

Responses to Recommendations

MACEDONIA

Review in the Working Group: 12 May 2009
 Adoption in the Plenary: 25 September 2009

Macedonia’s responses to recommendations:

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Recommendations pending responses:	Summary:
No response, all pending	All REC are deemed “generally acceptable” but one which is rejected in part	No additional information provided	None	Accepted: 42 Rejected: 1 No clear position: 0 Pending: 0

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/12/15:

“77. In the course of the discussion, the following recommendations were made to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:

A - 1. Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CPD) (Turkey, Croatia, Argentina) and its Optional Protocol (Croatia); ratify CPD and its Optional Protocol and harmonize its national legislation with the provisions of these instruments (Mexico); accelerate the ratification of CPD (Azerbaijan); undertake national consultation in preparation for the ratification of CPD (United Kingdom);

A - 2. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED) (Croatia, Argentina) and accept the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearance (Argentina); ratify CED as soon as possible (France);

A - 3. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Argentina);

A - 4. Conduct a comprehensive review of the conformity of internal law with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Poland); continue harmonization of the national legislation with international standards in the field of human rights (Ukraine);

A - 5. Consider taking appropriate measures to ensure the institution of the Ombudsman is in conformity with the Paris Principles or eventually envisage the establishment of a national human rights institution in conformity with those principles (Algeria); establish a national human rights institution accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (Brazil); review the role and the mandate of the Office of the National Ombudsman, particularly in the area of non-discrimination and police misconduct, and guarantee its sufficient funding, as suggested by the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe (Poland); take all necessary measures to ensure that the Office of the National Ombudsman complies with what is set out in the Paris Principles and is totally independent in terms of its funding (Argentina); ensure sufficient resources for the functioning of the national preventive mechanisms, following the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT-OP) (Czech Republic);

A - 6. Attach the greatest importance to implementing the Ohrid Framework Agreement and to meet the strategic priorities that arise therefrom (Switzerland);

A - 7. Consider the possibility to conduct a mid-term evaluation of the Action Plan on the rights of the child (Morocco);

A - 8. Put in place a national comprehensive plan for civil status registration and the right to identity, which includes awareness raising-campaigns for parents, guardians and other responsible persons, which will help to speed up the registration of births (Argentina);

A - 9. Ensure prompt follow-up to the recommendations formulated by the Committee against Torture in 2008 with regard to the overall state of the prison system (Italy);

A - 10. Continue efforts to harmonize its national legislation with international human rights instruments to which it is party (Nicaragua);

A - 11. Continue submitting reports to various treaty-monitoring bodies in order to honour its commitments through the implementation of the recommendations emerging from those committees (Nicaragua);

A - 12. Continue with the open policy towards the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Mexico);

A - 13. Take further concrete measures to strengthen relevant legislation to combat discrimination (Czech Republic); organize awareness-raising campaigns to combat all forms of discrimination including those based on gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation or gender identity (Czech Republic); adopt comprehensive antidiscrimination legislation (Croatia); speed up the process of formulating an antidiscrimination legal framework and strengthen the role of administrative structures established to sanction any form of discrimination (Albania); adopt and implement the Law on Protection from Discrimination and ensure effective access to judicial remedies for victims of discrimination (Canada);

A - 14. Introduce adequate measures with a view to promoting cohesion of all ethnic groups (Greece);

A - 15. Continue efforts to promote rights of vulnerable groups (Kazakhstan);

A - 16. Take more systematic measures to promote gender equality in practice by, inter alia, increasing women's participation in the Police Force (Greece); promote participation and representation of women in governmental and private sectors (Brazil); intensify its efforts to accelerate women's equal participation at all levels and in all areas of public life (Norway); step up efforts to ensure access to education, health, employment and participation in political public life for women, in particular rural and ethnic minority women (Malaysia);

A - 17. Redouble efforts in the area of promotion of women and effective equality between genders in the workforce as in the social sphere (Spain); adopt all measures necessary to ensure equality between women and men in all areas relevant to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (France);

A - 18. (a) Ensure that sexual orientation and gender identity are explicitly included throughout the anti-discrimination laws and programmes (Sweden); and that sexual orientation and gender identity be explicitly included through anti-discrimination laws and programmes (Denmark);

R - (b) ensure that same-sex partners are provided with equal rights and responsibilities as opposite-sex partners (Denmark);

A - 19. Implement a comprehensive reform of the penitentiary system that addresses concerns expressed by international observers and in particular the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Canada);

A - 20. Encourage the appropriate institutions to take further action in dealing with violence against women (Croatia); implement measures to prevent and punish violence against Roma women so that they are able to enjoy their rights without prejudice (Japan); lower the stringent requirements for proof of domestic violence so that existing law criminalizing domestic violence can be more readily applied in practice (Netherlands); implement measures for the early detection and prevention of domestic violence against women and children, including sexual abuse or harassment (Netherlands); further collaborate with civil society in order to raise awareness and ensure protection and support for victims (Austria); adopt a decisive criminal policy to prosecute and punish perpetrators of violence against women and practice a policy of prevention so as to enhance the sensitivity of society at large to this matter (France);

A - 21. Do everything in its power to improve detention conditions and to prosecute any perpetrators of ill-treatment (Switzerland); fully address the concerns published in the 4 November report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (The Netherlands);

A - 22. Develop judicial assistance and protection mechanisms for victims of domestic violence (Spain);

A - 23. Adopt and implement legislation prohibiting corporal punishment under all circumstances and accompany this with a public awareness-raising campaign (Austria); adopt appropriate measures, consistent with international standards, to avoid corporal punishment of children in all areas and to carry out education and awareness-raising campaigns in schools and in society at large (Argentina);

A - 24. Increase the level of protection of minors, particularly those who find themselves in a situation of lack of protection and outside of the compulsory schooling system (Spain);

A - 25. Continue and increase its efforts with a view to fully combating trafficking and prostitution, and continue efforts to help women who have been victims of trafficking (Sweden); step up measures to combat the scourge of prostitution and trafficking in women and girls, including by conducting more nationwide awareness campaigns and training for law enforcement officials, migration officials and border police (Malaysia);

A - 26. Consolidate the independence and overall capacity of the judicial system (Slovenia);

A - 27. Continue to provide the police, prison and judicial personnel with practically oriented human rights training and education (Czech Republic);

A - 28. Include mechanisms for the internal control of prison guards in the rules and regulations for prisons and detention centres (Netherlands); establish an effective and independent police oversight mechanism (Denmark);

A - 29. Ensure that allegations of ill-treatment by law enforcement officers are promptly, thoroughly and impartially investigated and that those responsible are punished (Denmark);

A - 30. Continue the reforms of the penitentiary system and improve the conditions at penitentiary institutions (Azerbaijan); continue and strengthen the ongoing efforts to ensure the well-being of prisoners and detainees in compliance with the Convention against Torture and other international standards (Sweden); push ahead with the reform of the prison system and consider introducing re-

socialization programmes to ensure prisoners' reintegration into the community on release and to reduce the risk of their re-offending (United Kingdom);

A - 31. Continue its efforts to implement the Law on Execution of Sanctions (Holy See);

A - 32. Provide financial and human resources to the Interior Ministry to seize the large quantities of arms that exist within the civilian population and to improve the security situation and the living conditions of its prisons (Spain);

A - 33. Review conditions in prisons, places of detention and other facilities falling within the scope of CAT-OP with a view to ensuring their full compliance with international standards, in particular as to the use of restraints and with regard to juveniles (Czech Republic);

A - 34. Strengthen procedures for the investigation and punishment of any misconduct by police, prison and judicial personnel, including through strengthening the overview role of the Ombudsman (Czech Republic);

A - 35. Adopt all necessary measures to ensure freedom of expression and to prevent any interference with press freedoms (Switzerland);

A - 36. Monitor the implementation of the legislation concerning freedom of religion with a view to ensuring full enjoyment of the freedom to practice one's religion by all religious communities and groups in the country (Italy);

A - 37. Implement effective measures to prevent intimidation of voters in future elections (Ireland); compile a new voter registration list to ensure full participation of the electorate in future elections (Ireland);

A - 38. Take steps towards ensuring that all remaining obstacles to the work of human rights defenders are quickly removed so that they can operate in an open and secure environment (Ireland);

A - 39. Map out to what extent media owners seek to influence journalists and adopt appropriate measures to prevent the mixing of private interests with journalism (Norway);

A - 40. Adopt provisions to address the phenomenon of school dropouts particularly among Roma children and children living in rural areas, especially girls (Algeria); continue its efforts to guarantee free education at the primary level for all children, giving special attention to minority groups (Holy See); continue to pay special attention to access to education for all children regardless of their ethnic origin and at all education levels, preschool, primary and secondary (Belgium);

A - 41. Continue efforts to ensure that the Roma, Albanian and other minorities have access to suitable and affordable housing, employment, education and health care, and that special attention be paid to promoting the integration of these populations in all areas of social life, without discrimination (Algeria); continue adopting measures to improve the situation of rural women belonging to ethnic minorities, above all Roma and Albanians (Argentina); ensure implementation of the relevant legislation, in particular the laws relating to the use of languages and those aimed at improving the living conditions of the Roma (Switzerland); effectively promote ethnically mixed organizations around common civil, professional and business interests in order to fully support the social cohesion of all ethnic groups (Austria); ensure the speedy implementation of the measures of the national Roma Strategy (Austria); make every possible efforts to implement the Roma Strategy and Action Plans, in compliance with the strategy and the Decade of Roma Inclusion, which is to end in 2015 (Brazil); implement the Roma Strategy and Action Plans, in compliance with the Strategy and the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015 (Canada); ensure equal and unhindered access to health care for the Roma (Austria); promote the exercise by the Roma of their economic, social and cultural rights, in particular by implementing programmes to facilitate birth registration and the issuing identity documents for this sector of the population (Mexico); provide the Agency for the Rights of the Ethnic Groups Which Are Less Than 20 per cent of the Population with the necessary resources to effectively deal with minority issues (Ireland); improve the situation of inclusion of some minority ethnic groups, in particular the Roma, who are frequently facing a situation of lack of protection (Spain); focus more

resources on ethnic reconciliation in the education of school-aged children to foster tolerance and appreciation for diversity in the next generation (United States);

A - 42. Accomplish progressively the human rights goals as set forth in Human Rights Council resolution 9/12 (Brazil).

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