

2RP: Responses to Recommendations & Voluntary Pledges

MACEDONIA (Former Yugoslav Republic of)

Second Review Session 18

Review in the Working Group: 30 January 2014
Adoption in the Plenary: 20 June 2014

Macedonia's responses to recommendations (as of 18.08.2014):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
No responses all pending	96 recs accepted (14 of which are considered as implemented – n°9, 14, 35, 47, 65, 70, 71, 74, 81, 85, 87, 92, 99 and 102 – and 77 as being implemented – n°1, 5-7, 10-13, 15-33, 36-41, 49-60, 62-64, 66-69, 72, 73, 75-80, 82-84, 88-91, 93-98, 100, 101, 103), 6 accepted in part (n°8, 34, 44-46, and 61 -> noted) and 2 not accepted (n°42 and 43).	No additional information provided	Accepted: 96 Noted: 8 Total: 104

Paragraph headers are as in the Report of the Working Group, but the nature of responses to recommendations may have subsequently been changed.

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/26/10:



101. The following recommendations will be examined by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the 26th session of the Human Rights Council in June 2014.

A - 101.1. Complete the process of ratification of relevant international instruments (Côte d'Ivoire);

A - 101.2 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPED) (France) (Iraq) (Poland) and proceed to recognize the competence of its Committee (Uruguay); Ratify without delay CPED and translate it into national legislation (Belgium); Continue the efforts initiated to ratify CPED, as well as the main international instruments on human rights to which the country is not yet a party (Argentina);

A - 101.3 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Portugal);

A - 101.4 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Spain);

A - 101.5 Ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute (Estonia) (Liechtenstein), if possible with a view to contributing to the activation of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court over the crime of aggression at the beginning of 2017 (Liechtenstein);

A - 101.6 Stop all ill-treatment, particularly in prisons and improve detention conditions, respecting its obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Switzerland);

A - 101.7 Establish a clear procedure for the implementation of and financial support for the national strategies and plans for the protection of human rights (Russian Federation);

N - 101.8 Complete the review of the Ohrid Framework Agreement and implement its recommendations by mid-2014 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 101.9 Further review and strengthen measures in place towards full implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement aiming at integration without assimilation, especially on issues of use of the Albanian language and in providing the necessary conditions for education in minority languages (Albania);

A - 101.10 Keep up its efforts aimed at increasing the transparency in the appointment process of the Ombudsman and introduce the necessary legislative changes in order to reinforce the institutional capacities of the Office and bring its competences in line with the Paris Principles (Hungary);

A - 101.11 Give full effect to the opinion submitted by the Ombudsman to the Government regarding the need to make additional amendments to the legislation to make the institution consistent with the Paris Principles (Togo);

A - 101.12 Enhance the support for the Office of the Ombudsman and strengthen the Commission for Protection against Discrimination to ensure that both institutions fulfil their duties effectively and independently (Bulgaria);

A - 101.13 Take measures to strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman, in order to fully adjust it to the Paris Principles, allocating it with adequate resources and more qualified personnel (Uruguay); Establish a national institution for the promotion and protection of human rights in conformity with the

Paris Principles (Congo); Take the necessary measures to guarantee full conformity of the national human rights institution with the Paris Principles (Morocco); Accelerate finalization of the necessary amendments to the legislative measures to ensure the accreditation of the Ombudsman's Office with an "A" status in line with Paris Principles (Namibia); Establish the Ombudsman as an autonomous body under public law and its full use for the protection of human rights (Portugal);

A - 101.14 Endeavour to put in place structures that guarantee the citizenship rights of its people (Nigeria);

A - 101.15 Run further public awareness campaigns on legal protection against discrimination (Cambodia);

A - 101.16 Continue to implement the laws and policies prohibiting direct and indirect discrimination, on the rights of persons with disabilities, on equal opportunities for women and men on child protection as well as action plans to better protect the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities (China);

A - 101.17 Pursue policies aimed at ensuring equal opportunities (Côte d'Ivoire);

A - 101.18 Punish perpetrators of hate speech and incitement to discrimination in accordance with the law (Togo);

A - 101.19 Give a strong response to hate speech, including in offline and online media and systematically denounce expressions of intolerance by opinion leaders (Bulgaria);

A - 101.20 Prohibit all forms of discrimination and violence against women (Brazil);

A - 101.21 Adopt further measures to ensure gender equality in the society, including through the accession to and effective implementation of relevant international and regional treaties (Viet Nam); Amend its laws on gender equality and explicitly prohibit all forms of discrimination against women by adopting appropriate national legislation (Congo); Further continue promoting gender equality in order to explicitly prohibit all forms of discrimination against women (Armenia); Consolidate its efforts towards gender equality (Namibia)¹;

A - 101.22 Continue to implement existing legislation related to gender equality in order to ensure that men and women are treated equally and stereotypes regarding women are eradicated (Lithuania);

A - 101.23 Fully implement the recommendations of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women issued in 2013 regarding the situation of women, including temporary special measures to ensure non-discrimination of women belonging to minorities, and allocating adequate funding for the national action plans and strategies aimed at eliminating all forms of discrimination against women belonging to the Roma population (Spain);

A - 101.24 Enhance dialogue with and assistance to vulnerable groups, in particular ethnic minorities (Viet Nam);

A - 101.25 Allow free movement of Albanian and Roma minorities and resolve the problem of lack of identity documents, which constitutes an obstacle to the exercise of their rights (Congo);

A - 101.26 Continue its efforts to ensure non-discrimination among all groups of the society, including Roma communities, including through public awareness-raising campaigns (Indonesia);

A - 101.27 Launch a campaign for the birth registration of children and adults living on the streets and for those belonging to ethnic minorities to facilitate the obtaining of identification documents (Mexico); Strengthen efforts to ensure retroactive birth registrations and issuance of documents for children lacking such documentation as well as to ensure that children lacking identity documents are not refused access to health, education and other public services, including child allowances (Namibia); Ensure full birth registration, including by retroactive registration, and access to public services, including to education for children lacking documentation (Slovenia);

A - 101.28 Analyse the results of the policy of inclusion of the Roma, assess the remaining challenges yet to be addressed, especially regarding the fate of women and girls, and attach measures to it as well as reserve the required budget (Belgium); Continue to work towards improving the living conditions of the Roma population in general and, in particular, of vulnerable children (Congo); Intensify their efforts to secure and effectively implement the existing policies designed for the integration of the Roma minority (Poland);

A - 101.29 Strengthen policies and activities that support the Roma, to achieve the objectives of the Decade of Roma Inclusion (Algeria);

A - 101.30 Take further concrete and effective steps towards social inclusion for Roma people (Australia);

A - 101.31 Follow up on cases of discriminatory treatment of the Roma population in the area of employment and provide equal chances and treatment to Roma children with regard to education (Austria);

A - 101.32 Take steps to address challenges faced by Roma women and girls in the areas of health care and employment (Canada);

A - 101.33 Encourage the active participation of the Roma population in the decision-making regarding measures that affect them (Spain);

N - 101.34 Develop prevention and penalization strategies to address incidents of racism against the Roma population that are detected, including the establishment of a National Observatory against Racism (Spain);

A - 101.35 Ensure that no disadvantage shall result for citizens from the exercise of their right to identify themselves with any ethnic group (Bulgaria);

A - 101.36 Immediately step up its efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination based on ethnic origin, religion, gender and sexual orientation (Switzerland);

A - 101.37 Intensify efforts to combat effectively the manifestations of hatred suffered by minorities (France); Endeavour to tackle issues of discrimination, particularly discrimination on grounds of ethnicity and linguistic traditions (Nigeria); Continue to improve the legislation framework in the fields of the protection of national and ethnic minorities from discrimination (Russian Federation);

A - 101.38 Take concrete measures to strengthen the legislation to combat all forms of discrimination, including those related to sexual orientation, and step up new awareness campaigns to combat all forms of discrimination, including those based on gender, ethnic origin, sexual orientation or gender identity (Uruguay);

A - 101.39 Strengthen actions to ensure the effective implementation of laws against discrimination, in particular discrimination based on sexual orientation (Argentina);

A - 101.40 Fight impunity for violence against marginalized persons motivated by their ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation, particularly through an improved awareness of public opinion, and the police and judicial authorities (Belgium);

A - 101.41 Conduct public awareness campaigns to promote tolerance and the principles of equality and non-discrimination including on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Brazil);

N - 101.42 Implement fully and without delay the 2010 anti-discrimination law, by integrating provisions covering discrimination based on sexual orientation (Belgium); Ensure that discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity are specifically included in the Anti-Discrimination Act and related programmes (France); Align the national anti-discrimination legislation with the European Union standards, in particular in relation to the rights of LGBTI persons (Italy); Explicitly prohibit discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, which is not included in the Law on the Prevention of and Protection against Discrimination (Slovenia);

N - 101.43 Introduce legislation that explicitly protects LGBT persons from discrimination (Ireland);

N - 101.44 Include a specific prohibition of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in line with international standards in the anti-discrimination legislation and take appropriate measures to end impunity for violence and intimidation of the LGBT community (Netherlands); Adopt measures to prevent incidents of violence on the grounds of sexual orientation (Canada);

N - 101.45 Amend anti-discrimination legislation to include sexual orientation and gender identity as specific grounds for discrimination and to open prompt, impartial and effective investigations into attacks on LGBTI individuals or organisations (Austria);

N - 101.46 Strengthen anti-discrimination legislation to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, and take effective measures to combat violence and discrimination against LGBTI people (Australia);

A - 101.47 Launch a campaign to disarm the civilian population that supports the reduction of death rates related to gun violence (Mexico);

A - 101.48 Develop a professional management approach within prisons as recommended by the Council of Europe's Committee for the Prevention of Torture (United States of America);

A - 101.49 Continue efforts to ameliorate prison conditions, including steps to address overcrowding and violence, as well as improving access to health care, education and recreational activities (Australia);

A - 101.50 Take effective measures to bring conditions of detention in line with international standards, notably with regard to the overcrowding of prisons (Germany);

A - 101.51 Continue reforms of the penitentiary system with special focus on human rights training for penitentiary staff (Slovakia);

A - 101.52 Adopt measures to raise awareness to prevent incidents of child, early and forced marriage and take steps to investigate and prosecute any cases thereof (Canada);

A - 101.53 Strengthen existing criminal and family laws or adopt a comprehensive law that addresses all forms of violence against women, including domestic and sexual violence, ensuring that all women

and girl victims of acts of violence are protected by these laws and have access to immediate means of protection as well as to reparation, and that perpetrators are prosecuted (Uruguay);

A - 101.54 Strengthen policies aimed at the protection of children and the prevention of domestic violence (Côte d'Ivoire); Intensify its efforts to combat domestic violence and its efforts to ensure that victims of domestic violence have access to adequate assistance, including legal and psychological counselling, medical help and shelter (Liechtenstein);

A - 101.55 Step up measures to safeguard the rights of the child, including by preventing discrimination against children of disadvantaged or vulnerable groups, and by stronger implementation of child labour laws and the revised 2012-2015 National Action Plan on Children's Rights (Philippines);

A - 101.56 Implement legislation prohibiting corporal punishment of children in the home and conduct awareness-raising campaigns on the harmful effect of corporal punishment and on the use of alternative and non-violent forms of discipline in a manner consistent with the child's dignity (Liechtenstein);

A - 101.57 Take the necessary measures to effectively eliminate the worst forms of child labour (United States of America);

A - 101.58 Continue to exert more effort to abolish child trafficking and sexual abuse of children and guarantee health and psychological care especially to the victims of rape; Rehabilitate them and support their inclusion in society; Ensure the prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators of those crimes and that they will not be exonerated (Libya); Continue its measures in the fight against the sexual abuse and exploitation of children by strengthening the implementation of its relevant national action plan (Malaysia); Improve prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and punishment of those responsible for offences covered under the OP-CRC-SC, including through cooperation with neighbouring countries (Republic of Moldova);

A - 101.59 Further develop efforts in the fight against trafficking in persons, including measures to protect victims. Strengthen efforts for the prevention of labour and sexual exploitation (Belarus); Intensify efforts to combat trafficking in persons while ensuring that appropriate access to remedy is provided to trafficking victims (Philippines);

A - 101.60 Continue its effort in the active implementation of the National Strategy for the Fight against Human Trafficking and Illegal Migration (Cambodia);

N - 101.61 Renew its respect for the rule of law by observing a strict separation between State and party activities and ensuring an independent judiciary and media (United States of America);

A - 101.62 Ensure that there is a strict respect of the separation of powers and that laws are not applied selectively (Switzerland);

A - 101.63 Implement measures under the rule of law chapter of the Reform Agenda as developed in the European Union High Level Accession Dialogue, to ensure that law enforcement agencies and the judiciary can work independently, without being politically influenced (Austria);

A - 101.64 Pay due attention to transparency issues of the judiciary (Estonia);

A - 101.65 Increase efforts to strengthen the merit-based recruitment of judges, inter alia, by effectively implementing the new Law on Courts requiring all newly appointed first-instance judges to

have graduated from the Academy for Judges and Prosecutors two-year training programme (Sweden);

A - 101.66 Continue its efforts to strengthen the judicial system and consolidate its independence (Morocco);

A - 101.67 Strengthen efforts to consolidate the independence of the judiciary and to speed up implementation of measures aimed at reducing the backlog of cases before domestic courts (Slovakia);

A - 101.68 Take more steps to protect the rights of all persons under legal processes of criminal justice and to guarantee due processes are applied to all of them (Viet Nam);

A - 101.69 Take all necessary steps to strengthen public confidence in the justice system and limit the use of pretrial detention as strictly necessary (France);

A - 101.70 Ensure that children are not treated as adult offenders in the administration of juvenile justice and that they are deprived of their liberty only as a measure of last resort (Republic of Moldova);

A - 101.71 Enact a law on transparency in the allocation of public sector contracts including the allocation of works for the construction sector and the allocation of contracts to media (Mexico);

A - 101.72 Improve media policy and regulations in order to ensure freedom of the press and of expression and to facilitate a more diverse media market (Australia);

A - 101.73 Take steps to ensure media freedom and protection of journalists, including protection from political pressure and undue civil defamation lawsuits (Austria);

A - 101.74 Prevent the introduction of new laws that would go against media pluralism and freedom (Belgium);

A - 101.75 Examine the allegations of intimidating independent media by State institutions and ensure that appointments of members of the Broadcasting Council are made with an emphasis on the impartiality and professionalism of the candidates (Czech Republic);

A - 101.76 Create an enabling environment for the independent operation of various media outlets, including guaranteeing their access to effective remedies in cases of alleged political pressure and interference (Czech Republic);

A - 101.77 Continue to ensure the independence of the media and the press (Germany);

A - 101.78 In cooperation with the media, implement the agreed action plan within the dialogue between the Government and the media community on improvement of media freedoms (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 101.79 Adopt all necessary measures to ensure freedom of expression by ensuring equal treatment of the media and by avoiding any interference with freedom of the press (France);

A - 101.80 Introduce adequate measures with a view to promoting freedom of expression as well as media freedom (Greece);

A - 101.81 Guarantee freedom of expression and media and ensure that national legislation fully complies with international freedom of expression standards (Lithuania);

A - 101.82 Organize inclusive consultations with journalists and media in order to resolve disputes that exist concerning the new media law (Belgium); Engage constructively in consultations with civil society, broadcasters and other relevant stakeholders in order to cease the current status quo and public discontent over the procedure and content of the new draft media laws (Sweden); Re-launch the dialogue between government and media representatives with a view to encouraging pluralism in the media and strengthening the right of everybody to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, without interference by public authority (Italy); Restart the dialogue with media representatives on the road map for the implementation of the activities to safeguard freedom of expression in the country, those activities which are a priority in the framework of the High Level Accession Dialogue (Netherlands); Continue regular dialogue between the government and journalists in order to reach an agreement on pending issues in the media sector (Estonia);

A - 101.83 Continue strengthening the legislation and measures for an appropriate exercise of freedom of expression, and ensure that the civil defamation law is not used to avoid political criticism (Spain);

A - 101.84 Ensure that the new legislation regarding the media is applied in such a way that the media's independence and pluralism is not undermined (Switzerland);

A - 101.85 Facilitate the establishment of an appropriate self-regulatory media system (Belgium);

A - 101.86 Ensure that the broadcasting of the public broadcaster is balanced and not favourable to any political party and that the Broadcasting Law is not applied selectively and abused for political process (Czech Republic);

A - 101.87 Develop policies and measures to ensure equal access to services, particularly access to mainstream education, and participation of persons with disabilities in the elaboration and evaluation of programmes which concern them (Thailand);

A - 101.88 Step up the actions in favour of fighting poverty and social exclusion, focusing on minorities and vulnerable persons (Senegal);

A - 101.89 Develop primary health care guaranteeing access to medical services for all children, particularly those from the Roma community (Thailand);

A - 101.90 Carry out a country-wide Roma needs assessment and health status study in consultation with Roma, Roma organizations, and health professionals, as the first step to defining a new national plan of action for ensuring that Roma have access to the highest attainable standard of health (Ireland);

A - 101.91 Continue the implementation of national educational programmes and strategies in order to ensure that every child has equal access to education (Armenia);

A - 101.92 Prioritize the education of its citizens (Nigeria);

A - 101.93 Adopt further appropriate measures in order to improve the quality of education for the pupils belonging to national minorities, especially for those learning in lesser used languages (Romania);

A - 101.94 Continue efforts to integrate Roma children into the education system (Algeria);

A - 101.95 Pay particular attention to the access to education for all children, especially children from ethnic or religious minorities and children with disabilities (Belgium);

A - 101.96 Continue its efforts in ensuring that the education system will benefit all groups in the society regardless of their backgrounds (Indonesia);

A - 101.97 Address barriers to the education of women and girls and reduce their dropout rates, especially among girls from ethnic minorities (Slovenia);

A - 101.98 Take further measures for the implementation of the Strategy on Integrated Education and to provide adequate State funding to be allocated for the implementation of this Strategy (Albania); Further implement integrated education and address the negative impact of ethnic segregation in schools, including through implementing common activities and policies to promote interaction between children of all linguistic and ethnic backgrounds (Slovenia);

A - 101.99 Ensure that non impediments to the preservation, expression and development of cultural identity by all citizens are created (Bulgaria);

A - 101.100 Continue efforts to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities aiming at the creation of the legal and institutional frameworks for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, taking into account the national strategy adopted for 2010-2018 (Belarus);

A - 101.101 Increase efforts to improve the protection of the rights of children with disabilities and their social inclusion in the education system, also by modernizing centres for social work and providing them with adequate human and financial resources (Italy);

A - 101.102 Establish a procedure for determining the best interest of the children during all asylum and refugee processes (Hungary);

A - 101.103 Continue to improve the condition of all migrants, particularly with regard to access to health, education and other social services, and accelerate efforts towards accession to ICRMW (Philippines);

A - 101.104 Enhance the efforts aimed at monitoring the accomplishment of the human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment, particularly with regard to air quality and industrial pollution (Italy).

Notes

1 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: Consolidate its efforts towards gender equality by establishing a line ministry fully responsible for this purpose (Namibia).

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