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Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Trinidad and Tobago

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-fifth session from 2 to 13 May 2016. The review of Trinidad and Tobago was held at the 15th meeting on 10 May 2016. The delegation of Trinidad and Tobago was headed by His Excellency Eden Charles, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. At its 20th meeting held on 13 May 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Trinidad and Tobago.

2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Trinidad and Tobago: Kenya, Georgia and Qatar.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Trinidad and Tobago:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TTO/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TTO/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/25/TTO/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Norway, Slovenia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Spain was transmitted to Trinidad and Tobago through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. Trinidad and Tobago stated that it was honoured to participate in its Second Cycle Review and indicated that the preparation of the national report had involved various stakeholders including government ministries, other state agencies, and representatives of civil society.

6. In fulfilling its human rights obligations, it had sought to implement measures to address priority areas such as the protection of the rights of women and children, poverty reduction, improvement in the administration of justice and reducing the amount of violent crimes. With regard to the continued increase of violent crime given the country's vulnerability to drug trafficking and illegal arms trade, the Government took steps to address this issue with the passage of various pieces of legislation such as the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2011, the enactment of the Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Act, 2010, as well as the Interception of Communication Act, 2010.

7. The Government continued to improve the administration of justice in an effort to reduce the backlog of cases before the Courts, specifically those related to the length of time that a person may be detained before being brought before Courts. To address this issue, the Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) Act, 2011 and the Indictable Offences (Committal Proceedings) Act, 2014 were enacted.

8. The Police Complaints Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, also offered a safe, independent environment in which complaints may be lodged and investigated. This service was offered free of charge as an accessible mechanism for members of the public to submit complaints against police officers and to curb the use of unnecessary force by the Police Service in the conduct of their work.

9. The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service had also implemented the “Policing for People Initiative” to provide officers with the training required to improve the quality of policing. The aim was to change the culture of the police service in its interaction with the public in order to be a closer alliance between the Police Service and the public, with the concomitant effect of greater cooperation in the fight against crime.

10. On death penalty, Trinidad and Tobago informed that it was only applicable for crimes of murder and treason and that before applying the death sentence, due process was carefully observed, through the imposition of several safeguards. These safeguards included commutation of the death sentence if not carried out within 5 years; appeals to the Court of Appeal and to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, the final Court of Appeal; and the right of a prisoner to apply to the Advisory Committee on the Power of Pardon by virtue of section 89 of the Constitution. The death penalty has been in abeyance since 1999.

11. Various policy mechanisms were also in place to protect and promote the rights of prisoners. The Penal Reform and Transformation Unit was established in 2002 to review the penal system. Since then, further reforms had been implemented towards a more restorative system of justice. The Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service was guided by the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. Strategies had also been adopted to meet the needs of imprisoned women to ensure that the mother-child relationship was maintained and to address women’s health needs especially related to pregnancy and revenue earning. Inmates were able to benefit from the rehabilitative system, involving religious/spiritual programmes of all faiths, psychological services, medical services, cognitive/moral programmes relating to leadership, conflict resolution, drug rehabilitation, counselling, adolescent development, self-esteem and anger management, social/sporting programmes, educational programmes ranging from academic to vocational, some of which were conducted by the Prison Service.

12. The Ministry of National Security had embarked upon the introduction and implementation of a system of Offender Management. This system sought to establish a seamless process for offenders from the point of arrest through to the point of release. At its core, was the delivery of a managed set of interventions, sequenced and tailored to respond to the risks and needs of the individual offender.

13. In light of the accepted recommendation to improve the living conditions in prisons and detention centers, the Prison Service Act, 1965 was amended by the Miscellaneous Provisions (Prisons) Act, 2014 along with the Prison Rules to provide for, among other things, the removal of an Inspector of Prisons and the creation of an Inspectorate of Prisons and the establishment of an Appeals Tribunal in respect of disciplinary actions against prisoners. The Inspectorate was charged with the responsibility to inspect and report on the conditions in prisons, industrial institutions, the treatment of prisoners, prisoner complaints and programmes, facilities, services and opportunities available to promote the rehabilitation of prisoners and young offenders.

14. Trinidad and Tobago had sought to implement the accepted recommendation to reduce the case backlog and address the inefficiencies in the judicial system that contributed to lengthy pre-trial detentions and exacerbated difficult prison conditions. In September 2015, the Chief Justice of Trinidad and Tobago announced the approval of Criminal Case Management Rules that would facilitate early disclosure and disposal of preliminary issues, impose stricter timelines and also impose a positive obligation on all

parties, including Judicial Officers to assist in progressing cases in accordance with the overriding objective of dealing with cases justly and expeditiously.

15. Regarding poverty reduction especially as it related to women, Trinidad and Tobago informed that such matters were now addressed under the Office of the Prime Minister with a Minister of State having responsibility for gender affairs. Financial assistance was provided through the “Women in Harmony” Programme to women who headed households as single parents with little or no skills and low or no income for more than a decade.

16. Another initiative geared towards the enhancement of women with specific needs was the “Non-traditional Skills Training Programme for Women”. It was designed to provide specialized, technical/vocational education and training to low income women. This programme was aimed at raising the economic productivity among unskilled, unemployed women between the ages of 18 – 50 years and since 2001, had trained over 3000 women in non-traditional fields.

17. Trinidad and Tobago had also paid attention to the needs of persons with disabilities. A Disability Affairs Unit, within the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services, and a National Coordinating Committee on Disability had been established. Additionally, a Draft National Policy on Persons with Disabilities and a Draft Disabilities Bill were under consideration. Broad programmes were also developed to ensure the safety and independence of the differently-abled. The Government provided financial assistance to purchase aids and assistance devices and the Public Transport Service Corporation provided a dial-a-ride service to transport differently-abled persons to work, to school, to Government offices and to the supermarket.

18. Efforts had been made by the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development to promote and encourage the integration of persons with disabilities into the labour market in both the public and private sectors.

19. Efforts in safeguarding the rights of persons with disabilities had been strengthened with the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2015. An Inter-Ministerial Committee was established to operationalize the articles of the Convention.

20. In July 2015, the National Enrichment Centre for Persons with Disabilities was commissioned to enhance the quality of life of persons with disabilities. The Centre was earmarked to provide rehabilitation services, opportunities for vocational training and employment, independent life skills programmes, socially interactive activities and therapeutic services for persons with disabilities at no cost.

21. The right of children with disabilities to access education was supported by the Special Education Unit of the Student Support Services Division of the Ministry of Education.

22. Trinidad and Tobago sought to implement various recommendations made during its initial review concerning the full implementation of the Children’s Authority and the proclamation of the Children Act, 2012. On 18 May 2015, the Children Act, 2012 was proclaimed which resulted in the immediate operationalization of the Children’s Authority. The Children Act, 2012 along with other legislation and the Children’s Authority represented an overhaul of the former child protection system to a new regime. The Children Act, 2012, repealed and replaced the Children Act, 1925. The new legislation was wide ranging in its scope and dealt with, among other things, sexual conduct against children, cruelty, juvenile justice, corporal punishment, compulsory school age, evidence and procedures in relation to children in criminal proceedings, Children’s Attorneys and the employment of children. The Children’s Authority which was established by the Children’s Authority Act, 2000 served as the hub of the new national child protection system and

performed several key functions geared towards safeguarding and improving the lives of children in Trinidad and Tobago. The Children's Authority received and investigated reports of the mistreatment of children and, in order to deliver the most effective service, had established a 24-hour Helpline where reports could be made anonymously. It had also established an Emergency Response Team to investigate reports of the mistreatment of children on a 24-hour basis.

23. The Government had devised a number of programmes and initiatives to promote and protect the rights of children. The Family and Children Division Bill, 2016 sought to make jurisdiction for all family matters and children matters exercisable in a specific Division of the High Court.

24. Trinidad and Tobago was a State Party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. The national laws also gave effect to the provisions of these treaties, for example, the International Child Abduction Act, 2008. Administratively, a Civil Child Abduction Unit under the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs, served as a Central Authority, in matters of parental abduction. Other measures included the Child Advocacy Unit which operated out of the Solicitors General's Department.

25. A Child Protection Unit (CPU) within the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) which was staffed by specially trained officer investigated all matters pertaining to child abuse. CPUs existed in more than half of the police geographical divisions.

26. The Children Act, 2012 prohibited the use of corporal punishment in schools. The Act also addressed issues relating to the sale of children, child pornography, and child prostitution. These actions were supported by the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2011 which also provided some protection for children under heinous crimes.

27. The protection of the rights of the women of Trinidad and Tobago was of fundamental importance to the Government. The Government had recognized that, as in any society, women fall victim to domestic violence, sexual harassment and other forms of emotional and verbal abuse. In addition to specific legislation covering many of these offences, women were also protected under the Sexual Offences Act, 1986. Other legislation that protected women from abuse and discrimination included the Domestic Violence Act, 1999, Trafficking in Persons Act, 2011 and Equal Opportunities Act, 2000. In 2012, the Maternity Protection Act, 1998 was amended by the Miscellaneous Provisions (Maternity Protection and the Masters and Servants Ordinance) Act, 2012. These specific pieces of legislation supplemented the provisions of Section 4 of the Constitution which entrenched the fundamental rights and freedoms of all citizens.

28. Education remained at the forefront of the Government's investment in sustainable development. In 2015, Trinidad and Tobago achieved Universal Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), which was coupled with the existing Universal Primary and Universal Secondary education, as well as Universal Tertiary education up to the undergraduate level. Further to these policy measures, there were important legislative changes that promoted the right to education. With the proclamation of the Children Act, 2012, the age of compulsory schooling had increased from 6-12 to 5-16 years.

29. Despite the progress achieved under the MDGs, in September 2015, Trinidad and Tobago joined the rest of the international community in adopting the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and had embarked on its implementation within the context of the Government's national development plan, Vision 2030.

30. Trinidad and Tobago underscored that it was committed to putting in place measures and mechanisms to meet international human rights obligations for the benefit of all its citizens. The country expressed appreciation for the receipt of advance questions and

indicated its readiness to receive recommendations and comments emanating from the Working Group.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

31. During the interactive dialogue, 56 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

32. The Netherlands welcomed the on-going parliamentary debate on equal rights and non-discrimination of the LGBTI community. Since discrimination based on sexual orientation remained prevalent, the Netherlands highlighted the need to improve the fulfilment of rights of LGBTI persons.

33. Nicaragua highlighted reforms and improvements in the area of children's rights, rights of persons with disabilities and combating trafficking, as well as efforts towards restitution of women's rights. It commended the ratification of the CRPD and the establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Committee to oversee its implementation. Nicaragua encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to pay particular attention to vulnerable groups.

34. Nigeria noted the broad consultations, covering national institutions and NGOs, in the compilation of Trinidad and Tobago's report. It highlighted the fact that the recommendations accepted during last review had been implemented. Nigeria commended the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act and the establishment of a Counter-Trafficking Unit and noted the review of the Administration of Justice Act and the establishment of a Juvenile Court.

35. Norway noted the legislative reforms relating to violence against women, despite the high level of gender-based violence was a concern. Norway was also worried about continued stigma and discrimination against LGBTI-persons, as well as people living with HIV. It noted with concern that Trinidad and Tobago had failed to outlaw child marriage.

36. Pakistan noted that despite resource constraints, Trinidad and Tobago had made efforts to implement the majority of the first cycle recommendations. It commended the ratification of the CRPD and stressed that the Children Act, Child Protection Units, National Health Card and policies related to the elimination of discrimination against women would contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights.

37. Panama acknowledged efforts towards combating corruption and recognized that this was a systemic problem hindering the full enjoyment of human rights. It highlighted achievements in the field of children's rights and rights of persons with disabilities.

38. Paraguay welcomed significant legislative progress. It urged Trinidad and Tobago to further progress in matters related to the elimination of discrimination against women, empowerment of women in decision-making processes and eradication of violence against women. Paraguay was worried by the fact that, in certain cases, 12 year old children could marry legally.

39. The Philippines acknowledged enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act in accordance with the Palermo Protocol and the continuing cooperation with other States in matters of trafficking in persons. It remained concerned about the reported upward trend of crime rate and encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to continue adopting a human rights based approach in the implementation of its security reforms.

40. Portugal welcomed the ratification of the CRPD. It highlighted there had been no executions in Trinidad and Tobago since 1999.

41. The Republic of Korea noted the ratification of the CRPD, the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act and the Children Act, and the adoption of the National Refugee Policy as major progresses made to protect the most vulnerable groups.
42. Trinidad and Tobago noted the comments and the recommendations made by all the intervening states thus far and stated that these would be referred to the authorities in the Capital. Consultations at the government and society levels would determine whether or not they could be included in the human rights machinery.
43. In response to the issue of child marriage, Trinidad and Tobago informed that it recognized same as a critical issue. As a multi-ethnic and multi-religious country, altering existing legislation which reflected traditional norms and values needed extensive and inclusive consultation. The issue of child marriage was a subject of a current and live debate in the country and with the recent amendment to the Children Act, the age of a child had been raised to 18 years in compliance with international standards. Consultations will continue to ensure that there is no inconsistency with the raising of the age of a child to 18 and other practices that did not conform to that age limit.
44. In response to the advanced questions posed by the delegation of Norway, Trinidad and Tobago stated that it recognized that discrimination against any affected group was a scourge to be tackled. Thus taking into consideration the cultural and the diverse nature of the population, any changes to statutory law would involve extensive nationwide consultation, not only involving the affected groups, but the wider society.
45. It informed that the matter of the establishment of a NHRI in accordance with the Paris principles continued to receive the consideration of the Government. More in depth studies were being done and a holistic approach was adopted to ascertain whether or not existing institutions such as the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman could be adjusted and possibly converted into an NHRI.
46. In response to the advance question from Slovenia, Trinidad and Tobago referred to its extensive opening statement wherein it was indicated that corporal punishment was prohibited in schools.
47. Regarding UK's question on the issue of the three-tiered classification of murder and matters relating to the abolishment of the death penalty, Trinidad and Tobago indicated that when the Constitution (Amendment)(Capital Offences) Bill, 2011 was being debated, the issue of the abolishment of mandatory imposition of death penalty was discussed. Trinidad and Tobago continued to address the issue of the death penalty and stated that the death penalty is never carried out without observance of due process of law.
48. On the issue of the empowerment of women, Trinidad and Tobago mentioned the increasing number of women sitting in the two houses of the Parliament, noting that the presiding officers of both bodies were women.
49. With regard to the length of pre-trial detention, a question posed by the UK, separate pieces of legislation were currently applicable in Trinidad and Tobago, namely the Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) Act, 2011 which repealed the Indictable Offences (Preliminary Enquiry) Act, 1917. The Indictable Offences (Preliminary Enquiry) Act, 1917, continued to apply to proceedings which were instituted prior to the coming into force of the 2011 Act. Trinidad and Tobago further indicated that the situation would continue to be monitored and that consideration would be given to what was said.
50. Senegal welcomed the promulgation of the Trafficking in Persons Act, the operationalization of the Children's Authority, the ratification of the CRPD and the presentation of reports to treaties bodies, especially to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.

51. Sierra Leone noted the enactment of new legislation to improve the human rights situation. Given that there had been no executions since 1999, Sierra Leone urged Trinidad and Tobago to put in place a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing it, and to consider incorporating this abolition in their Constitutional review. Sierra Leone encouraged strengthening efforts to end sexual assault and domestic violence.

52. Singapore welcomed the Trafficking in Persons Act and the ratification of the CRPD. It wished Trinidad and Tobago success in achieving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Singapore remained committed to sharing its development experience with Trinidad and Tobago and other Small Island Developing States.

53. Slovenia congratulated efforts to promote the rights of the elderly, and engagement in gender responsive budgeting. It welcomed the ratification of the CRPD and the submission of a report to CEDAW; as steps towards implementing its past recommendations 88.1 and 87.4 8 (of the first UPR cycle). Slovenia considered its past recommendation 88.39 as partially implemented as it noted that the reviewed Children Act introduced the prohibition of corporal punishment in all settings outside the home. Slovenia noted that the death penalty continued to be mandatory for those found guilty of murder and that non-coercive sexual activity between minors of the same sex could lead to life imprisonment.

54. South Africa welcomed the enactment of several laws to promote and protect the rights of women and girls as well as continued progress in social and human development.

55. Spain congratulated Trinidad and Tobago for the ratification of the CRPD. Spain urged the signature and ratification of the ICCPR-OP2. Trinidad and Tobago should pursue combating all forms of discrimination, particularly discrimination based on sexual orientation. Spain praised efforts to combat sexual and gender-based violence.

56. Switzerland noted the ratification of the CRPD and the introduction of a national policy on refugees. It remained concerned by the insufficient implementation of first cycle UPR recommendations and advised a transparent and inclusive process for implementing both cycles' UPR recommendations.

57. Turkey commended efforts promoting gender equality and encouraged effective implementation of the draft national gender policy. It noted the establishment of the Central Registry on Domestic Violence, appreciated proclamation of a Children Act and observed on-going efforts for reducing violent crime through enactment of legislation.

58. Uganda commended Trinidad and Tobago's commitment to protect women and children, reduce poverty and the incidence of violent crime and improve the welfare of those living with HIV/AIDS; and highlighted continued efforts were necessary. It praised the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act. Uganda highlighted that increased protection of children against all forms of abuse remained the key concern.

59. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed the on-going review of the death penalty. It recognised the work undertaken to address discrimination against women and asked for concrete steps to implement existing legislation on sexual harassment and violence against women; implementing specialized Rape and Sexual Offences Units within police stations.

60. Trinidad and Tobago acknowledged the recommendations raised in this round inclusive of those urging that consideration be given to the ratification of human rights Conventions which had not yet been ratified. With regard to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, Trinidad and Tobago stressed that although it had not become a State Party to that Protocol, the Children Act addressed the question of the sale of children.

61. The United States of America commended efforts to assist persons with disabilities and provide greater safeguards for persons with HIV/AIDS. It noted efforts to improve aspects within the justice sector, but remained concerned about reports of police mistreatment and poor prison conditions. It was also concerned about violence and discrimination against women and about the lack of respect for the human rights of LGBTI persons.

62. Uruguay noted with concern the increasing number of cases that could result in the death penalty. It welcomed the establishment of a National Policy to Address Issues of Refugees and Asylum Seekers and measures concerning women's rights. Uruguay was concerned about increased maternal mortality, particularly among adolescents, and encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to redouble efforts on sexual education and access to sexual and reproductive health services.

63. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela acknowledged efforts towards implementation of accepted UPR recommendations, which had led to an effective mechanism for developing national human rights programs. It welcomed steps taken to ensure access to health, housing, food, and education. It underlined the implementation of the National Social Development Programme, the enactment of the Children Act 2012 and the National Strategic Plan for Child Development 2012-2016, and welcomed public policies aimed at strengthening the gender dimension.

64. Algeria noted the promulgation of several texts protecting children as well as the proclamation of the Trafficking in Persons Act. Algeria was, however, concerned by discrimination against persons with disabilities, poor treatment of suspect and prisoners during apprehension and custody and the legitimacy of child marriages.

65. Argentina commended the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to accede to international human rights treaties, to which it was not yet a party. Argentina also took note of the efforts to combat gender violence and discrimination suffered by women and girls.

66. Australia commended the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2015, however, indicated that persons with disabilities continued to face discrimination. Australia also remained concerned that violence and discrimination against LGBTI persons had not been addressed through legislative and policy instruments.

67. The Bahamas noted that Trinidad and Tobago had become the first Commonwealth Caribbean State to submit a UPR Mid-Term Progress Report and commended the inclusive multi-stakeholder consultations undertaken to draft the national report. The Bahamas commended strengthening of the legal framework to protect children and the gender equality initiatives, including development of tools for gender-sensitive budgeting and training programmes, which challenge traditional gender role stereotypes.

68. Barbados noted the adoption of relevant legislation in 2013 on human trafficking and the establishment of national agencies to give effect to countering this global issue; Children Act of 2012, which established a juvenile justice system; ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; decriminalization of defamation; and the National Policy to Address Refugee and Asylum Seeker Matters.

69. Botswana applauded the proclamation of a number of laws, including the Trafficking in Persons Act and the Children Act and welcomed improving access to justice and the introduction of electronic monitoring to relieve prison overcrowding. Botswana, however, noted reports of abuses carried out by law enforcement officials, including corruption, and reports of inequalities faced by women in all sectors of the economy.

70. Canada was encouraged by the commitment of Trinidad and Tobago to amend the Police Complaints Authority Act, aiming to give the Police Complaints Authority more

powers to effectively investigate serious misconduct, corruption and criminal offences involving police officials. Canada encouraged swift consideration in Parliament of new provisions as well as law enforcement training and public education initiatives to ensure its effective implementation.

71. Chile welcomed the entry into force of the Trafficking in Persons Act, ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and establishment of the National Policy to Address Refugee and Asylum Seeker Matters. Chile was, however, concerned about the maintenance of the death penalty in legislation, discrimination against LGBTI persons, violence against women and children, and early marriage of girls.

72. China appreciated strengthening of the national human rights institution, human rights education, fight against human trafficking and domestic violence to protect women, children, persons with disabilities, and improved prison conditions. China also welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, establishment of a national committee to fight trafficking in persons, and active cooperation with OHCHR, treaty bodies, and special procedures.

73. Colombia welcomed the adoption of the National Policy to Address Refugee and Asylum Seeker Matters and the establishment of a Special Joint Committee on Human Rights, Diversity, Environment and Sustainable Development.

74. Cuba underscored the announcement made by Trinidad and Tobago in 2015 of the attainment of the Universal Early Childhood Care Education. Cuba also highlighted the establishment of the Drug Treatment Court, which was an alternative to imprisonment for drug offenders, with the purpose of breaking the cycle of abuse, multiple arrests and recidivism.

75. Denmark commended Trinidad and Tobago for ratifying several of UN core human rights conventions and also submitting the latest report to CEDAW in 2015. Denmark, however, regretted that the Convention against Torture was still missing from the UN conventions ratified by Trinidad and Tobago and hoped that it would join the 159 State Parties to this Convention.

76. Ecuador acknowledged the enactment of the Children Act, which covered issues such as sexual abuse, cruelty, juvenile justice, corporal punishment, mandatory schooling age, evidence and proceedings in criminal cases and child labour. Ecuador also commended the amendments to the Regional Health Authorities Act, new medical facilities, and passing of a new regulation on emergency medical staff and services.

77. France welcomed the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago and made recommendations.

78. Georgia commended the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the adoption of a comprehensive Trafficking in Persons Act and the Children Act. Georgia also welcomed the submission of a mid-term implementation report on the recommendations accepted during the previous UPR and encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to continue this practice.

79. Germany welcomed that there had been no executions since 1999 but noted with concern tendencies to continue the promotion of the retention of the death penalty. Germany remained worried that provisions criminalizing and discriminating LGBTI persons were still in effect. Germany indicated that more actions needed to be taken to safeguard children against sexual and other physical abuse.

80. Trinidad and Tobago once more thanked the States that had made comments, and provided recommendations. It noted that the positive tone was a reflection of the

recognition of the country's efforts to implement obligations that emanated from its own national laws as well as international obligations in the realm of human rights.

81. Reference was made to previous responses with regard to police mistreatment, prison conditions, gender equality, death penalty, early marriages, affected groups and the ratification of the CAT. It was noted that while the CAT had not been ratified, Trinidad and Tobago as a State Party to the Rome Statute of the ICC, recognized torture as an international crime that should be punished by all States.

82. It welcomed the willingness of countries like Denmark to speak about exchanging best practices as one of the purposes of this peer review for all States.

83. Ghana commended Trinidad and Tobago for the progress achieved since the last review in 2011, including the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act.

84. Guatemala acknowledged the progress that Trinidad and Tobago had achieved on the basis of the voluntary commitments made during the UPR process as well as the work that had been undertaken for the fight against corruption, the rights of the child, gender equality and elimination of all forms of discrimination, and citizens' security.

85. Honduras commended the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, approval of the National Policy to Address Refugee and Asylum Seeker Matters, and the establishment of a Special Joint Committee on Human Rights, Diversity, Environment and Sustainable Development.

86. Indonesia appreciated the entry into force of the Trafficking in Persons Act, the revised Children Act, and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Indonesia further commended the juvenile justice reforms in promoting rehabilitative and restorative justice and the amendments to the Miscellaneous Provisions (Prisons) Act to improve prison and detention living conditions. Indonesia also welcomed the review of the draft Immigration Policy.

87. Italy noted positively the measures aimed at furthering the protection of children and combating trafficking in persons. Italy also welcomed the commitment of Trinidad and Tobago to promote economic, social and cultural rights, and in particular, the results achieved concerning the right to education.

88. Jamaica noted the multi-stakeholder review of the draft Immigration Policy undertaken by Trinidad and Tobago and was confident that this review, guided by the best interests of the people, would take into account regional and international commitments and best practices.

89. Kenya noted that their engagement with the Human Rights Council and the national steps they have taken have enabled the country to make valuable contributions to the work of the Council, implement core human rights treaties and protect human rights despite their challenges and constraints.

90. Malaysia noted that actions have been taken to curb crime and violence, and improve the efficiency of the administration of justice to ensure early consideration of court cases. Although significant progress has been made, Malaysia was of the view that several areas could be further improved.

91. The Maldives welcomed Trinidad and Tobago's introduction of the 2012 Children Act to ensure protection of children against sexual abuse and efforts in enacting the Administration of Justice Act of 2012. The Maldives noted the Baby Care Assistance Initiative, providing financial assistance for any child born to under-privileged parents during the course of the fiscal year.

92. Mexico encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to harmonize its national regulatory framework with the standards contained in the Convention on the Rights to Persons with Disabilities. Mexico welcomed the legislative and policy measures taken to strengthen the child protection system and urged the government to establish mechanisms to monitor and ensure their effective implementation to safeguard safety of minors.
93. Mongolia noted that violence against women, human trafficking remained issues of concern in Trinidad and Tobago and noted the state's efforts to combat such criminal activity, through the proclamation of the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2011 in 2013.
94. Montenegro noted the concerns of the CESCR Committee and asked Trinidad and Tobago to elaborate on its possible intention to amend the Equal Opportunity Act 2000 to afford protection to individuals on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity and to brief on whether a definition of discrimination against women has been incorporated in the Draft National Policy.
95. Morocco welcomed the attention paid by the state to fight crime and violence in society; to the situation of refugees and asylum seekers; to the rights of workers and employers including the right to work for persons with disabilities; the adoption of national laws protecting children against sexual violence; and facilitating access to affordable housing.
96. Brazil appreciated that Trinidad and Tobago "de facto" abolished the death penalty and encouraged Trinidad and Tobago to take concrete steps in order to formally abolish the capital punishment and the corporal punishment in its legal system.
97. Costa Rica was concerned about the functioning and effectiveness of the national commission for constitutional reform, and about reports on the prevalence of human trafficking, domestic violence, sexual violence and gender-based violence.
98. Egypt commended the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act; ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and establishment of an inter-ministerial committee to monitor the implementation of the Convention; enactment of this Children Act; and the initiatives taken by the Ministry of National Security to reinforce personal safety through fighting crimes and violence.
99. Trinidad and Tobago thanked all delegations for their contributions to the interactive dialogue. With regard to persons with disabilities, Trinidad and Tobago recalled that it had previously stated that it had ratified the CRPD and was in the process of drafting a national legislation to give domestic legal effect to the provisions under that Convention.
100. It expressed appreciation for the positive comments made on the Trafficking in Persons Act and the efforts undertaken in that field.
101. Trinidad and Tobago noted the recommendation on the ratification of the CMRW and the need for consultation with the Capital on this issue. It mentioned the issue of cooperation and multilateralism within the human rights treaties referring to a comment made by Jamaica.
102. Trinidad and Tobago informed Costa Rica that it was one of the countries which had ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) at an early stage and was currently in the process of finalizing its domestic implementing legislation. By ratifying the ATT, it had also committed to addressing gender-based violence in terms of the transfer of arms.
103. It noted that issues raised in relation to the establishment a NHRI in accordance with the Paris principles, the death penalty, affected persons and inclusivity were previously addressed.

104. In Trinidad and Tobago the issue of human rights, its safeguarding and protection concerned everybody, notwithstanding the fact that the Government had the right to set the legislative agenda to ensure that laws were passed and that administrative mechanisms were in place to safeguard the human rights of all citizens taking into account the increasing role of civil society.

105. Trinidad and Tobago commended all the delegations contributing to the interactive dialogue and highlighted its continued effort to give effect to section 4 of the Constitution, the bill of rights of Trinidad and Tobago.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

106. The recommendations listed below enjoy the support of Trinidad and Tobago:

106.1. Maintain the tempo to reform the constitution and conclude this important reform as it will consolidate and enhance the legal framework for protection and promotion of human rights (Kenya);

106.2. Continue efforts to harmonize national legislation with international human rights norms (Morocco);

106.3. Develop and implement a National Action Plan for Human Rights to further ensure systematic and comprehensive approach for the promotion and protection of human rights, with the full engagement of civil society (Indonesia);

106.4. Foster a better understanding of the needs of young people and establish guidelines for their development (Cuba);

106.5. Develop and implement a national awareness raising campaign on human rights (Maldives);

106.6. Continue to develop training programmes in the field of human rights for law enforcement officials (Egypt);

106.7. Submit overdue reports to the relevant treaty bodies (Sierra Leone);

106.8. Take steps to submit overdue reports to treaty bodies (Ghana);

106.9. Avail technical assistance from OHCHR towards implementation of its obligations under international laws and treaties (Maldives);

106.10. Continue legislative review and reform to address any instances of discrimination against women in national law (Bahamas);

106.11. Continue to promote the rights of vulnerable groups, especially women, children and persons with disabilities (Senegal);

106.12. Continue its significant efforts to promote gender equality, in particular the implementation of the Draft National Gender Policy as well as the proper enforcement of the existing legal frameworks (Norway);

106.13. Continue to promote women empowerment (Pakistan);

106.14. Develop more equitable strategies to achieve gender equality on the basis of the assessment or examination of the different needs, constraints, opportunities and priorities of men and women (Cuba);

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited

- 106.15. **Implement gender equality by establishing same wages for same jobs for men and women (Algeria);**
- 106.16. **Continue efforts to eliminate discrimination against women to allow for equal access to the labour market (Morocco);**
- 106.17. **Increase its collaboration with regional and hemispheric partners to address high levels of violence and organised crime (Jamaica);**
- 106.18. **Establish an authority that will investigate and recommend action against abuses by law enforcers as a way to curb corruption, violations and protect the integrity of the security forces (Botswana);**
- 106.19. **Enact comprehensive prison and related judicial reform to ensure that conditions of detention are in conformity with UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, including but not limited to: addressing overcrowding and sanitary issues in prisons; providing sufficient resources for rehabilitation and reintegration of prisoners; and relieving the judicial backlog that has contributed to the detention of over 2,000 people in remand awaiting a trial, many who have been in custody for several years (Canada);**
- 106.20. **Take all necessary measures to solve the problem of prison overcrowding and to improve detention conditions, including by providing sufficient resources to the body responsible for investigating allegations of torture and ill-treatment and ensuring its independence (France);**
- 106.21. **Strengthen plans and policies to eradicate violence against women (Paraguay);**
- 106.22. **Prioritise measures to significantly reduce gender-based violence including violence against women and girls (Jamaica);**
- 106.23. **Establish appropriate coordination mechanisms that can ensure an effective multisectoral response to cases of sexual and domestic violence (Guatemala);**
- 106.24. **Take steps to strengthen policies aimed at addressing gender-based violence, domestic violence, sexual harassment, rape and child sexual abuse (Ghana);**
- 106.25. **Pursue efforts to strengthen legislation and public policies aimed at eradicating violence against women (Ecuador);**
- 106.26. **Establish an adequate mechanism to ensure an effective response to sexual and domestic violence (Turkey);**
- 106.27. **Develop a coordinated, inter-agency approach for responding to gender-based violence, with support from international partners, as required (Bahamas);**
- 106.28. **Approve the national gender policy and put it into practice in order to guarantee, inter alia, the effective implementation of the Domestic Violence Act, the establishment of appropriate and effective coordination mechanisms to ensure effective multisectoral response to sexual and domestic violence and sexual harassment in the workplace and in public life, as well as the explicit prohibition of discrimination against women (Honduras);**
- 106.29. **Ensure adequate follow up to the review of the Domestic Violence Act conducted in 2014-2015 in order to strengthen measures to prevent and combat**

against all forms of discrimination and violence against women, and consider adopting a national action plan to this end (Italy);

106.30. Strengthen the response to various forms of violence against woman and take appropriate measures in order to ensure gender equality in the labor market (Egypt);

106.31. Continue its efforts in the fight against violence and discrimination against women, and ensure the effective implementation of existing legislation, particularly legislation on the minimum legal age of marriage (France);

106.32. Strengthen efforts to prevent and eradicate forced marriage of children and adolescents (Chile);

106.33. Partner with existing independent human rights organizations to monitor and evaluate government interventions that combat domestic violence (United States of America);

106.34. Fully implement the Domestic Violence Act and develop a comprehensive policy to raise awareness of and prevent domestic violence (Germany);

106.35. Develop statistics and indicators on gender-based violence in order to design and implement public policies in an effective manner (Mexico);

106.36. Ensure that rape is diligently prosecuted as a grievous sexual assault (Slovenia);

106.37. Enact laws and policies to combat the problem of sexual harassment in the workplace and in public life (Guatemala);

106.38. Put in place a system to support victims of sexual and gender-based violence (Spain);

106.39. Strengthen and expand policies, protections and programs addressing gender-based violence and sexual exploitation of children, provide targeted training to law enforcement, and ensure survivors are protected and have access to medical and legal services (Canada);

106.40. Take immediate and long term actions to eliminate discrimination and violence against women, narrow the gender gap in economic and social settings, and undertake public campaigns against gender-based violence (Malaysia);

106.41. Ensure proper investigation of child abuse (Germany);

106.42. Introduce more rigorous anti-trafficking laws to better protect women and girls (Sierra Leone);

106.43. Provide adequate funding and human resources for its anti-human trafficking programs (Philippines);

106.44. Strengthen existing policies to combat human trafficking (Spain);

106.45. Improve efforts to address human trafficking by strengthening procedures for identifying victims of trafficking (Turkey);

106.46. Continue to take steps to strengthen the protection for and assistance to victims, and to prosecute perpetrators, by ensuring the full implementation of the Trafficking in Persons Act (Singapore);

- 106.47. **Ensure that victims of trafficking are provided with the opportunity to seek asylum and enjoy the corresponding rights and services, to strengthen the effort to protect and assist victims of trafficking (Uganda);**
- 106.48. **Continue efforts to strengthen the system for combatting trafficking in persons and establish a response mechanism to provide assistance to victims of this crime (Mexico);**
- 106.49. **Continue to strengthen national efforts to address the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings (Egypt);**
- 106.50. **Provide increased support to the family as the dominant and only natural environment suitable for raising children, to ensure adequate protection (Uganda);**
- 106.51. **Step up efforts to facilitate the participation of women in political and public affairs and to combat stereotypes regarding the role of women (Argentina);**
- 106.52. **Continue the efforts to reduce the unemployment rate, eradicate poverty, and give priority to the protection and promotion of economic, social and cultural rights of people (China);**
- 106.53. **Adopt a human rights based approach in the engagement with youth, and increase the resources for youth development in urban and rural areas, including by improving the access to and quality of education (Malaysia);**
- 106.54. **Continue progressing towards the eradication of poverty, through implementing its successful social policies (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**
- 106.55. **Strengthen measures on rural development (South Africa);**
- 106.56. **Continue national efforts to address the prevalence of HIV and AIDS (South Africa);**
- 106.57. **Ensure the right to health of persons living with HIV/AIDS, through the strengthening of inter-institutional coordination, the establishment of programs to make available essential medicines, as well as strategies to address the increased rate of infection by HIV and new infections among adolescents and young women (Colombia);**
- 106.58. **Build state capacity to develop policy and programmatic responses to address the needs of people living with HIV (Norway);**
- 106.59. **Implement the updated National Policy on Persons with Disabilities (Maldives);**
- 106.60. **Review and revise domestic legislation and policies to reflect the provisions and principles of the CRPD (Australia);**
- 106.61. **Accelerate efforts to incorporate the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into national law (Bahamas);**
- 106.62. **Develop policy and legislation to promote, protect and fulfil the rights of persons with disabilities (South Africa);**
- 106.63. **Develop policy and legislation in the area of protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (Georgia);**
- 106.64. **Continue to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Pakistan);**

106.65. Take all necessary legislative and policy measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have appropriate employment opportunities and children with disabilities have access to quality education (Singapore);

106.66. Take steps to review domestic legislation and policies to reflect the provision and principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and fully implement the updated National Policy of Persons with Disabilities (Ghana);

106.67. Implement the legislation and policies to address all forms of discrimination and disability (Kenya);

106.68. Elevate the socioeconomic situation for persons with disabilities (Malaysia);

106.69. Develop public policies aimed at guaranteeing the rights of persons with disabilities, mainly in education, professional development and participation in social life on an equal footing (Mexico);

106.70. Effect the National Policy on refugee and Asylum Seekers matters the Cabinet approved in 2014 (Kenya);

107. Trinidad and Tobago considers that the following recommendation is already implemented:

107.1 Ratify and apply the Arms Trade Treaty (Costa Rica).

108. The following recommendations will be examined by Trinidad and Tobago which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-third session of the Human Rights Council in September 2016:

108.1. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Italy);

108.2. Accede to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol, and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Honduras);

108.3. Consider its accession to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Indonesia);

108.4. Ratify CAT (Turkey) (Denmark) (France) (Ghana);

108.5. Continue expanding the legal framework for the promotion and protection of human rights through the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED) as well as to consider taking steps towards the abolishment of death penalty (Mongolia);

108.6. Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Italy) (Paraguay) (Uruguay);

108.7. Ratify and accede to CAT, ICRMW and ICPPED (Sierra Leone);

108.8. Progress towards the ratification of the Convention against Torture (Chile);

108.9. Ratify the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol; the Optional

Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict; the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; as well as the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Guatemala);

108.10. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment for the establishment of a National Preventive Mechanism (Panama);**

108.11. **Ratify the Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol, as well as the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);**

108.12. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (Costa Rica);**

108.13. **Sign the Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, as well as the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Spain);**

108.14. **Consider, to the extent possible, acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Nicaragua);**

108.15. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Switzerland);**

108.16. **Ratify 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 (Uruguay);**

108.17. **Take all necessary measures to combat violence against children and ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (France);**

108.18. **Consider acceding to the 1990 International Convention on the Migrant Workers and their Families (Ecuador);**

108.19. **Consider its accession to the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Indonesia);**

108.20. **Consider ratifying the ICRMW and CAT (Philippines);**

108.21. **Ratify the International Convention on Migrant Workers (Algeria) (Ghana);**

108.22. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance without making reservations and recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider communications (Panama);**

108.23. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced (France) (Ghana);**

108.24. **Consider re-acceding to the American Convention on Human Rights and accepting the contentions jurisdiction of the Inter American Court of Human Rights (Brazil);**

- 108.25. Enact the bill on the ICCPR, which lapsed in Parliament (Nigeria);
- 108.26. Consider establishing a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) in accordance with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea)
- 108.27. Establish promptly a NHRI in full compliance with the Paris Principles (A Status) (Portugal);
- 108.28. Establish NHRI in accordance with the Paris Principles (Senegal);
- 108.29. Establish an independent human rights institution that conforms with the Paris Principles (Australia)
- 108.30. Set up a NHRI in accordance with the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone)
- 108.31. Establish a NHRI under Paris Principles to undertake and oversee the further advancement of the human rights agenda (Barbados)
- 108.32. Take appropriate measures in the legislative sphere, including allocations of financial resources with a view to strengthening the office of the Ombudsman and bring it in line with the Paris Principles (Honduras)
- 108.33. Extend a standing invitation to the Council's Special Procedures (Portugal) (Republic of Korea) (Georgia);
- 108.34. Take steps to issue standing invitations to all special procedures (Ghana);
- 108.35. Strengthen the cooperation with human rights mechanisms and extend a standing invitation to the special procedures (Turkey);
- 108.36. Take into account the recommendations of the National Commission for Equal Opportunities concerning the need to amend the Equal Opportunities legislation so that it covers the elderly, persons living with HIV and discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation (Colombia);
- 108.37. Put into effect first cycle recommendations 87.23 and 88.50, and develop policy and programmatic responses to the needs of LGBTI persons (United States of America);
- 108.38. Amend the Equal Opportunity Act to include sexual orientation and gender identity as prohibited grounds for discrimination, as part of a proactive strategy to promote respect for the dignity and rights of all individuals (Canada);
- 108.39. Adopt legislation prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, introducing also awareness-raising programs that promote respect for sexual diversity (Chile);
- 108.40. Enact legislation prohibiting discrimination against LGBTI persons, including removing laws criminalising same sex activity (Australia);
- 108.41. Repeal articles 13 and 16 of the Law on Sexual Offences of 1986, penalizing sexual relations between consenting individuals of the same sex. Despite the fact that laws criminalizing same sex activity are not enforced, a formal withdrawal of the law is highly recommended (Netherlands);
- 108.42. Take steps to combat discrimination of LGBTI people in legislation and practice, including decriminalisation of sexual activities between consenting adults of the same sex (Norway);

- 108.43. Decriminalize sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex (Slovenia) (Spain);
- 108.44. Take additional measures as necessary to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights by vulnerable groups that are suffering from discrimination, such as LGBTI persons, including investigation and punishment of cases of discrimination and repealing of laws that criminalize and stigmatize them (Argentina);
- 108.45. Put an end to discrimination (particularly legal discrimination) against LGBT persons and to criminalization of homosexuality (France);
- 108.46. Repeal all provisions that criminalize consensual same-sex relationships or that discriminate against LGBTI persons (Germany);
- 108.47. Decriminalize homosexuality and combat all forms of discrimination and abuse against LGBTI persons (Italy);
- 108.48. Decriminalize same sex relations including in the Sexual Offences Act. (Montenegro);
- 108.49. Take concrete measures with a view to decriminalizing consensual same-sex relations and abolishing any discriminatory legislation against LGBTI people, even if it is not applied in practice (Brazil);
- 108.50. Review the Children Act of 2012 in order to decriminalize consensual sexual relations between minors of the same sex (Chile);
- 108.51. Adopt a three-tiered classification of murder that will provide sentencing judges with the discretion to impose a sentence other than death and thereby preclude its mandatory imposition (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 108.52. Partner with appropriate international agencies to strengthen national capacities to collect, process, and analyse relevant human rights statistical information concerning police misconduct and prison conditions (United States of America);
- 108.53. Set the universal minimum age for marriage to 18 years, in line with the Civil Marriage Law (Norway);
- 108.54. Harmonize the minimum age for marriage, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Paraguay);
- 108.55. Harmonize all its relevant legislation relating to the age of marriage and raise the age of marriage to 18 (Sierra Leone);
- 108.56. Raise the age of marriage to 18 for both boys and girls (Slovenia);
- 108.57. Raise the minimum age of marriage in the national legislation to align it with the definition of a child in the CRC (Algeria);
- 108.58. Abolish child marriage by having a minimum age of marriage at 18 (Botswana);
- 108.59. Repeal the legislation that exempts spouses of minors from prosecution for sexual offences against their spouse (Norway);
- 108.60. Repeal the right of parents to use corporal punishment (Slovenia);
- 108.61. Prohibit corporal punishment of children at home and in schools (Honduras);

- 108.62. Take steps to decriminalise defamation (Ghana);
- 108.63. Design and implement the National Plan on Business and Human Rights in line with the UN Guiding Principles on the matter (Colombia);
- 108.64. Ensure comprehensive sexuality education, with a view to preventing teen pregnancies and the spread of sexually transmitted infections, in particular HIV (Slovenia);
- 108.65. Speed up the review of the draft Immigration policy (Nigeria);
- 108.66. Take measures to enact relevant regulatory legislation to provide adequate attention to the migrant population and their human rights (Mexico);
- 108.67. Adopt national legislation that grants legal effect to the protection of refugees and the respect for the principle of non-refoulement in accordance with the relevant international instruments (Uruguay).
109. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Trinidad and Tobago
- 109.1. Withdraw the reservation to the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and ratify, without reservations, the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Panama);
- 109.2. Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Chile);
- 109.3. Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Uruguay);
- 109.4. Establish an official moratorium on executions and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, so as to bring the legislation into conformity with the de facto situation (Netherlands);
- 109.5. Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, with a view to abolishing death penalty both in practice and in law (Portugal);
- 109.6. Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);
- 109.7. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro);
- 109.8. Abolish by law the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (France);
- 109.9. Take measures aimed at abolishing the death penalty (Paraguay);
- 109.10. Repeal the death penalty, as previously recommended (Canada);
- 109.11. Abolish the death penalty (Norway) (Honduras);
- 109.12. Consider taking steps towards the abolishment of death penalty (Mongolia);

109.13. Consider taking all necessary steps to introduce a de jure moratorium of capital executions with a view to fully abolish the death penalty (Italy);

109.14. Encourage an informed debate among the population on the topic of the death penalty and promote its de jure abolition (Switzerland);

109.15. Initiate a national discourse about the death penalty and establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty as called for by the UN General Assembly resolution 69/186 (Germany);

109.16. Establish an official moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to its full abolition (Slovenia);

109.17. Establish a de jure moratorium on the death penalty that could ultimately lead to its suppression from legislation (Spain);

109.18. Continue with the steps already taken on the right to life, liberty and security of the person and in particular to continue the moratorium on the death penalty and work towards eliminating it (Kenya);

109.19. Abolish the death penalty and declare an official moratorium on all executions as a well as repealing all provisions of national legislation that may provide for the death penalty (Costa Rica).

110. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Trinidad and Tobago was headed by H.E Eden Charles, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Chargé d’Affaires a.i. and Deputy Permanent Representative Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, New York and composed of the following members:

- Mrs. Anesa Ali-Rodriguez Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, Geneva;
 - Ms. Mariella Fonrose Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, Geneva;
 - Mr. Ian Rampersad Director, International Law and Human Rights Unit Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs.
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