

## 2RP: Responses to Recommendations & Voluntary Pledges

# VANUATU

## Second Review Session 18

Review in the Working Group: 30 January 2014

Adoption in the Plenary: 20 June 2014

### Vanuatu's responses to recommendations (as of 19.08.2014):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
No responses all pending	95 recs accepted and 14 that did not enjoy its support	No additional information provided	Accepted: 95 Noted: 14 Total: 109

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

### List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/26/9:

99. The following recommendations will be examined by Vanuatu which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council in June 2014:

N - 99.1. Consider accession to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia);

N - 99.2. Accede to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) (Estonia);

A - 99.3. Continue current efforts to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) as well as the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) as soon as possible (Switzerland);

A - 99.4. Consider ratifying the ICESCR (Spain);



N - 99.5. Sign and ratify the following international instruments: ICESCR and its Optional Protocol (OP- ICESCR), the ICERD, the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR, and finally the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Portugal);

A - 99.6. Accede to the ICERD (Iraq);

A - 99.7. Ratify the ICESCR (Ireland);

A - 99.8. Ratify ICESCR (Iraq);1

A - 99.9. Become a party to the ICESCR (Montenegro);

A - 99.10. Continue efforts in strengthening its national legal frameworks, including by ratifying the ICESCR (Indonesia);

A - 99.11. Enhance technical cooperation with and seek support from the UN human rights mechanisms for further consideration of ratification of important documents on human rights, including the ICESCR (Viet Nam);

N - 99.12. Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPED), signed in 2007 (Spain);

N - 99.13. Continue the efforts aimed at ratifying the CPED as well as the main international instruments on human rights, to which the country is not yet a party (Argentina);

N - 99.14. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 99.15. Undertake in an effective manner the necessary amendments to fully incorporate the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) into the domestic legal system as soon as possible (Switzerland);

A - 99.16. Make efforts to fully align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute (Slovenia);

A - 99.17. Endeavour to establish a human rights institution in the country in accordance with the Paris Principles (Nigeria);

A - 99.18. Proceed with the establishment of a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Germany);

A - 99.19. Establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mexico);

A - 99.20. Increase all kinds of measures aimed at establishing a national human rights institution, in compliance with the Paris Principles, with the assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Uruguay);

A - 99.21. Strengthen the role of the Ombudsman, in particular its powers of investigation in cases involving politicians (France);



A - 99.22. Continue to allocate resources to the Department of Women's Affairs to allow it to further enhance and implement programmes for the advancement of women's rights (Philippines);

A - 99.23. Continue to improve the knowledge of human rights among its population, especially by promoting education and awareness-raising activities on the matter (Switzerland);

A - 99.24. Further address human rights issues in the country, especially through promoting human rights education (Armenia);

A - 99.25. Include human rights education in school curricula (Timor-Leste);

A - 99.26. Provide human rights training to Government officials and teachers (Timor-Leste);

A - 99.27. Continue its efforts to further improve the awareness on human rights issues and international human rights conventions in Vanuatu, particularly by providing training to government officials (Malaysia);

A - 99.28. Mainstream human rights in all national programmes and policies (Timor-Leste);

A - 99.29. Engage and involve the national parliament in the follow-up process and implementation of the accepted recommendations in the second UPR report of Vanuatu, and as an example, by hosting a briefing on the role of Parliament on the UPR process and implementation (Solomon Islands);

A - 99.30. Submit the initial report to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Montenegro);

A - 99.31. Respond as soon as possible to the pending request for the visit of the independent expert on the issue of foreign debt, in line with the standing invitation to the special procedures it had extended in 2009 (Slovenia);

A - 99.32. Continue to promote legislation and actions to eliminate discrimination and strengthen protection of rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children and people with disabilities (China);

A - 99.33. Develop affirmative actions for women's empowerment in the public and private sectors (Mexico);

A - 99.34. Put in place a broad strategy, which includes legislation, to change or eliminate practices and cultural stereotypes which discriminate against women, in compliance with the CEDAW Convention (Uruguay);

A - 99.35. Amend its Citizenship Act to avoid discrimination on the basis of sex and mitigates discrimination of women in employment and reduce existing wage gaps (Portugal);

A - 99.36. Continue efforts to eliminate discriminatory practices against women, particularly regarding the granting of nationality (Algeria);

A - 99.37. To not yield to the pressure to reintroduce the death penalty and maintain its abolition, in accordance with the global trend towards abolition (Spain);

A - 99.38. Take prompt action to implement the Family Protection Act, and consider initiatives to raise community awareness of that Act (Australia);

A - 99.39. Take all necessary measures for the effective implementation and dissemination of the Family Protection Act throughout the country, including in the most remote areas. In particular, in this respect, to provide sufficient funding to the department in charge of the implementation of this legislation (Belgium);

A - 99.40. Take all measures to implement the Family Protection Act of 2008 and train the police specifically to receive complaints from women on violence perpetrated against them by their partners or spouses (France);

A - 99.41. Continue to allocate sufficient resources to ensure the effective implementation of the Family Protection Act, and to adopt further measures to combat domestic violence, with a special focus on women and girls with disabilities, who are at greater risk of all sorts of violence (Netherlands);

A - 99.42. Continue its specific measures already undertaken to ensure that persons concerned are informed about the content of the Family Protection Law (Switzerland);

A - 99.43. Take all necessary measures so that the Family Protection Units can ensure that all cases of domestic violence are brought to justice (Switzerland);

A - 99.44. Ensure the dissemination of information about protective measures that are available and the legal framework in place to protect women, also among the rural population of the country (Belgium);

A - 99.45. Further extend education and publicity programmes to all regions in order to inform women, and particularly women with disabilities, of the availability of the protection orders, counselling services and education under the new law (New Zealand);

A - 99.46. Continue its efforts in raising awareness campaigns to sensitize communities and general public on issues of domestic violence, with the support of the international community and other United Nations agencies (Bhutan);

A - 99.47. Continue to enhance measures combating the social and cultural causes of gender-based violence, by promoting awareness-raising campaigns, especially, in the education sector (Spain);

A - 99.48. Adopt a policy of prevention and public awareness, in addition to the work done by NGOs and the Vanuatu Women's Centre (Belgium);

A - 99.49. Take the necessary measures to change the structures that prevent the implementation of CEDAW, including with regard to violence or murders linked to witchcraft (Canada);

A - 99.50. Continue to take the necessary measures to combat all forms of violence against women and girls and to reduce discrimination against women, in particular in the job market and in national political life, where women are seriously underrepresented (Brazil);

A - 99.51. Implement its legislation to prevent violence against women and adopt a strategy to properly tackle the unequal status of women (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 99.52. Improve the protection of the rights of women and girls, including by effectively addressing gender-based violence, particularly domestic violence, and by advancing programmes and training to counter discrimination with regard to women's employment and financial access (United States of America);

A - 99.53. Take further measures in combating gender-based violence, domestic violence, ill-treatment and abuse of children including sexual abuse (Ukraine);

A - 99.54. Include in its priority action plan measures to step up efforts towards protecting children from abuse or violence (Philippines);

A - 99.55. Develop institutions for the support and protection of children (Belgium);

A - 99.56. Strengthen the justice system in order to avoid loss of faith and respect in the judicial system among citizens, including to raise the efficiency of birth registration system (Estonia);

A - 99.57. Take steps to further enhance the capacity of the judiciary, especially with regard to the backlog of court cases and the staffing of the Public Prosecutor's and the Public Solicitor's Offices (Germany);

A - 99.58. Continue to implement effective crime prevention measures to ensure safety and social order in its society (Singapore);

A - 99.59. Implement reforms to ensure Vanuatu is able to meet its obligations under the United Nations Convention against Torture regarding prosecution for acts of torture, attempt to commit torture, or complicity or participation in torture (United States of America);

A - 99.60. Take the necessary steps to ensure that the principles that guarantee equality between men and women are applied in judicial proceedings and that socio-legal services are made more available to women (Canada);

A - 99.61. Ensure that perpetrators of violence against women are duly prosecuted and convicted (Belgium);

A - 99.62. Incorporate systematically in police training awareness-raising on the rights of victims and suspects (France);

A - 99.63. Consider incorporating the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders, otherwise known as the "Bangkok Rules", as part of its programme to enhance the conditions of women detainees in prisons (Thailand);

A - 99.64. Develop legislation and appropriate sentences for juvenile offenders (Belgium);

A - 99.65. Continue efforts to introduce a criminal justice process for youth in Vanuatu, which improves the outcomes for offenders, victims and their families (New Zealand);

A - 99.66. Expedite the legislative process to bring the juvenile justice system in line with the standards of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and additionally strengthen training programmes for police officers and the judiciary (Uruguay);



- A - 99.67. Develop rehabilitation centres for young offenders with facilities that promote the psychological and physical development of these young persons and their social reintegration (Mexico);
- A - 99.68. Revise the legislation on the age of criminal responsibility (France);
- A - 99.69. Continue to step up efforts to raise the minimum age for criminal responsibility including continuing review of relevant legislation (Trinidad and Tobago);
- A - 99.70. Implement promptly the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Australia);
- A - 99.71. Fully align its national legislation and policies with the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in order to effectively combat corruption and to further improve integrity, transparency and accountability (Netherlands);
- A - 99.72. Continue taking steps to ensure that births of all children are registered (Ukraine);
- A - 99.73. Strengthen all types of measures aimed at the universal registration of children across the country, among others, through a broader use of the mobile birth registration system, promoting new awareness-raising strategies on the importance of birth registration and ensuring that it remains free (Uruguay);
- A - 99.74. Approve the Right to Information Bill and National Media Policy and decriminalize defamation in accordance with international standards (Estonia);
- A - 99.75. Accelerate the introduction of a law on freedom of information in line with international standards (Ireland);
- A - 99.76. Take further steps to ensure the progressive realization for all inhabitants of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation (Germany);
- A - 99.77. Adopt policies and take measures to ensure full realization of the right to safe drinking water and sanitation, with special focus on rural areas (Maldives);
- A - 99.78. Invest in the necessary infrastructure so that all citizens have access to adequate drinking water and sanitation, especially in rural areas (Spain);
- A - 99.79. Ensure that all Vanuatu people are able to access health services (Nigeria);
- A - 99.80. Continue to take measures that allow the improvement of the health and education systems of its population (Cuba);
- A - 99.81. Continue to promote its progressive improvements to provide adequate access to its population to basic and quality health-care services (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- A - 99.82. In cooperation with the relevant international organizations, continue its programmes to improve the public health standards and well-being of its people (Singapore);
- A - 99.83. Strengthen efforts to make further progress in the health-related MDGs (Sri Lanka);

A - 99.84. Continue addressing the HIV/AIDS impact on women and children, in particular the mother-to-child transmission (Thailand);

A - 99.85. Continue to consolidate its education policies to improve the living conditions of its people, in particular of the neediest sectors of the population (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

N - 99.86. Prioritise the education of all Vanuatu citizens (Nigeria);

A - 99.87. Take all the necessary measures to ensure that the right to education is enjoyed by all children (Brazil);

A - 99.88. Give consideration to improving its domestic legislation and existing programs aimed at increasing access to education (Philippines);

N - 99.89. Develop a compulsory education policy for primary school-aged children and continue to promote the importance of education (Australia);

N - 99.90. Take legal measures to provide free and compulsory education for all under the right to education, and implement the inclusive education policy (Maldives);

N - 99.91. Continue to formulate appropriate plans to establish a compulsory education policy (Trinidad and Tobago);

N - 99.92. Continue efforts to make education more accessible through a compulsory primary education policy (Sri Lanka);

N - 99.93. Provide primary education accessible to all by making education compulsory at the primary level (Timor-Leste);

N - 99.94. Take measures to improve access to grants for primary education, to make primary education compulsory, to improve the quality of primary education in remote regions and to increase the facilities to obtain secondary education throughout the country (Germany);

N - 99.95. Continue efforts to implement the Universal Primary Education Policy, including by increasing its budgetary allocation and formulating the compulsory education policy (Indonesia);

A - 99.96. Allocate more resources to the education sector (Timor-Leste);

A - 99.97. Put in place a strategy for the promotion of access to education for women and girls, reduce dropout rates among girls in secondary education and improve the access to and the quality of education in rural areas (Canada);

A - 99.98. Reinforce efforts addressing high level of adult illiteracy and low rate of girl's enrolment in secondary and higher levels of education (Ukraine);

A - 99.99. Vanuatu is encouraged to take steps to fully implement its policies and action plans on the rights of women and persons with disabilities (Solomon Islands);

A - 99.100 Ensure all relevant domestic laws include disability as a prohibited ground of discrimination (New Zealand);



A - 99.101. Continue its work progressing towards implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), including through prompt implementation of the new Building Code for the Public Works Department to ensure buildings and amenities are disability-friendly (Australia);

A - 99.102. Adopt measures to ensure the accessibility of persons with disabilities to places such as schools, hospitals, markets and public offices (Spain);

A - 99.103. Continue with the measures aimed at improving the protection and integration of persons with disabilities, in particular in the areas of access to education and public transport (Argentina);

A - 99.104. Promote the situation of disabled persons and their working conditions (Algeria);

A - 99.105. Continue to be committed to economic and social development, reduce the development gap between rural and urban areas, better protect people's right to health and right to development (China);

A - 99.106. Continuously seek international support in terms of technical and financial assistance in order to increase capacity-building and to develop programmes and policies aimed at promoting the enjoyment of human rights to all citizens in key areas, such as health and education (Timor-Leste);

A - 99.107. Continue to seek technical assistance to address the specific problem of the disproportionately negative impact of climate change on women and children (Trinidad and Tobago);

A - 99.108. Continue to develop awareness-raising and action programmes for its population, with the necessary international cooperation and solidarity of the community of nations, in order to deal with the impacts of climate change (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

A - 99.109. Continue its current momentum and efforts on democracy, good governance, legislative reform and capacity building for national human rights mechanisms, with more focus on employment for youth, education, health care, social welfare and preparedness and resilience in response to climate change (Viet Nam).

#### Notes

1 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue was: "Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Iraq)".

*Disclaimer: This classification was made by UPR Info based on United Nations documents and webcast. For more information about this document, consult the "Methodology" on our website: [www.upr-info.org](http://www.upr-info.org). For questions, comments and/or corrections, please write to [info@upr-info.org](mailto:info@upr-info.org)*