

Responses to Recommendations

LEBANON

Review in the Working Group: 10 November 2010
 Adoption in the Plenary: 17 March 2011

Lebanon’s responses to recommendations (as of 06.07.2011):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
69 REC accepted (among which 28 are considered as already implemented or in the process of implementation); 40 rejected; 14 pending	No addendum	The delegation stated that all the 14 pending REC were accepted but one part of a recommendation but without specifying which one. We therefore consider them all as accepted.	Accepted: 83 Rejected: 40 No clear position: 0 Pending: 0

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/16/18:

80. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Lebanon and enjoy the support of Lebanon:

- A - 80.1. Consider becoming a party to the human rights instruments it has not yet ratified. (Cote d'Ivoire);
- A - 80.2. Consider ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Mexico 4); (Turkey);
- A - 80.3. Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Algeria);
- A - 80.4. Expedite the necessary process to ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and step up its efforts to address specific needs of persons with disabilities (Thailand);
- A - 80.5. Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, signed in 2007 (Spain);
- A - 80.6. Ratify the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Diversity of the Cultural Expressions (Armenia);

A - 80.7. Consider requesting the international community all necessary aid and assistance that will allow it to better fulfill its international obligations in the domain of human rights (Cote d'Ivoire);

A - 80.8. Strengthen the institutional framework in the human rights area, including through the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Egypt);

A - 80.9. Establish a national human rights commission accredited by the International Coordinating Committee (Algeria); Establish a National Commission on Human Rights in accordance with the Paris Principles (Greece); Establish a national human rights institution so as to promote human rights and address the many challenges mentioned by Lebanon in its national report (Sudan);

A - 80.10. Proceed with the establishment of a general directorate for human rights in the Ministry of Justice, on the basis of the draft law prepared for this purpose (Saudi Arabia);

A - 80.11. Successfully implement the important initiative of the National Human Rights Action Plan (Russian Federation);

A - 80.12. Continue its efforts in addressing the problem of missing person (Greece);

A - 80.13. Amend the relevant legislation to bring the definition of torture in line with the Convention against Torture (Netherlands); Enact domestic legislation to incorporate the Convention against Torture into Lebanese law (Ireland);

A - 80.14. Incorporate the provisions of the UN Convention against Torture into domestic laws, by inter alia reviewing the definition of torture (Germany); 29. Legislate stricter sentences for the act of torture and ill-treatment (Germany);

A - 80.15. Criminalise all forms of torture and ill-treatment (Netherlands); Expediently amend its Penal Code to criminalise all forms of torture and ill-treatment and ensure that all allegations for such violations are credibly and promptly investigated and those responsible are brought to justice in accordance to international fair trial standards (Slovakia); Amend the Penal Code to criminalize all forms of torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment comprised in the Convention against Torture (Belgium);

A - 80.16. Continue its efforts to prevent and properly criminalize torture and ill-treatment by state agents; investigate, appropriately prosecute and punish those responsible; and compensate the victims (Spain);

A - 80.17. Establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture, to which it committed itself by signing the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture in 2008 (Canada 4); Establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture, in line with the Optional Protocol to CAT (Belgium);

A - 80.18. Establish a legal and institutional framework consistent with the international standards on combating the trafficking of persons to effectively address this problem (Nicaragua);

A - 80.19. Strengthen its efforts to deal with human trafficking offences through studying international best practice and developing domestic legislation in conformity with international standards, establishing as appropriate institutions and agencies and strengthening cooperation with international organizations and bodies (Iran);

A - 80.20. Adopt amendments to the Labour Code regarding the sale and trafficking of children (Poland); Implement amendments to the Labour Code to strengthen legal measures to combat the sale and trafficking of children (Australia);

A - 80.21. Consider the creation of additional national mechanisms to promote and protect human rights of vulnerable groups especially women, children, and people with disabilities (Iran);

A - 80.22. Adopt the draft law on protection of women from domestic violence as soon as possible, and ensure its effective implementation (Norway); Pass legislation, namely the Family Violence Bill, to strengthen reporting on, and investigations of, incidents of family violence and increase protections for victims (Australia);

- A - 80.23. Adopt and implement the bill for the protection of women against domestic violence, mentioned in its national report, in order to criminalize domestic violence, and implement concrete measures to punish the aggressors (Mexico);
- A - 80.24. Develop a comprehensive policy at the national level, consistent with the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, with the view to achieving gender equality and to combat gender violence (Spain);
- A - 80.25. Strengthen its efforts to eliminate discrimination against women in law and practice (Norway);
- A - 80.26. Continue endowing its National Commission for Women Affairs with public policy making and decision making powers (Nicaragua);
- A - 80.27. Finalize the national action plan on education for all and improve the quality of education (Qatar);
- A - 80.28. Continue efforts to counter the brain drain to foreign countries and strengthen standards of professional education related to the main economic activities in the country (Kuwait);
- A - 80.29. Expand opportunities for training and awareness-raising in the area of human rights for members of the security forces (Saudi Arabia);
- A - 80.30. Reinforce its efforts to regulate labor relations in a framework that safeguards dignity and rights and is consistent with international standards, in particular with regard to ancillary or domestic workers (Iran);
- A - 80.31. Develop appropriate legal frameworks for the enjoyment of the right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work to all migrant workers especially domestic workers (Brazil);
- A - 80.32. That amendments to the Labour Law and the Social Security Law granting Palestinian refugees the right to work be made operational as soon as possible (Norway);
- A - 80.33. Seek international assistance in the provision of basic services to the refugees (Pakistan); Continue to strive to obtain international assistance and technical advice to face the pressures in connection with the reception and hosting of refugees, and in this regard strengthen cooperation with relevant international organizations (Egypt);
- A - 80.34. Step up its efforts, with the continued cooperation and assistance by the UNHCR and relevant stakeholders, in addressing the protracted refugee situation (Thailand);
- A - 80.35. Continue efforts to ensure mutual understanding and peaceful interaction between all segments of Lebanese society (Qatar);
- A - 80.36. Take measures for the submission of overdue periodic reports under the treaties and covenants to which Lebanon has become a party (Oman);
- A - 80.37. Explore the possibility of establishing national-level coordination mechanism to assess and monitor implementation of the Government's treaty obligations (Malaysia);
- A - 80.38. Submit as soon as possible its initial report to CAT (Belgium);
- A - 80.39. Ensure that education covers all areas of the country, including the living areas of refugees, bearing in mind that the mandate of the UNRWA covers the educational needs of Palestinian refugees (Yemen);
- A - 80.40. Expedite their consultation on the bill to grant domestic workers annual leave and provide cooperation with social workers to monitor their working conditions (Sri Lanka);
- A - 80.41. Regulate labour relations with special reference to ancillary or domestic workers (Sri Lanka);

81. The following recommendations enjoy the support of Lebanon which considers that they are already implemented or in the process of implementation:

A - 81.1. Continue efforts to strengthen human rights (Tunisia);

A - 81.2. Continue its efforts to maintain the accomplishments already made in the field of human rights (Bangladesh);

A - 81.3. Continue the search for appropriate solutions to the challenges outlined in the report and with which citizens are faced with regard to the full enjoyment of basic political, economic, social and cultural rights (Kuwait);

A - 81.4. Take all necessary measures to stop acts of torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (Belgium);

A - 81.5. Accelerate the establishment of an independent national mechanism to visit prisons (France);

A - 81.6. Continue efforts to combat human trafficking (Bahrain);

A - 81.7. Continue efforts to ensure protection for the victims of human trafficking (Jordan);

A - 81.8. Continue with endeavours to accelerate the ongoing process of creating additional mechanism to protect human rights and to further the efforts in the field of combating human trafficking (Sri Lanka);

A - 81.9. Continue to guarantee freedom of expression creating additional conditions for its fulfilment (Armenia);

A - 81.10. Further pursue its efforts to ensure the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights (Egypt);

A - 81.11. Continue its policies and programmes to improve the efficiency and quality of basic social services such as health and education for its citizens (Pakistan);

A - 81.12. Continue applying the strategies and plans for the socio-economic development of the country (Cuba); Continue consolidating social programs and measures adopted to date, that are key in fighting poverty and social exclusion, with actions that increase the provision of social services, giving priority to the most deprived sectors of society, to advance in the achievement of the highest attainable level of wellbeing for its people (Venezuela);

A - 81.13. Further strengthen the protection of rights of vulnerable groups, like children, women, migrant workers and persons with disabilities (Bangladesh);

A - 81.14. Continue efforts for the advancement of women and their participation in public life, and fight violence against women (Algeria);

A - 81.15. Continue efforts for the empowerment of women in society (Bahrain); Further pursue its efforts for the empowerment of women (Syrian Arab Republic);

A - 81.16. Establish laws and cultivate processes and institutions to protect women's rights, foster women's political participation, and ensure equitable representation of their interests and concerns (United States);

A - 81.17. Exert further efforts to adopt the draft law submitted to parliament on full equality between women and men in the area of social insurance and tax law, the draft law on the lifting of restrictions on the assets of wives whose spouses are declared bankrupt, and the draft law on the protection of women from domestic violence (Sudan);

A - 81.18. Accelerate plans for the adoption and implementation of a national strategy for children (Egypt);

A - 81.19. Improve the quality of public education in order to preserve the excellent standards which have prevailed in Lebanon for decades at the different levels of education (Yemen);

A - 81.20. Strengthen capacity-building in the area of human rights and raise the level of awareness with regard to these rights (Kuwait);

A - 81.21. Continue efforts in connection with the integration of disabled children in formal education as far as possible, in accordance with an inclusive educational approach (Qatar);

A - 81.22. Intensify efforts to spread a culture of human rights through educational curricula and awareness-raising campaigns (Saudi Arabia);

A - 81.23. Continue applying the programs and measures aimed at guaranteeing health and education of quality for its citizens (Cuba);

A - 81.24. Continue efforts to address the problems in connection with domestic workers with a view to increasing protections for this vulnerable group (Algeria); Establish mechanisms for monitoring the employment of domestic workers (Norway);

A - 81.25. Strengthen measures to fight child labour within the framework of the national strategy to combat child labour (Algeria); Further pursue its efforts to combat child labour (Jordan); Intensify efforts to combat child labour (United Arab Emirates);

A - 81.26. Continue to call on the international community and donor countries to finance projects such as the initiative launched by the Government in 2006 to improve the lives of the Palestinian refugees and the living conditions in camps, and similar initiatives to ensure a life in dignity for Palestinian refugees until the time of their return to their Palestinian homeland, in cooperation with the international community (Sudan);

A - 81.27. Continue seeking technical and financial assistance for demining activities, given that children continue to be among the most vulnerable sections of Lebanese society particularly in terms of their exposure to explosive remnants of war (Malaysia);

A - 81.28. Continue cooperation with the human rights mechanisms (United Arab Emirates).

82. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Lebanon:

R - 82.1. Ratify the optional protocols to ICESCR and ICCPR and the optional protocols to CEDAW and the one concerning children in armed conflict, signed in 2007 (Spain);

R - 82.2. Accede to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and to its additional Protocol, and ensure that these instruments are implemented at the national level (Belgium);

R - 82.3. Consider lifting its reservations to CEDAW (Norway); Withdraw all reservations to CEDAW which undermine the compliance of its obligations or the purpose of the treaty (Spain);

R - 82.4. Introduce a de jure moratorium on executions until the government abolishes the death penalty (Belgium);

R - 82.5. Deepen the process to abolish the death penalty by implementing a de jure moratorium on the use of death penalty and subsequently by abolishing it permanently; (France);

R - 82.6. Impose a moratorium on capital punishment and commute existing death sentences to imprisonment terms with a view to abolish the capital punishment entirely (Slovakia);

R - 82.7. Abolish the death penalty and consider the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR (Belgium);

R - 82.8. Abolish the death penalty by adopting, promptly, the draft law on the abolition of the death penalty, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR (United Kingdom); Accede to the Second optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aimed at

abolishing the death penalty, and take the necessary steps to remove the death penalty from Lebanon's justice system (Australia);

R - 82.9. Adopt, as soon as possible, the bill to abolish the death penalty; meanwhile maintain the current de facto moratorium and introduce a de jure moratorium until the permanent abolition of the death penalty goes into effect (Spain);

R - 82.10. Proceed to abolish the death penalty from its penal code (Ireland); Eliminate the death penalty from its national legislation (Canada);

R - 82.11. Adopt officially General Assembly resolution 62/149 on a moratorium on the death penalty and ratify the second optional protocol to ICCPR, as important steps towards abolishing capital punishment (Italy);

R - 82.12. Abolish the death penalty (Germany);

R - 82.13. Continue the reforms already accomplished by withdrawing the reservation to article 22 of the Convention against Torture (France);

R - 82.14. End the prerogatives of the Ministry of Defence and Military Courts to detain and to charge civilians respectively (Germany);

R - 82.15. Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to comply with international standards (Slovakia);

R - 82.16. Continue to address the issue of street children by adopting a comprehensive national strategy to provide these children with official documents and adequate assistance, including recovery and social reintegration services (Poland);

R - 82.17. Amend the law on citizenship in such a way that ensures that all Lebanese women, regardless of the nationality of their husband, can pass on their citizenship to their children and husbands (Netherlands);

R - 82.18. That the proposed draft law which would allow Lebanese women to pass on their nationality to their children and foreign spouses be adopted as soon as possible (Norway); Enact legislation to grant Lebanese nationality to the spouses and children of Lebanese women (United Kingdom); Amend its law on nationality to enable Lebanese women to confer their nationality to their children (Canada);

R - 82.19. Amend personal status laws so as to further ensure women's rights, in particular with regard to marriage dissolution, child custody and inheritance (Brazil);

R - 82.20. Amend the personal status laws in line with CEDAW, to ensure that women are treated in the same way as men in issues related to child custody, inheritance and divorce (Netherlands);

R - 82.21. Decriminalise homosexuality and ensure non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Norway);

R - 82.22. Continue its efforts in reviewing its labour law with a view to including migrant workers in its scope (Norway);

R - 82.23. That the current sponsorship system, 'kafala', be revoked and replaced with regulations in accordance with international standards (Norway);

R - 82.24. Extend the protection of the Labour Code to domestic workers (Poland);

R - 82.25. Review the system of sponsorship for domestic workers in order to protect them against abuse from employers (Canada);

R - 82.26. Extend the protection of the labour law to domestic workers and ensure that the rules concerning the right to stay do not put them in a situation of dependence from their employers (France);

R - 82.27. Accelerate procedures at the Ministry of Labour to complete implementing regulations to facilitate the employment of Palestinians and open access to employment in all liberal professions (Palestine);

R - 82.28. Lift the obstacles to employ Palestinian refugees, give access to employment to the Palestinian refugees, give access to free education to all children of refugees and enable universal health care (France);

R - 82.29. Guarantee freedom of movement for the Palestinian refugees and commit to the improvement of their employment (France);

R - 82.30. Grant Palestinian refugees the freedom of movement and in particular facilitate the free entry into and exit from Nahr el Bared camp (Norway);

R - 82.31. Issue permits to refugees in Lebanon to allow them freedom of movement and employment, including the right to work in professions that require syndicate membership, and without onerous renewal or fee restrictions (United States);

R - 82.32. Grant Palestinian refugees the right to own land (Norway); Take legislative action to ensure the right of the Palestinian refugees to inherit and register property, including the right to own land (Finland); Amend legislation that restricts the ability of Palestinian refugees to own property, specifically the Presidential Decree of January 1969, as modified in April 2001 (Netherlands);

R - 82.33. Resolve fully the problem of the identification documents of the Palestinian refugees and modify legislative provisions and policies that have discriminatory consequences on the Palestinian population as compared to other non-citizens (Ireland);

R - 82.34. Further improve the enjoyment of all human rights by Palestinian refugees, granting them a legal treatment no worse than to other non-nationals, especially with regard to right to work and to freedom of movement taking into account the responsibility of the international community (Brazil);

R - 82.35. Bridge the gaps left by the amended law on registered Palestinian Refugees, such as allowing Palestinian refugees to extract temporary work permits (Netherlands);

R - 82.36. Take efficient measures to swiftly ameliorate the situation of Palestinian refugees including amending legislative provisions and policies that have a discriminatory effect on the Palestinian population (Finland);

R - 82.37. Adopt the necessary laws to contribute to alleviate the socio-economic conditions of Palestinian refugees (Canada).

83. The following recommendations were rejected by Lebanon based on one or more of the following reasons: (a) not within the scope of the UPR; (b) submitted by the occupying power of Lebanese territories; (c) infringing on the sovereignty of Lebanon:

R - 83.1. Amend all discriminatory provisions in personal status laws in particular issues related to child custody, inheritance and divorce (Israel);

R - 83.2. Immediately implement Security Council resolutions 1559 and 1701 by disbanding and disarming all militias and armed factions, in particular Hizbullah, and restore security and stability for all residents of Lebanon (Israel);

R - 83.3. Submit the initial report to the UN Committee against Torture (CAT), overdue since 2001 (Israel).

84. The following recommendations will be examined by Lebanon which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the 16th session of the Human Rights Council in March 2011:

A - 84.1. Consider the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Germany);

A - 84.2. Ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, signed in 2007 (Spain);

A - 84.3. Consider ratification of the Geneva Conventions (Germany);

A - 84.4. Establish an independent national body empowered to investigate the whereabouts of missing persons and victims of enforced disappearance, in the context of the various wars that have occurred in the country (Mexico);

A - 84.5. Establish a process to identify the victims by setting up a DNA database, exhume mass graves and to set up a national commission on missing persons (Germany);

A - 84.6. Criminalise all acts of torture as set forth in the Convention against Torture and adopt punishments in line with the gravity of the crime (United States);

A - 84.7. Increase the penalty for the crime of torture from the current maximum of three years, proportional with the severity of the crime (Netherlands);

A - 84.8. Abolish the crime of honour in its penal code and continue to take the necessary measures in order to better promote women's rights in all spheres of the society (Greece);

A - 84.9. Bring domestic law into full compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Poland);

A - 84.10. Take further measures to improve the working possibilities and working conditions of the Palestinian refugees (Finland);

A - 84.11. Strengthen efforts to assist Palestinians living in Lebanon who are lacking identity documents so that it will be possible for them to live a decent life (Palestine);

A - 84.12. Strengthen the capacity of the Lebanese Palestinian Dialogue Commission to assist Palestinian Refugees as a step to improve the human rights and humanitarian situation for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (United Kingdom);

A - 84.13. Extend an open and standing invitation to the special procedures, as a gesture of Lebanon's openness and commitment to cooperate with the human rights international mechanisms (Mexico);

A - 84.14. Extend an open and standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Spain); Issue a standing invitation to all UN special procedures (Poland).

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