

2RP: Responses to Recommendations & Voluntary Pledges

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

Second Review Session 23

Review in the Working Group: 11 November 2015

Adoption in the Plenary: 18 March 2016

Sao Tome and Principe's responses to recommendations (as of 16.06.2016):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
144 recs accepted (59 of which are considered implemented or in the process of implementation), 2 recs noted	No Addendum	The State delegation was not present.	Accepted: 144 Noted: 2 Total: 146

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/31/17:

107. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Sao Tome and Principe and enjoy the support of Sao Tome and Principe:

A - 107.1 Continue to ratify the international conventions on human rights (Angola);

A - 107.2 Strive to accede to core human rights instruments relevant to the enjoyment of human rights for all persons (Nigeria);



- A - 107.3 Consider ratifying or acceding to the core international human rights treaties (Ukraine);
- A - 107.4 Complete the ratification of key international instruments that Sao Tomé and Príncipe has signed, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Canada);
- A - 107.5 Ratify the main human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention against Torture (Costa Rica);
- A - 107.6 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its two Optional Protocols (Germany);
- A - 107.7 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its first Optional Protocol allowing individual complaints (Ghana);
- A - 107.8 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro);
- A - 107.9 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Armenia);
- A - 107.10 Accelerate the process of ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture (Turkey);
- A - 107.11 Ratify all the core international human rights treaties to which the country is not yet a party, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Torture as well as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Brazil);
- A - 107.12 Finalise the accession to the international instruments on the protection of human rights signed by the country, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its second Optional Protocol aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (France);
- A - 107.13 Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Armenia);
- A - 107.14 Consider ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Second Optional Protocol (Namibia);
- A - 107.15 Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Australia);
- A - 107.16 Consider ratifying the following international instruments: the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Democratic Republic of the Congo);

A - 107.17 Ratify following international legal instruments, respectively: (i) the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and its Optional Protocol; (ii) the Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol; and finally, the three Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Portugal);

A - 107.18 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Ghana);

A - 107.19 Intensify efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture (Denmark);

A - 107.20 Continue its efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture (Indonesia);

A - 107.21 Ratify the Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol (Ghana);

A - 107.22 Ratify the Convention against Torture (Montenegro);

A - 107.23 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Rwanda);

A - 107.24 Ratify the Convention against Torture, signed in 2000 (Senegal);

A - 107.25 Ratify the Convention against Torture, ICERD and ICCPR (Spain);

A - 107.26 Ratify and fully implement the Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 107.27 Ratify the six core international human rights instruments, including the Convention against Torture, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Sierra Leone);

A - 107.28 Develop and implement the policies that promote the rights of the child and accede to the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Estonia);

A - 107.29 Develop a comprehensive strategy and national plan of action for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Sierra Leone);

A - 107.30 Ratify the core international human rights treaties, signed by Sao Tome and Principe, as well as accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Slovenia);

A - 107.31 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2013 (Togo);

A - 107.32 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Uruguay);

A - 107.33 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Uruguay);

- A - 107.34 Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Australia);
- A - 107.35 Continue its efforts to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);
- A - 107.36 Accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);
- A - 107.37 Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC in order to finalise the accession to this instrument signed in 2000 (France);
- A - 107.38 Ratify the Rome Statute on the Establishment of the ICC (Ghana);
- A - 107.39 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Poland);
- A - 107.40 Ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia);
- A - 107.41 Take measures to establish the National Child Rights Committee with the financial resources necessary to operate (Costa Rica);
- A - 107.42 Operationalize the National Child Rights Committee in order to ensure the effective promotion and protection of their rights and to enable their integral development (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- A - 107.43 Perpetuate the measures carried out to establish a National Child Rights Committee (Equatorial Guinea);
- A - 107.44 Create a special mechanism responsible for independent child rights monitoring (Estonia);
- A - 107.45 Operationalize the National Human Rights Institution and the National Child Rights Committee (Morocco);
- A - 107.46 Allocate sufficient resources to the National Child Rights Committee in order to reinstate the functions of this Committee (Namibia);
- A - 107.47 Consider establishing an independent mechanism for monitoring children's rights and providing necessary financial resources for its functioning (Poland);
- A - 107.48 Revitalize the National Child Rights Committee and allocate it sufficient resources for the carrying out of its mandate (Senegal);
- A - 107.49 Establish an independent mechanism to monitor the rights of the child, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the recommendations from the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Spain);
- A - 107.50 Consider the creation of a body responsible for the follow up of the implementation of international human rights treaty obligations and implementation of recommendations of United Nations bodies with competence in this area (Portugal);



- A - 107.51 Make efforts aimed at preparing further National reports for future UPR cycles well in advance (Ukraine);
- A - 107.52 Cooperate with Treaty Bodies in submitting its reports regularly (Congo);
- A - 107.53 Submit overdue reports to Treaty Bodies (Ethiopia);
- A - 107.54 Strengthen its cooperation with Treaty Bodies (Senegal);
- A - 107.55 Submit its long overdue reports to the relevant Treaty Bodies (Sierra Leone);
- A - 107.56 Present overdue reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Ukraine);
- A - 107.57 Provide women with equal access to education and employment opportunities, and give priority attention to women-led households in the Government's poverty-alleviation and food security programs (Philippines);
- A - 107.58 Improve prison conditions in the country, focusing particularly on the medical care and nutrition of inmates (United States of America);
- A - 107.59 Provide adequate resources to enable the Counselling Centre to discharge its mandate more effectively (Ghana);
- A - 107.60 Ensure the allocation of adequate resources to the Counselling Center against Domestic Violence, in order to enable its full functioning (Portugal);
- A - 107.61 Remove any rule authorizing corporal punishment and incorporate effective sanctions for such practices, as well as carry out general awareness-raising campaigns against ill-treatment of children that emphasize the peaceful resolution of violent relationships (Chile);
- A - 107.62 Take all necessary measures to provide street children with protection and rehabilitation (Egypt);
- A - 107.63 Prohibit all corporal punishment of children in all settings and repeal the right to punish children "appropriately and moderately" in the Family Law (Estonia);
- A - 107.64 Fully enforce the prohibition of child labour in the informal, agricultural and domestic work, including by ensuring the right to education to all children and by defining a list of hazardous work (Slovenia);
- A - 107.65 Develop programmes and policies of prevention, recovery, and social reintegration of child victims (Spain);
- A - 107.66 Ensure that laws prohibiting children from participating in hazardous occupations or activities are precise and enforced (United States of America);
- A - 107.67 Enact without delay legislation for the protection of children, such as prohibition of corporal punishment under any circumstances, and to swiftly work towards the ratification of the human rights instruments to which São Tomé and Príncipe has earlier committed itself, namely the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Torture, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Netherlands);

A - 107.68 Create conditions and human and material resources to make the justice system more effective (Angola);

A - 107.69 Expedite essential reforms of the judiciary (Ukraine);

A - 107.70 Implement Law 7/2010 that creates a special court for children, that is able to address the particularities of these disputes (Chile);

A - 107.71 Consider increasing the resources of social protection, in particular for families suffering from poverty (Egypt);

A - 107.72 Intensify efforts to engage with development partners to support policies and programs that would advance the socio-economic rights of its people (Philippines);

A - 107.73 Continue to strengthen its social policies and programmes in order to improve the quality of life of the people, particularly the most excluded sectors (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

A - 107.74 Take necessary measures to reduce poverty, in particular among women and children (Algeria);

A - 107.75 Continue to develop actions to improve the right to food of the whole population, including through the implementation of the National Program of Food and Nutritional Security (Cuba);

A - 107.76 Improve access to drinking water and sanitation through a national action plan (Turkey);

A - 107.77 Continue efforts to improve access of all the population to drinking water and sanitation (Algeria);

A - 107.78 Continue its efforts to improve human rights, especially in the field of health (Djibouti);

A - 107.79 Extend the scope of free basic health care to groups that are not yet covered by this benefit (Chile);

A - 107.80 Establish follow-up to carry through the teaching and training strategy (Equatorial Guinea);

A - 107.81 Continue working on improvement of quality education (Ethiopia);

A - 107.82 Take appropriate measures to improve the accessibility and quality of education (Maldives);

A - 107.83 Further strengthen the ongoing policies in the field of education (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

A - 107.84 Assist pregnant teenagers and teenage mothers to continue their education and guarantee the enjoyment of their fundamental rights (Djibouti);

A - 107.85 Continue to address efforts to mitigate effects of climate change, both nationally and internationally (Maldives).

108. The following enjoy the support of Sao Tome and Principe, which considers that they are already implemented or in the process of implementation:



- A - 108.1 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Congo);
- A - 108.2 Strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the national legislation (Cuba);
- A - 108.3 Establish a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Chile);
- A - 108.4 Establish a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, in order to strengthen the national system of human rights alongside the recently established Ministry of Human Rights (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- A - 108.5 Consider establishing a National Human Rights Institution (Egypt);
- A - 108.6 Continue the institutional framework initiated to establish a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Equatorial Guinea);
- A - 108.7 Establish a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (France);
- A - 108.8 Establish without delay a national human rights institution that complies with the Paris Principles (Ireland);
- A - 108.9 Take urgent steps to establish an independent National Human Rights Institution free from governmental control, and in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Ghana);
- A - 108.10 Establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mexico);
- A - 108.11 Set up a National Human Rights Institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mozambique);
- A - 108.12 Register all children immediately after birth and ensure that birth registration legislation is in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in its 2013 Concluding Observations (Canada);
- A - 108.13 Redouble national measures aimed at ensuring that every child in the country is issued with a birth certificate promptly at birth (Ghana);
- A - 108.14 Continue efforts to ensure that all children are registered immediately after birth and that birth registration and the issuance of birth certificates are provided free of charge (Rwanda);
- A - 108.15 Strengthen the strategies and measures for fulfilling children's rights in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Plan (Rwanda);
- A - 108.16 Continue to provide the enabling environment for the institutions responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights and particularly by establishing a national human rights institution (Nigeria);
- A - 108.17 Establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Poland);

- A - 108.18 Accelerate efforts to establish an independent national human rights institution which is in conformity with the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone);
- A - 108.19 Establish a national human rights institution for the promotion and protection of human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles (South Africa);
- A - 108.20 Create a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Timor-Leste);
- A - 108.21 Create an independent national institution for promotion and protection of human rights in conformity with Paris Principles (Togo);
- A - 108.22 Take necessary measures to create an independent mechanism to monitor the situation of human rights in conformity with the Paris Principles (Turkey);
- A - 108.23 Continue to strengthen the steps already made for the creation of a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- A - 108.24 Finalize the on-going study, create and establish a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Cabo Verde);
- A - 108.25 Ensure that all children are registered immediately after birth, and ensure that the national legislation regulating birth registration is in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (South Africa);
- A - 108.26 In order to sustain the increased rate of birth registration, take necessary measures to ensure all children an immediate registration, followed by the issuance of a birth certificate (Turkey);
- A - 108.27 Adopt a comprehensive strategy to combat discrimination, in particular towards poor children and children with disabilities (Egypt);
- A - 108.28 Reform the relevant legal framework to fully ensure the application of the principles of non-discrimination and equality in the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights for persons in vulnerable situations, especially women, children and persons with disabilities (Mexico);
- A - 108.29 Take active measures to revise all legislation in order to fully guarantee the application of the principle of non-discrimination in domestic laws (Namibia);
- A - 108.30 Adopt a proactive and comprehensive strategy to eliminate discrimination against all vulnerable groups (Nigeria);
- A - 108.31 Enact comprehensive legislation that fully guarantees the application of the principle of non-discrimination and ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights by every member of society (South Africa);
- A - 108.32 Review its legislation to adopt a comprehensive strategy aimed at elimination of discrimination in all its forms and in respect of all the vulnerable groups, especially poor and disabled children (Turkey);
- A - 108.33 Take all necessary measures to review its domestic law and ensure that children born outside marriage are registered and enjoy their human rights on an equal condition with others (Argentina);

A - 108.34 Enact and implement legislation that prohibits discrimination in employment and occupation based on disability, language, sexual orientation, gender identity, and HIV-positive status or other communicable diseases (Australia);

A - 108.35 Adopt legislation that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Netherlands);

A - 108.36 Educate the public and law enforcement on women's legal rights, particularly in cases of rape and domestic violence, while undertaking to develop and implement a holistic strategy to prevent family violence, with the participation of all stakeholders (Canada);

A - 108.37 Strengthen the effective implementation of the measures aiming at combatting discriminations and violence against women (France);

A - 108.38 Comprehensively address harmful cultural practices, and increase the age of marriage to 18, in conformity with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Sierra Leone);

A - 108.39 Take urgent steps to reduce and eliminate domestic and sexual violence against women, including measures to raise awareness of women's legal rights in consultation with civil society groups, and ensuring fair and expeditious trials of domestic and sexual violence cases (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 108.40 Fight against stigmatization of child victims of exploitation and sexual abuse (Djibouti);

A - 108.41 Continue efforts to ensure respect for the rights of the child including developing a comprehensive national strategy to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children including domestic violence, sexual trafficking and exploitation of the children (France);

A - 108.42 Prohibit corporal punishment in law as previously recommended (Germany);

A - 108.43 Repeal the parental right "to punish" children in family law and define what constitutes ill-treatment in line with the State's international obligations (Germany);

A - 108.44 Develop programmes and policies for the prevention, recovery and social integration of child victims of trafficking and exploitation in accordance with the outcome documents adopted at the 1996, 2001 and 2008 World Congresses against Sexual Exploitation of Children, held in Stockholm, Yokohama and Rio de Janeiro, respectively (Ireland);

A - 108.45 Redouble efforts to devise a comprehensive national strategy and ensure implementation of action plans for the protection of the rights of the child, particularly in the area of prevention from child labour, violence and abuse (Philippines);

A - 108.46 Continue to actively promote the explicit abolition of corporal punishment against children in its domestic legislation, aiming at its full and complete prohibition (Portugal);

A - 108.47 Amend the law and expressly prohibit corporal punishment (Spain);

A - 108.48 Take specific measures to combat harmful practices in law and in practice, bearing in mind the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Spain);

A - 108.49 Amend its legislation so as to include prohibition of corporal punishment (Timor-Leste);

A - 108.50 Elaborate an inclusive strategy for the protection of children, particularly concerning all forms of violence, abuse, and access to education without discrimination (Turkey);

A - 108.51 Adopt a national coordination framework to combat all forms of violence against children, dealing with aspects of gender violence (Uruguay);

A - 108.52 Amend existing legislation in order to prohibit all forms of corporal punishment of children in all settings, promoting positive and non-violent forms of discipline (Uruguay);

A - 108.53 Elaborate and implement a strategy and national action plan for the protection of the rights of children, and ensure, in particular, to counter effectively the risk of child trafficking (Cabo Verde);

A - 108.54 Take all necessary measures with a view to explicitly prohibiting all forms of corporal punishment of children in all settings, to combat violence and to enhance the promotion of children's rights, dignity and physical integrity (Brazil);

A - 108.55 Design and implement awareness-raising campaigns on the benefits of access to health services to prevent curable diseases (Mexico);

A - 108.56 Design and implement a sexual and reproductive health program for adolescents (Mexico);

A - 108.57 Establish a national plan for universal access to education (Morocco);

A - 108.58 Establish a compulsory education age that is equal to or higher than the minimum age for employment (United States of America);

A - 108.59 Establish a national policy to address the rights of persons with disabilities (Maldives).

109. Sao Tome and Principe considers that the recommendations below cannot be accepted and would thus be noted:

N - 109.1 Conduct campaigns to promote awareness among the population in general of the need to treat the elderly with dignity, and simultaneously, to eradicate practices and beliefs associated with witchcraft rituals (Portugal);

N - 109.2 Deepen legislative measures to eliminate the use of harmful traditional practices associated with the belief in witchcraft, that lead to delays in medical treatment provided to children and unnecessary exacerbation of treatable conditions, as expressed by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Argentina).

110. The Delegation considers that the practices mentioned in the recommendations contained in paragraphs 109.1 and 109.2 do not exist in Sao Tome and Principe

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