

Responses to Recommendations

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Review in the Working Group: 10 May 2011
 Adoption in the Plenary: 23 September 2011

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines's responses to recommendations (as of 05.01.2012):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
49 recs. accepted (among which 16 are considered as already implemented or in the process of implementation); 17 rejected; 26 pending	Out of the 26 pending, 6 were accepted, 6 rejected, 2 not accepted but be being considered (n°78.3, 78.13 -> pending), 1 was already implemented (n° 78.5 -> no clear position), 1 was given no clear position and 10 were under consideration (-> pending ¹)	The delegation gave the same information as in the addendum	Accepted: 55 Rejected: 23 No clear position: 2 Pending: 12

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/18/15:

A - 76.1. Explore possible ways and means to further diversify major economic activities with a view to widening the national income base in order to create an enabling environment to better promote and protect human rights in the country (Malaysia);

A - 76.2. Continue to work on its human development plan and include cooperation and technical assistance strategies to use and integrate the outcome of the universal periodic review (Nicaragua);

A - 76.3. Request international assistance deemed pertinent to implement measures to improve the human rights situation of children and adolescents (Uruguay);

¹ Recommendation n° 78.1 calling for ratification is considered as still pending because the delegation accepted it only to the extent to consider the ratification. Recommendation n° 78.2 calling to consider ratifications is however considered as accepted.

A - 76.4. Consider availing itself of offers for technical assistance to facilitate its submission of reports to the relevant treaty bodies (Malaysia);

A - 76.5. Submit as soon as possible the reports under the two international Covenants that have been pending since 1991 and 1990, respectively (Austria);

A - 76.6. Take the necessary steps, including requesting technical assistance, to comply with reporting obligations to the United Nations treaty monitoring bodies (South Africa);

A - 76.7. Continue to seek technical cooperation and assistance from the international community and such agencies as OHCHR in its promotion and protection of human rights, particularly capacity-building for preparing the national reports under human rights conventions to which it is a party and capacity-building for its human rights officers (Thailand);

A - 76.8. Work with OHCHR to prepare a common core document as a way to streamline and reduce the burden of treaty reporting, which will help with the problem, acknowledged in the State report, of overdue treaty reports (Maldives);

A - 76.9. Consider a request for technical assistance and cooperation to prepare and submit reports to the United Nations treaty monitoring bodies (Chile);

A - 76.10. Conduct a study concerning how the education of disabled students can be implemented through mainstream educational settings (United States);

A - 76.11. Implement inclusive education programming for students with disabilities in the general education system (United States);

A - 76.12. Implement public policies to improve the human rights situation of persons, particularly children, with disabilities, to allow this sector of the population to participate in the economic, social and cultural life on an equal basis (Ecuador);

A - 76.13. Consider taking measures for the implementation of its international commitments in the area of the rights of persons with disabilities, and in particular to address the issue of accessibility (Costa Rica);

A - 76.14. Investigate thoroughly complaints from citizens about assault or other abuse by the police and provide information to the public about the disposition of such complaints (Australia);

A - 76.15. Thoroughly investigate all allegations of mistreatment of prisoners (Canada);

A - 76.16. Ensure comprehensive human rights training for law enforcement personnel with a view to prevent any excessive use of force (Slovakia);

A - 76.17. Take steps to protect victims of violence (Norway);

A - 76.18. Take legal, educational (Norway) and necessary measures in order to effectively combat violence against women and domestic violence (France);

A - 76.19. Actively consider specific legislation in the area of gender discrimination, including violence against women (Maldives) and adopt more effective legal measures to combat domestic violence (Honduras);

A - 76.20. Intensify the efforts to eradicate domestic violence, through education and legal measures and the implementation of a plan of action (Spain);

A - 76.21. Take further measures to prevent and combat violence against children and women (Brazil);

A - 76.22. Encourage the police to follow up on all allegations of domestic violence (United States);

A - 76.23. Take all the necessary measures to combat violence and discrimination against children (France);

A - 76.24. Intensify ongoing efforts to eradicate the illicit use of drugs and other psychotropic substances, especially among juveniles (Trinidad and Tobago);

A - 76.25. Take steps to ensure that prisoners under the age of 18 are housed separately from the general prison population (Canada);

A - 76.26. Consider including a module on human rights education and training in the education system and also in the training programmes of the members of the police force and the administrators of justice (Costa Rica);

A - 76.27. Develop opportunities afforded by international cooperation to strengthen its capacities, notably in the fight against poverty, while continuing its development programmes (Algeria);

A - 76.28. Continue applying socio-economic development strategies and plans in the country, in particular those geared towards combating poverty (Cuba);

A - 76.29. Implement food security policies to combat the negative effects of poverty (Ecuador);

A - 76.30. Develop an additional framework to secure food necessities, with the cooperation of the international community (Hungary);

A - 76.31. Continue implementing programmes and measures aimed at guaranteeing universal health and education services of quality to the entire population (Cuba);

A - 76.32. Increase the efforts to promote adolescent health, particularly with respect to reproductive health in order to combat teenage pregnancy (Norway);

A - 76.33. With international cooperation and technical assistance, continue strengthening its education policy with a view to provide a comprehensive education that responds to the needs of its people, as the only means to advance towards full development, in conditions that guarantee full equality and the inclusion of the most vulnerable sectors of the population (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela).

77. The following recommendations enjoy the support of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, which considers that they are already implemented or in the process of implementation:

A - 77.1. Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Spain);

A - 77.2. Increase the efforts to conduct open and transparent dialogue with civil society on any changes to legislation which affect the rights of citizens (United Kingdom);

A - 77.3. Increase efforts (Slovenia) to harmonize domestic legislation with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Uruguay);

A - 77.4. Undertake the measures necessary to increase the statistical capacity on the situation of children in the country, to facilitate the development of adequate policies (Uruguay);

A - 77.5. Create awareness-raising campaigns and national policies to prevent and combat discrimination in any form (Brazil);

A - 77.6. Respect international standards on capital punishment, especially the principles stated in resolution 1984/50 of the Economic and Social Council, and in particular ensure that capital punishment is applied only for the most serious crimes (Belgium);

A - 77.7. Adopt legal or/and social awareness-raising measures to reduce violence against women (Ecuador);

A - 77.8. Conduct a public awareness campaign regarding domestic violence, ensuring that citizens understand the protection afforded to them under the law (United States);

A - 77.9. Take further measures to improve the living conditions in the prison system, in particular to reduce overcrowding and to improve prisoners' access to health and education services (Austria);

- A - 77.10. Take prompt measures to put an end to the current overcrowding and precarious conditions of prisoners (Spain);
- A - 77.11. Take appropriate steps to establish "Approved Schools" as provided for in the Juvenile Act with the aim of, inter alia, separating juveniles from adult offenders serving custodial sentences (Malaysia);
- A - 77.12. Finalize the child protection protocol and establish the "Approved Schools" for juveniles as provided for by Government in the Juvenile Act (Barbados);
- A - 77.13. Promote prevention and assistance policies in the area of reproductive health, in particular for adolescents (Mexico);
- A - 77.14. Increase efforts to provide medical support for children and promote adolescent health policies with respect to reproductive health (Hungary);
- A - 77.15. Ensure adequate health and counselling support for adolescent mothers and take further steps to encourage the girls' return to school upon delivering their child (Norway);
- A - 77.16. Redouble efforts to prevent school dropout and promote school enrolment in the rural areas (Mexico).

78. The following recommendations will be examined by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the eighteenth session of the Human Rights Council in September 2011:

- P - 78.1. Sign (Spain) and ratify (Maldives) the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and establish a national preventive mechanism (Maldives);
- A - 78.2. Consider adhering to the human rights instruments to which it is not yet party, particularly the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Costa Rica);
- P - 78.3. Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Spain) as soon as possible, allowing individual complaints of alleged violations of these rights to be heard by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);
- P - 78.4. Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Spain);
- NC - 78.5. Consider signing and progressively ratifying international human rights instruments to which the country is not yet a party, especially the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Uruguay);
- P - 78.6. Ratify the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Slovakia);
- P - 78.7. Ratify the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court and ensure its implementation in national law (Slovenia);
- A - 78.8. Harmonize domestic legislation with the Convention on the Rights of the Child through technical assistance and establish laws that regulate areas that are not yet regulated, such as child pornography or disability (Spain);
- A - 78.9. Address the concerns of UNICEF that the principles and provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child were not, as at 2010, explicitly set forth in the domestic legislation (Haiti);
- R - 78.10. Establish a national human rights institution in accordance/compliance with the Paris Principles (Spain, South Africa, Maldives, Chile);

R - 78.11. Establish a national human rights institution accredited by the International Coordinating Committee (Slovenia) for the promotion and protection of human rights (Haiti);

R - 78.12. Consider the possibility of creating, with the aid and assistance of the international community, a national human rights institution accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (Algeria);

P - 78.13. Consider opening a small permanent mission in Geneva, using facilities provided by the newly opened Commonwealth Small States Office (Maldives);

R - 78.14. Consider (Chile) extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Austria, Spain, Portugal, Ecuador) as a way of informing and supporting human rights reforms (Maldives);

A - 78.15. Codify and harmonize the national legislation to expressly prohibit discrimination, and in accordance with the existing international human rights standards (Mexico);

R - 78.16. Take steps to combat racial discrimination encountered by children belonging to certain minorities and adopt legislation to combat discrimination experienced by children living with disabilities since there is no specific legislation in this area (Haiti);

A - 78.17. Adopt mandatory accessibility standards with respect to new and renovated construction to ensure the avoidance and removal of barriers that hinder access by persons with disabilities (United States);

NC - 78.18. Institute policies and initiatives to address discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity (Canada);

A - 78.19. Circulate and implement the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), as part of its development of the correctional facility and seek appropriate assistance from OHCHR and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the implementation (Thailand);

P - 78.20. Raise the minimum age for employment from 14 to 16, so that it conforms with the age of completion of compulsory education (Trinidad and Tobago);

P - 78.21. Raise the age of criminal responsibility in compliance with international standards (Slovakia); and ensure that only the juvenile justice system deals with cases of children under 18 years (Uruguay);

P - 78.22. Provide suitable, dedicated secure facilities for serious juvenile offenders, with greater training for personnel involved in their supervision, and meaningful alternatives to imprisonment for minor juvenile offenders (United Kingdom);

P - 78.23. Raise the minimum age for marriage of both sexes to bring it in line with international standards (Ecuador);

P - 78.24. Address the concerns of UNICEF that discrimination persists in the law relating to marriage as regards the minimum legal age of marriage, which is 15 for girls and 16 for boys; these ages are too low in both cases, according to UNICEF (Haiti);

P - 78.25. In accordance with the observations of the International Labour Organization, raise to 16 the minimum age for employment, with a view to harmonizing it with the age of completion of compulsory school education, and thus combat both the phenomenon of children dropping out of school as well as child labour (Honduras);

R - 78.26. Repeal all discriminatory provisions against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people (France).

79. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines:

R - 79.1. Sign (Portugal), accede to (Australia) and ratify the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the abolition of capital punishment (Spain, Slovenia);

R - 79.2. Ratify and implement the second Optional Protocol of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (United Kingdom);

R - 79.3. Bring the legislation into conformity with the country's commitment to equality and non-discrimination and its international human rights obligations, by repealing all provisions which may be applied to criminalize sexual activity between consenting adults (United Kingdom);

R - 79.4. Consider the possibility (Ecuador) of abolishing the death penalty (Brazil, Norway);

R - 79.5 Enact legislation (Austria) to definitively abolish (France, Australia) the death penalty; repeal the death penalty (Canada); take steps towards the complete abolition of the death penalty (Slovakia);

R - 79.6. Declare a moratorium to abolish capital punishment and commute such punishment to deprivation of liberty (Spain);

R - 79.7. Introduce (Belgium) and establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolish the death penalty (Slovenia);

R - 79.8. Establish a de jure moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Portugal) or as a step towards its abolition (Hungary); and support the General Assembly resolution on the use of the death penalty (Portugal);

R - 79.9. Prohibit corporal punishment at school, at home and in public institutions for children and in the context of the administration of justice (France);

R - 79.10. Adopt pertinent legislative measures to prohibit all forms of corporal punishment against children and adolescents in any situation (Uruguay);

R - 79.11. Amend legislation to prohibit the caning of minors (Belgium);

R - 79.12. Consider revising its Criminal Code, in particular with a view to decriminalizing sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex (Brazil);

R - 79.13. Repeal all provisions in the law which may be used to criminalize consensual sexual activity between adults (United States);

R - 79.14. Abolish section 146 of the Criminal Code as a first step towards the introduction of a law prohibiting the discrimination of same-sex relationships (Germany); repeal this section, which criminalizes sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex (Norway);

R - 79.15. Eliminate legal sanctions against consensual sexual acts between adults in private (Canada);

R - 79.16. Implement the 2008 recommendation of the Human Rights Committee by decriminalizing sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex (France);

R - 79.17. Implement the 2008 recommendation of the Human Rights Committee to repeal section 146 of the Criminal Code, which criminalizes sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex (Slovenia).

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