour (France);
- 157.177 Take further measures to protect the rights of foreign workers, including domestic workers (Japan);
- 157.178 Continue to improve the rights of domestic workers, including mechanisms for complaints and sanctions for violations of the law (Norway);
- 157.179 Strengthen measures and mechanisms to monitor employers' compliance with the Domestic Workers Law (Philippines);
- 157.180 Redouble efforts with regard to the *kafalah* system (Spain);
- 157.181 Continue developing training programmes in the field of human rights for workers in both public and private sectors (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 157.182 Continue efforts to implement the provisions of the National Labour Code (Morocco);
- 157.183 Maintain the effectiveness of the pension system (Tajikistan);
- 157.184 Make more sustained efforts to promote economic development and raise the standard of living of the entire population of the country (Comoros);
- 157.185 Preserve the achievements and further promote the global social protection scheme (Ethiopia);
- 157.186 Continue the public housing policy by providing affordable housing to all families (Kyrgyzstan);
- 157.187 Strengthen and promote programmes aimed at supporting social policies and increase the number of beneficiaries of these policies (Morocco);
- 157.188 Continue to increase public access to quality medical services (Cambodia);
- 157.189 Continue supporting the provision of health care, especially for the benefit of women and children (Qatar);

- 157.190 Continue consolidating measures to improve the legislation on the right to health that guarantees universal access to health-care services (Dominican Republic);
- 157.191 Continue efforts to provide care for the elderly (Oman);
- 157.192 Consider establishing a mechanism to monitor the effective delivery of care services for older persons, as more people become reliant on such services (Singapore);
- 157.193 Continue to provide health care and social welfare services (State of Palestine);
- 157.194 Continue efforts to effectively disseminate a human rights culture through a training and educational programme and capacity-building activities such as those run by the Foreign Ministry (Turkmenistan);
- 157.195 Take all feasible measures to increase awareness of human rights education (Qatar);
- 157.196 Continue efforts to provide educational facilities for persons with special needs (Chad);
- 157.197 Continue efforts to enable the labour market to be linked with skilled workers and those with higher education (India);
- 157.198 Continue efforts to spread the culture of human rights through education curricula and the media (Indonesia);
- 157.199 Continue to strengthen and update legislation relating to the right to education in line with international obligations (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 157.200 Redouble efforts for the total elimination of illiteracy (Lebanon);
- 157.201 Remove all barriers preventing married women and girls from gaining access to high-quality education and ensure the inclusion of boys in instruction on family life in school (Bahamas);
- 157.202 Continue to allocate funds for the development of inclusive education, including for children of illegal residents (Lesotho);
- 157.203 Ensure equal access to inclusive and quality education for all (Malaysia);
- 157.204 Continue to promote inclusive education, in particular in rural areas (Philippines);
- 157.205 Work on the development of the education system for persons with special needs, drawing on the positive experiences of other countries (Russian Federation);
- 157.206 Continue efforts to ensure accessible education for persons with special needs (Russian Federation);
- 157.207 Strengthen action by the Government in favour of access to education (Senegal);
- 157.208 Continue to increase investment in education globally (Somalia);
- 157.209 Redouble efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 157.210 Continue efforts to empower women economically and politically (Tajikistan);
- 157.211 Address all forms of discrimination and violence against women, including by promulgating effective laws to prevent, combat and criminalize domestic and gender-based violence, simultaneously with setting up a redress mechanism for the victims (Thailand);

- 157.212 Provide further support for women's rights and women's participation in all aspects of life (Tunisia);
- 157.213 Carry out the necessary legal reforms so that Kuwaiti women can transmit their nationality to their descendants on an equal footing with men (Uruguay); Amend legislation so as to allow Kuwaiti women to pass on their nationality to their children (Cyprus);
- 157.214 Continue to strengthen the policy in favour of gender equality and the empowerment of women (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 157.215 Intensify efforts to promote the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities (Viet Nam);
- 157.216 Protect and promote the rights of women and children (Yemen);
- 157.217 Continue efforts to adopt various laws for the promotion and protection of human rights, particularly in empowering women (Bhutan);
- 157.218 Continue promoting and implementing social, economic and occupational capacity-building programmes for women in order to improve women's capabilities and foster their participation in public life (Brunei Darussalam);
- 157.219 Set up an institutional mechanism to protect women from all forms of social and domestic violence by establishing a national centre to combat domestic violence and to protect and support women (Brunei Darussalam);
- 157.220 Continue to strengthen efforts towards the achievement of equality between men and women and the empowerment of women (Bulgaria);
- 157.221 Take measures to combat all forms of discrimination against women and domestic violence (Burkina Faso);
- 157.222 Take further steps for the implementation of legislation and policies to protect women from all forms of violence, and ensure the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of domestic violence and marital rape (Canada);
- 157.223 Strengthen actions towards the elimination of discrimination against women (Canada);
- 157.224 Continue to take effective measures to better protect the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities (China);
- 157.225 Continue efforts to protect the rights of women, children and migrants (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 157.226 Prohibit domestic violence and sexual harassment against women and children and ensure that women have equality before the law (Croatia);
- 157.227 Continue advancing equality between men and women and guarantee women's equality in matters of divorce and inheritance (Spain);
- 157.228 Continue taking measures to empower women and undertaking specific actions in this regard (Cyprus);
- 157.229 Continue to promote equality between men and women by taking effective measures to increase the participation of women in political and public life (Djibouti);
- 157.230 Continue to consolidate national mechanisms that allow the greater participation and equality of women, as well as promoting and protecting the rights and well-being of women and girls (Dominican Republic);
- 157.231 Continue efforts towards equality between women and men and the fight against violence against women, by repealing article 182 of the Criminal Code and amending the Nationality Act in order to ensure gender equality in the transmission of nationality (France);

- 157.232 Publicly recognize the legitimate role of women human rights defenders and those working on women's rights (Austria);
- 157.233 Proceed with the steps aimed at combating domestic violence, including through establishing an institutional mechanism to protect women from all forms of social and domestic violence (Georgia);
- 157.234 Ensure that the ongoing review of domestic laws guarantees gender equality and the rights of women and girls (Ghana);
- 157.235 Take further measures to enhance women's participation in political life and the judiciary (Greece);
- 157.236 Continue the ongoing measures for empowering women and promoting their rights and freedoms in all spheres (India);
- 157.237 Take further measures to ensure the empowerment of women in all spheres (Azerbaijan);
- 157.238 Increase women's participation in public life, including through support to the women's associations (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 157.239 Ensure full equality between men and women and criminalize domestic violence (Italy);
- 157.240 Take further measures to protect and promote the rights of women, including those to promote women's social participation (Japan);
- 157.241 Continue efforts to ensure even greater participation by women in leadership roles (Kyrgyzstan);
- 157.242 Intensify efforts to further develop effective measures in the field of human rights, including the rights for women, children and persons with disabilities (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 157.243 Strengthen efforts for the protection of the human rights of women and children (Mauritius);
- 157.244 Continue to implement policies and programmes for combating all forms of domestic violence against women and children, including violence against domestic workers (Myanmar);
- 157.245 Amend or repeal the Personal Status Act in order to eliminate discrimination against women in areas relating to marriage and family relations (Namibia);
- 157.246 Promote the empowerment of women by supporting their civil and political rights and increase their accessibility to decision-making positions (North Macedonia);
- 157.247 Continue strengthening protective measures and legal rights for women (Norway);
- 157.248 Consider taking additional steps to further promote the participation of women in public and political life (Republic of Korea);
- 157.249 Enhance policies in favour of women and girls (Senegal);
- 157.250 Continue to implement policies and programmes for combating all forms of domestic violence against women and children, including violence against domestic workers (Serbia);
- 157.251 Continue to incorporate policies to empower women in future development plans, taking into account successes and lessons learned from previous years (Singapore);
- 157.252 Continue working to increase the representation of women in leadership and in decision-making positions (Cuba);

- 157.253 Strengthen efforts to ensure that the best interests of children are a primary consideration in all judicial proceedings where parents are involved, and especially when sentencing parents to death (Croatia);
- 157.254 Continue with efforts to further promote comprehensive protection of the rights of children (Georgia);
- 157.255 Strengthen efforts aimed at ensuring equal access to inclusive and quality education for all children, regardless of their social and legal status (Georgia);
- 157.256 Continue the commitment to the promotion and protection of the rights and interests of children (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 157.257 Raise the minimum legal age for marriage to 18 years (Italy);
- 157.258 Continue actions between institutions to address the human rights of children (Kenya);
- 157.259 Continue to strengthen coordination between the institutions addressing issues related to children's rights (Maldives);
- 157.260 Continue efforts relating to children's rights (Bahrain);
- 157.261 Continue promoting the rights of children and their protection (Saudi Arabia);
- 157.262 Adopt a national workplan for children's rights in the juvenile justice system (South Sudan);
- 157.263 Pursue stronger coordination between institutions in addressing issues related to children (South Sudan);
- 157.264 Continue to take measures to protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities and older persons (Bhutan);
- 157.265 Continue efforts to improve the living conditions of persons with disabilities (Albania);
- 157.266 Raise awareness of the importance of the introduction of inclusive education for children with disabilities in regular educational establishments (Bulgaria);
- 157.267 Intensify awareness-raising programmes to enhance community integration for persons with disabilities (Qatar);
- 157.268 Strengthen national bodies responsible for guaranteeing the rights of persons with disabilities and promote their full integration into society (Djibouti);
- 157.269 Intensify efforts for the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, including ensuring inclusive education for children with disabilities (India);
- 157.270 Create partnerships with other countries to benefit from their experience in the area of caring for persons with disabilities (Iraq);
- 157.271 Continue efforts to provide special services for persons with special needs (Lebanon);
- 157.272 Continue legislative and legal measures for the rights of persons with disabilities (Myanmar);
- 157.273 Continue to undertake measures to provide medical and social support to children with disabilities (Pakistan);
- 157.274 Continue to strengthen the country's successful measures to make the labour market accessible to people with disabilities (Belarus);

- 157.275 Continue taking legislative and legal measures in the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (Serbia);
- 157.276 Continue efforts to further strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities (Sri Lanka);
- 157.277 Ensure effective legal protection for migrant workers, in particular with regard to working time, respect for a minimum wage and access to social and medical services, in accordance with international standards (Belgium);
- 157.278 Continue with the actions and initiatives aimed at the protection of vulnerable groups, in particular refugees and asylum seekers (Benin);
- 157.279 Allocate greater resources to awareness-raising programmes for foreign contract workers on their rights and duties, as well as on the laws and customs of Kuwait (Viet Nam);
- 157.280 Introduce legislation to regulate asylum proceedings in accordance with international law (Afghanistan);
- 157.281 Strengthen protection of the rights of migrant workers, particularly domestic workers, including by creating a specialized labour inspection body and criminalizing the retention of passports by employers (Brazil);
- 157.282 Continue efforts towards the protection of the rights of migrant workers (India);
- 157.283 Improve the dissemination of relevant legislation on the rights and duties of foreign workers so as to mitigate incidents that they face (Mozambique);
- 157.284 Strengthen measures to ensure access to legal protection by migrant workers (Myanmar);
- 157.285 Continue efforts to protect the rights and welfare of migrant workers, including women domestic workers, by ensuring access to remedies and complaint mechanisms (Nepal);
- 157.286 Scale up efforts in the promotion and protection of the rights of migrants and domestic workers (Nigeria);
- 157.287 Take further steps to improve the protection of the rights of migrant workers including through effective enforcement of relevant laws and policies (Philippines);
- 157.288 Take stronger and more effective measures to improve the dire conditions of migrant workers, in particular domestic ones, and to respect and promote their human rights without discrimination (Portugal);
- 157.289 Continue strengthening measures to improve the working and living conditions of migrant workers (Republic of Korea);
- 157.290 Further implement the legislative framework adopted in order to ensure the protection of migrant workers (Romania);
- 157.291 Provide access to adequate social services and education to stateless persons, the Bidoon, and process their nationality applications in accordance with international standards (Belgium);
- 157.292 Provide legal documentation and basic services to all stateless persons, including the Bidoon community (United States of America);
- 157.293 Make every effort to solve cases of statelessness, recognizing when necessary the right to acquire Kuwaiti nationality, in particular for the Bidoon population (Uruguay);
- 157.294 Intensify efforts to eradicate statelessness, through measures to accelerate the regularization of Bidoon individuals and to provide them with full access to documentation and social services (Brazil);



157.295 Ensure equal access to education, health care and employment for the Bidoon population is enshrined in legislation (Canada);

157.296 Finalize the development of and implement a comprehensive solution to the legal status of the Bidoon that conforms to international law (Australia);

157.297 Continue efforts to improve the conditions for obtaining nationality for the Bidoon (France);

157.298 Accelerate the legislative process to resolve the Bidoon issue, by granting Kuwaiti citizenship to Bidoon people, ensuring non-discriminatory access to social services, and guaranteeing that they can exercise their rights to freedom of movement, peaceful assembly, opinion and expression (Germany);

157.299 Enhance efforts to regularize the legal status of persons belonging to the Bidoon minority, ensuring that their human rights and fundamental freedoms are respected and preventing discrimination against them (Italy);

157.300 Address human rights issues deriving from statelessness (Japan);

157.301 Take actions to ensure that the rights of stateless individuals, including the Bidoon, and those of domestic migrant and foreign female workers are protected and stateless children have access to education and health care (Netherlands);

157.302 Provide full citizenship and rights for the Bidoon population (Norway).

158. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Kuwait was headed by Minister of Finance, Minister of State for Economic Affairs, H.E. Ms. Mariam ALAQEEL, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Jamal ALGHUNAIM, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the State of Kuwait to the United Nations;
  - Mr. Talal ALMUTAIRI, Assistant of the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Human Rights;
  - Major General Khaled ALDAIIN, Assistant Undersecretary of Criminal Security Affairs , Ministry of Interior, Kuwait;
  - Ms. Hanaa ALHAJERI, Secretary General, Kuwait Supreme Family Council;
  - Dr. Bader ALMUTAIRI, Assistant Undersecretary of Legal Affairs , Ministry of Education, Kuwait;
  - Mr. Mubarak ALAZMI, Deputy General Manager, Public Authority for Manpower, Sector of Protection;
  - Ms. Eman ALMUTAIRI, Under-Secretary Assistant, General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development;
  - Mr. Abdulrahman ALMUHANNA, Judge, Representative of the Judicial Authority;
  - Dr. Lubna ALKAZI, Head, Women’s Research and Studies Center, Faculty of Social Science, University of Kuwait;
  - Colonel Mohammad ALWUHAIB, Director, The Central System for the Remedy of Situations of Illegal Residents;
  - Mr. Ossama ALTHUWAIKH, Manager, Public Relations, Ministry of Justice;
  - Ms. Alkhansa ALHUSSAINI, Head, Planning and Research Department, Public Authority of the Disabled;
  - Major Abdulaziz ALBARJAS, Ministry of Interior, Kuwait;
  - Ms. Soulaf ALMESHAL, Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Committee, The Central System for the Remedy of Situations of Illegal Residents;
  - Mr. Saad Almhaini, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the United Nations in Geneva
  - Mr. Sayed ALNASER, Manager, Office of the Minister of State for Economic Affairs;
  - Ms. Abrar JERAQ, Diplomatic Attaché.
-