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

Uganda

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Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Introduction.....	X–X	X
I Summary of the proceedings of the review process.....	X–X	X
A. Presentation by the State under review.....	X–X	X
B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review.....	X–X	X
II. Conclusions and/or recommendations	X–X	X
III. Voluntary pledges and commitments.....	X–X	X
Annex		
Composition of the delegation		X

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its twelfth session from 3 to 14 October 2011. The review of Uganda was held at the 13th meeting on 11 October 2011. The delegation of Uganda was headed by Hon. Oryem Henry Okello, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in charge of International Cooperation. At its 18th meeting held on 14 October 2011, the Working Group adopted the report on Uganda.
2. On 20 June 2011, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Uganda: Nigeria, Maldives, and Uruguay.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1, the following documents were issued for the review of Uganda:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/12/UGA/1);
 - (b) A compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/12/UGA/2);
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/12/UGA/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Czech Republic, Denmark, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom was transmitted to Uganda 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. Uganda fully appreciated the opportunity and spirit of constructive dialogue created by the UPR process. The delegation pledged Uganda's unwavering commitment to this process through which it can take stock of its own progress, identify challenges and map the way forward.
6. The delegation reported a the nation-wide consultative process which involved multi-sectoral stake holders drawn from the public and private sectors, as well as members of civil society organisations.
7. The delegation reaffirmed Uganda's commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights. Uganda is party to most of the major international human rights instruments and has in place legal, legislative and institutional framework in the area of human rights. The delegation selected highlights to those rights pertaining to the most vulnerable of the society; women, youth, children, the elderly and minorities. The Constitution singles out these rights Government has endeavoured to concretise them despite the challenges that Uganda faces.
8. Uganda has a legal framework of affirmative action in favour of women. In 1994, Uganda had a woman Vice President. Currently the position of Speaker of Parliament is held by a woman. There are 2 women Justices of the Supreme Court, 3 in the Constitutional Court / Court of Appeal, one of whom is also the Deputy Chief Justice and 13 female Judges of the High Court. Uganda has a woman at the rank of Brigadier in the army.

9. Article 78 of the Uganda Constitution makes it mandatory that at least one woman from each district is elected to Parliament. Women have been encouraged to also run for the other Parliamentary seats against men.
10. The Children Act, contains the broad spectrum of rights for children. It establishes the National Council for Children to advise Government and promote policy and programmes regarding the development and protection of children in Uganda. Uganda offers free Universal Primary Education (UPE) and Universal Secondary Education (USE). As a result Uganda's enrolment of school going children rose from 5,303,564 in 1997 when UPE came into effect to 8,374,587 in 2010. Government has a policy of affirmative action in favour of the Girl Child.
11. To ensure registration of all children at birth, Government has an automated system that registers all births to the lowest community levels.
12. Uganda is a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities and enacted the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2006. The Act promotes affirmative action for PWDs including: education; voting rights and the right to work. PWDs are represented in both Parliament and Local Councils.
13. The delegation stated that the right to life is guaranteed by Article 22 of the Constitution no person shall be deprived of the right to life except in execution of a sentence passed by a competent Court in a fair trial. This right is also extended to the unborn child. The retention of the death penalty for capital offences was the result of the recommendation of the Constitutional Review Commission which found that the majority of Ugandans support the use of the death penalty for capital offences. However, the death penalty as a punishment has been responsibly invoked. The last execution was carried out in 1999. A person may receive reprieve through the prerogative of mercy. Case Law has also developed jurisprudence that clarifies that the death penalty is no longer mandatory even for capital offences but is discretionary and the decision rests entirely in the hands of the presiding Judge.
14. Freedom of Assembly is a constitutional right enshrined in Article 29 which must be enjoyed along with the constitutional duty of non interference with the rights of others as provided by Article 43 of the Constitution.
15. Freedom of association, Article 29 (1) (e) of the Constitution guarantees the right to freedom of association, including freedom to form and join associations or unions. In the case of political parties, these provisions have been operationalised through the Political Parties and Organizations Act 2005. This Act provides for Government to contribute funds or other public resources towards activities of political parties and organisations represented in Parliament.
16. In a 2005 referendum on political system, Ugandans voted in favour of lifting the ban on political parties which was effected in a Constitutional amendment.
17. Article 29(1) (a) of the Constitution guarantees the freedom of speech and expression. The Press and Journalist Act ensures press freedom, establishes an institute of Journalists and also provides for a council that regulates the mass media. The Courts have pronounced themselves on the law of sedition as being inconsistent with the Constitution and recommended that it be removed from the Penal Code.
18. The delegation stated that Articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution guarantee protection from Torture, cruel, inhuman and or degrading treatment or punishment. Uganda is in the process of domesticating the Convention Against Torture through the enactment of the Anti Torture Bill. This Bill seeks to, among others, hold those who torture individually liable for their acts. In the event of excessive use of force the aggrieved persons are entitled to remedies by the Uganda Human Rights Commission and Courts of law.

19. Article 59 of the Constitution guarantees Ugandan citizens of 18 years and above the right to vote. Article 61 provides for the holding of regular, free and fair elections. In line with this provision, Uganda has held Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Council elections in 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2011. Overtime management of the electoral process has improved with the 2011 general elections widely acknowledged as more peaceful in relation to the past.

20. Article 30 of the Constitution guarantees all persons the right to education. Furthermore, Principle XVIII of the National Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy, mandate the State to promote free and compulsory basic education, and to take appropriate measures to afford every citizen equal opportunity to attain the highest educational standard possible. Parliament has enacted several laws to operationalize these Constitutional provisions. The Government introduced free Universal Primary Education (UPE) in 1997 and Universal Secondary Education (USE) in 2007.

21. The share of the national budget to education has been on the increase; i.e. from 13.7 per cent (1990) to 24.7 per cent (2008). In the 2010/2011 budget, funds for the education sector increased to Shs. 1.13 trillion from Shs. 1 trillion in 2009.

22. The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development handles, inter alia, gender-related issues. Article 33 of the Constitution guarantees the rights of women. The Domestic Violence Act, 2010, seeks to protect victims of domestic violence and punish perpetrators. To curb the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM), Parliament passed the Prevention of Female Genital Mutilation Act, 2009. It criminalizes the practice of FGM, provides for the prosecution of offenders and seeks to protect victims. Consultations are on-going on the Marriage and Divorce Bill. Prevention of Trafficking In Persons Act 2010 comprehensively addresses human trafficking.

23. The National Women's Council promotes the role of women in national development. The National Development Plan outlines measures to mainstream gender issues in all aspects of development. The National Action Plan on Women was adopted to promote gender mainstreaming in all development plans and programmes.

24. The delegation emphasized the commitment to strengthening the legal and institutional framework to fight corruption. The legal framework comprises of the Anti Corruption Act and the leadership Code. The institutional framework includes the Anti Corruption Court, the Inspectorate of Government, Directorate of Public Prosecutions and the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament. These are aimed at strengthening the investigative and prosecutorial functions.

25. Article 31(2a) of the Constitution prohibits marriage between persons of the same sex. Sections 145 and 146 of the Penal Code prohibit same sex relations. While the Constitution, under Chapter Four, guarantees rights of all persons, the promotion and protection of human rights have to be done within the social and cultural context. Such practices remain a matter of private choice.

26. Challenges exist in capacity building, mainstreaming of human rights issues in all aspects of governance, poverty, public awareness of human rights issues, corruption, infrastructural development and climate change.

27. Government has adopted a recommendation for a National Action Plan (NAP) to be developed as part of a follow-up mechanism on issues raised in this review and the recommendations.. Specific measures will be taken to strengthen capacities of various human rights institutions, including provision of financial, logistical and technical support as well as human resource development to enable them to effectively fulfil their respective mandates.

28. There is a well-defined strategy for sensitisation and raising of public awareness on human rights issues from the grassroots to the national level through, inter-alia civic education by the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC); Voter education by the Electoral Commission (EC); and inculcating human rights, voter education and civic education in the education curriculum of schools. Mainstreaming human rights issues is in the training curricular of security agencies.

29. Measures are needed to address the challenge of a costly justice system; especially for the poor: making the legal process less technical and more affordable; and strengthening and promoting pro bono legal services .

30. Anti-corruption measures are strengthened through a comprehensive forfeiture laws and practice against all those found guilty of corruption; imposition of stiff custodial sentences; strengthened oversight function of Parliament on accounting, procurement, and internal audit function.

31. The government has further committed itself to institutionalisation of annual review of human rights situation in the country. It is also committed to the establishment of a Human Rights Department whose mandate will be defined in consultation with the UHRC and to establish a Standing Committee of Cabinet on Human Rights to provide policy guidance on human rights issues.

32. The delegation concluded that Uganda has political will, adequate legal, policy and institutional frameworks and measures for addressing issues pertaining to the sustainable promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

33. During the interactive dialogue, 55 delegations made statements. Many delegations expressed appreciation for the national report and the comprehensive presentation made by delegation of Uganda. Delegations also noted the government achievements in the area of education. Additional statements which could not be delivered during the interactive dialogue owing to time constraints are posted on the Extranet of the universal periodic review when available.¹ Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

34. Sri Lanka commended Uganda's efforts to advocate free and compulsory basic education and noted the National Budget for education had enjoyed a significant increase. It also commended the considerable decrease in maternal mortality rates and the efforts undertaken to combat HIV/AIDS. It noted the establishment of the National Councils for Women and Children. It made a recommendation.

35. Singapore recognized the challenges faced by Uganda and noted that progress had been made in areas such as economic growth and health. It was noted that the Government has placed education as a development priority. Singapore made recommendations.

36. Zimbabwe noted Uganda's successes in addressing fundamental human rights in the fields of health, education, housing, children, women and persons with disabilities' rights. It was impressed by the work of the various established commissions. Zimbabwe appealed to the international community to assist Uganda regarding capacity building when requested. Zimbabwe made recommendations.

¹ *Italy, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Djibouti*

37. The Russian Federation noted the establishment of the commission of human rights, commission of amnesty, and the national councils on the rights of children and women. It noted the Act being adopted on persons with disabilities, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. These measures were conducive to further strengthening of human rights. It made recommendations.

38. Morocco was pleased with Uganda's commitments in the fight against poverty in the rural areas, through the implementation of a comprehensive package of pragmatic and ambitious programmes. It inquired about Uganda's technical and financial assistance needs to ensure effective implementation of this programme. It was also pleased with Uganda's efforts in the right to education. Morocco made a recommendation.

39. Cuba welcomed that Uganda prioritizes infrastructure, energy, health, education and water human capacity areas. Cuba acknowledged the increasing political and financial support to universal primary school and the incorporation of human rights in the education strategy. It also acknowledged the incorporation of universal secondary education in Uganda and decreasing in the child and maternal mortality rates. Cuba made recommendations.

40. Nepal noted the establishment of different human rights institutions such as the Human Rights Commission. It also commended the success achieved in the areas such as health, education, environment, decent accommodation, rights of children, disabled persons an indigenous people, HIV/AIDS control and gender mainstreaming. Uganda's National Development Plan was noted. Nepal made recommendations.

41. France noted that the death penalty was still in force. Despite ratification of the Convention against Torture, Uganda still have no national legislation criminalizing this practice, while there were a number of allegations of ill-treatment attributed to the police and the army. The demonstrations of last April gave rise to the disproportionate use of force. France made recommendations.

42. Canada noted progress in reducing maternal mortality and morbidity in Uganda and welcomed Uganda's commitment regarding the MDGs target by 2005. It acknowledged the Domestic Violence and the FGM Acts, and was concerned at the treatment of LGBTI community in Uganda. Canada noted the excessive use of force by the security authorities during the post-electoral period. Canada made recommendations.

43. China appreciated Uganda for attaching great importance to the economic development, achieving progress in raising the health level, controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS, and realising the universal education for primary and secondary schools. It showed its understanding that Uganda, as a developing country, was still facing many difficulties in poverty reduction and anti-corruption measures. China made a recommendation.

44. Swaziland praised the establishment of human rights institutions, and the enacting of national legislations deriving their content from human rights instruments. It inquired whether any budgetary allocation has been made to enable the implementation of the UPR recommendations. Swaziland encouraged international donors and partners to assist Uganda in the implementation of the recommendations. Swaziland made a recommendation.

45. Chad noted with satisfaction that Uganda was party to core international human rights instruments and that it had created a National Human Rights Commission accredited with an A status by the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions. Chad made recommendations.

46. Norway was concerned at limitations to the freedom of speech and assembly; cases of torture by security agencies and at violations of sexual minorities' rights. Norway

commended Uganda for an increased acceptance of women's rights within their policymaking framework and acknowledged the Domestic Violence Act. Norway welcomed the dismissal of the Anti-homosexuality Bill 2009. Norway made recommendations.

47. Ireland noted the recent tensions between persons attempting to exercise their rights to assembly, and inquired what steps the Government is taking to ensure respect for the right to assembly. Ireland welcomed the draft anti-torture bill, and wished to be provided with an update on the bill's current status. Ireland made recommendations.

48. Algeria acknowledged Uganda's adherence to eight international human rights instruments and its efforts to incorporate their provisions in domestic legislation. It acknowledged Uganda's achievements in the areas of HIV/AIDS, access to education, gender mainstreaming, inter-faith harmony, democratic governance and progressive realization of economic, social and cultural rights. Algeria made recommendations.

49. Austria was encouraged by Uganda's cooperation with different UN bodies. Austria recognized the progress made to strengthen human rights protection by the establishment of the Ugandan Human rights Commission and the Equal Opportunity Commission. Austria inquired where does their work need to be strengthened and what measures are foreseen. It also inquired what measures Uganda has undertaken to investigate alleged use of excessive force by security forces during protests and to ensure that the freedom of expression is guaranteed. Austria made recommendations.

50. Senegal stated that Uganda's national report provided useful information on various measures taken for women and children and other vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, indigenous populations and refugees. Nevertheless, challenges remained, such as poverty and climate change. It wished to know about successes and challenges related to MDGs and the status of the draft law on national reconciliation. Senegal made a recommendation.

51. The Czech Republic expressed concern at the discrimination of LGBTI persons in Uganda. It made recommendations.

52. Poland welcomed the establishment of the Uganda Human Rights Commission, but was however concerned with the existing challenges regarding the harmonization of national law with international standards and some harmful traditional practises, particularly those concerning girls and women. Poland was also concerned at difficulties regarding the realization of the right to education. Poland made recommendations.

53. Belgium welcomed the de facto moratorium on the use of the death penalty and the Supreme Court's upholding of the 2005 ruling by the Constitutional Court, according to which mandatory death sentences and delays in execution of more than three years were unconstitutional. It regretted the reports on limitations of freedom of expression, association and demonstration. Belgium made recommendations.

54. Denmark noted that Uganda has not yet domesticated the Convention against Torture. It was also concerned at limitations to freedom of expression and assembly during the post-electoral period and at the excessive use of force. Denmark commended Uganda for its decision to drop the Anti-Homosexual Bill. However, it remained concerned at attacks and accusations against LGBTI people. Denmark made recommendations.

55. Germany inquired how Uganda will improve the protection of freedom of expression and how it will ensure an inclusive dialogue with civil society and the media. It also inquired what steps the Ugandan Government has taken to facilitate the adoption of the Prohibition of Torture Bill, and what action it has taken to ensure the ban on discrimination. Germany made a recommendation.

56. Switzerland was pleased that Uganda had limited the application of the death penalty, however, was concerned about discrimination against LGBT persons and the fact that the Ugandan penal code authorised prosecution and sentencing s on the grounds of sexual orientation. It also stated that the security forces had on several occasions resorted to the excessive use of force. It made recommendations.

57. Somalia commended the achievements in the promotion and protection of all human rights in Uganda. Somalia noted that the international community should extend additional financial assistance in order to enable the Government of Uganda to implement its National Action Plan. Somalia reiterated its gratitude to Uganda for assisting in the ongoing stabilization of Somalia as this will boost the enjoyment of human rights in particular in the land-locked countries in the sub-region.

58. Australia commended Uganda for its incorporation of the Rome Statute of International Criminal Court into domestic law and for the introduction of the Domestic Violence Act. Australia also urged Uganda to ensure provisions concerning freedom of assembly and expressions are in conformity with international standards. Australia made recommendations.

59. The delegation thanks the States for their comments and positive contribution to the report. Death penalty as a punishment has been responsibly invoked e.g. last execution was carried out in 1999. Death sentence is no longer mandatory, even for capital offences, after the Supreme Court ruling of January 2009; those on death row and not executed within 3 years have their sentences automatically commuted to life.

60. On issues related to excessive force, the government policy is that the individual officers are personally responsible and accountable for actions committed outside the law.

61. On freedom of association, the delegation informed that consultations, with all stakeholders, on the draft Public Order Management Bill are ongoing. The Bill seeks to regulate public demonstrations and assemblies and also lays down the responsibilities of all parties concerned.

62. On the issue of blocking rallies, the government does not block rallies of political parties; except where such rallies are organised at places that threaten general public security, safety and livelihood.

63. On personal liberty, on arbitrary arrests and unlawful detentions, the challenge especially for grassroots population is lack of awareness about their rights and procedures to follow when their human rights are infringed on.

64. On the freedom of expression, the Press and Journalist Amendment Bill 2010 was drafted in consultation with various stakeholders. It is yet to be tabled before Parliament. Meanwhile with additional comments from the public are still welcome is now and during consideration by Parliament of the bill.

65. As to the Media and Criminal laws, legal avenues exist for redress where anyone feels his / her rights have been infringed upon.

66. While Uganda has signed the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention Against Torture, consultations are still ongoing with various stakeholders on its ratification. The Anti Torture Bill is before Parliament.

67. On Illegal Detention: Uganda experienced an unprecedented wave of terrorism around 1998–2001. All detention centres are gazetted and accessible to the general public. Art. 23 (4) of the Constitution provides for a limitation period of 48hrs within which a suspect must be produced in court where he / she can apply for a writ of habeas corpus. An acting outside these provisions is personally liable for his actions. The police have

measures in place to ensure that preliminary investigations are undertaken prior to arrest of a suspect to comply with this Constitutional requirement.

68. Regarding non prosecution of officers, the delegation stated that this was a baseless assertion when considering that 36 police officers of the Rapid Response Unit (RRU) were charged in court for various torture related offences.

69. Compensation claims are not predictable to be fully budgeted for. In most cases, they are beyond the resources provided for in the budgets during a specific year warranting them to be carried forward. Where resources are available they are paid on a first in first out basis and there is a Compensation Committee established to handle the awards.

70. On health, the delegation informed that the Government has proposed the National Health Insurance Scheme in order to improve internal mobilization of resources with contributions from formal and private sector.

71. On dilapidated health facilities and Regional Referral Hospitals, capital development fund averaging 1.5bn annually since 2008/9 FY is provided for construction, equipment and, staff transport.

72. On LGBTI, any person who feels his / her rights have been infringed by the provisions of the law is free to go to Court for redress or initiate a process for amendment of specific provisions of the law. The Anti-homosexual Bill is before Parliament. As for the plight of Human Rights Defenders, the delegation stated that the Government does not condone violence against anyone. There is no evidence to corroborate the assertion that those who left were being targeted. On LGBTI Organizations, Uganda laws do not discriminate against any organization wishing to register. What is important is that such organization must meet the criteria as provided for in the NGOs Registration (Amendment) Act 2009.

73. Regarding, health-related discrimination, the delegation indicated that Uganda HIV Policy is not discriminatory. According to laws and medical ethics, medical practitioners are under obligation not to discriminate and or disclose personal medical records to third parties.

74. Rwanda noted with satisfaction the efforts in areas such as education, the rights of the child, women's rights, and the right to health. It noted Uganda's ratification of many international and regional instruments. It also acknowledged Uganda's efforts in facing identified challenges and constraints in the promotion, protection and realisation of human rights. Rwanda made recommendations.

75. Slovenia asked Uganda what measure they have been taken to: a) prevent Malaria, Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS; b) stop the widespread discrimination against persons with disabilities and to provide them with equal opportunities; and c) prevent child abuse and rehabilitate children who have been used in hostilities. Slovakia expressed concern at gender inequality and harmful traditional practices. Slovenia made recommendations.

76. Mozambique noted that Uganda has ratified the core human rights instruments, and has taken steps to domesticate many of them. Mozambique applauded Uganda for the gains in the area of health. It noted that the Government is allocating larger budget to education. Mozambique also praised Uganda for adopting a recommendation for National action Plan on Human Rights. Mozambique made a recommendation.

77. Hungary noted Uganda's efforts to draw up an institutional and legal framework for the implementation of the human rights instruments which the country was party to. It welcomed the commitment to the prevention of genocide and the collaboration with the OHCHR in the country, however, stated that there was room for improvement regarding cooperation with UN human rights mechanisms. Hungary made recommendations.

78. Turkey noted the anti-corruption measures initiated by the Government. Turkey praised the relevant Articles of the Constitution guaranteeing protection from torture and the ratification of the Convention against Torture. Turkey noted the increase in the number of women in Parliament and encouraged participation of women at the local level. Turkey made recommendations.

79. Argentina paid tribute to Uganda by the inclusion of a human rights perspective in its Development National Plan for 2015. Argentina made recommendations.

80. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland encouraged Uganda to take concrete steps to improve the implementation of constitutional laws and institutions for respecting human rights. It recognized the Government's work to address discrimination against women, but noted that key laws in this regard have not been passed. It also urged the Government to take steps to tackle discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation. It made recommendations.

81. Burkina Faso commended the adoption of the Domestic Violence Act of 2010 aimed at protection of victims and criminal prosecution of perpetrators. It also welcomed the adoption of a national plan of action for women to promote gender mainstreaming. It appreciated Uganda's commitment to enforce its plan of action for children enlisted in the Ugandan armed forces. It made recommendations.

82. The Holy See acknowledged Uganda's efforts regarding legal, policy and institutional areas, including the National Human Rights Institution's creation. It supported Uganda's protection of the rights to life and of the natural family and congratulated Uganda for reducing HIV/AIDs. It noted challenges regarding poverty, health conditions, primary education; and the phenomena of child-soldiers and child work. It made recommendations.

83. Brazil was encouraged by Uganda's commitment to become a middle income country in the medium term, and wished to know the impact of the economic and financial crisis in the Government's ability to pursue the economic growth strategies. Brazil acknowledged Uganda's efforts to combat sexual violence, but remained concerned on the persecution of those responsible for gender violence. Brazil made recommendations.

84. Spain congratulated Uganda for the non-approval of the Anti-Homosexual law. It noted that Uganda signed an action plan regarding child associated to armed forces as well as its efforts to implement it. Spain welcomed Uganda's cooperation with OHCHR. Spain made recommendations.

85. Sweden noted that the Ugandan Constitution provided for the freedoms of expression and assembly, however, was concerned about the proposed Press and Journalist Bill 2010 that would create new offences against freedom of expression. It also indicated that Ugandan penal code criminalized same-sex sexual conduct in private between consenting adults. It welcomed the de facto moratorium on executions. Sweden made recommendations.

86. Chile acknowledged Uganda's commitment to implement its Plan of Action regarding children in armed conflict. It congratulated Uganda for the "A" status of its National Commission of Human Rights. It expressed concern at information on restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly and asked which Uganda's position was in this regard. Chile made recommendations.

87. Ghana acknowledged both the commitment and concerted efforts by the Government to honour its human rights obligations. Ghana commended Uganda for adopting a National Action Plan on Women. Ghana was pleased that the Government has adopted a recommendation for a national Action Plan to be developed as a part of a follow-up mechanism. Ghana made recommendations.

88. Japan welcomed Uganda's ratification of a range of international human rights instruments and the active role that the Uganda Human Rights Commission had been playing. It was concerned about civilian casualties resulting from the State's response to the "Walk to Work" protests and the ill-treatment of opposition politicians. It noted the challenges in social reconstruction following civil war. Japan made recommendations.

89. Netherlands noted discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation or gender identity in Uganda and that the same-sex relations and marriages are prohibited by law. It was concerned at reports on pastoralism, regarding security and rights to education, food, land and natural resources. Netherlands noted that human rights defenders and lawyers were subject to harassment and violence. Netherlands made recommendations.

90. Latvia noted with appreciation Uganda's openness and willingness to cooperate with special procedures mandate holders, several of whom have visited Uganda during last years. Latvia made recommendations.

91. Mexico acknowledged Uganda's openness regarding the international community. It encouraged Uganda to continue working to promote and protect women's rights, right to education and eradication of death penalty. Mexico asked what measures Uganda is taking to prevent FGM. Mexico made recommendations.

92. The United States of America applauded the work of the Ugandan Human Rights Commission, however, noted with concern the security forces' use of excessive force, undeclared detention facilities known as "safe houses", and torture, as well as Electoral Commission's lack of independence and failure to protect the rights of minority groups, in particular LGBT persons. It made recommendations.

93. Slovakia commended Uganda for the accreditation of its Human Rights Commission under "A" status by the ICC. Slovakia also took a positive note of Uganda's support extended to country's OHCHR office. Slovakia acknowledged the Government's commitment towards implementing the provisions of the action plan regarding children associated with armed forces. Slovakia made recommendations.

94. Burundi noted that the national rapport had been elaborated in collaboration between public authorities, civil society organisations, NGOs, the private sector, and the Ugandan Human Rights Commission. Burundi welcomed the establishment of the different human rights institutions. It encouraged Uganda for its efforts in health and education issues.

95. Romania stated that Uganda's various programmes aimed at removing people out of poverty and the measures put in place in the health system were an example to be followed by other countries in the region. It, however, noted that no comprehensive protection framework for children's rights was in place and asked about Uganda's strategy to deal with these issues. It made recommendations.

96. Azerbaijan commended Uganda for the ratification of core international human rights instruments, its institutional and legal reform, and the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission with "A" status. It noted the decreasing of poverty, and improvements and challenges regarding water coverage and women's rights. Azerbaijan urged Uganda to take further measures to implement the MDG. Azerbaijan made a recommendation.

97. Congo stated that action taken by Uganda, particularly in the area of promotion and protection of the right to health and education was outstanding. It noted, however, that the rights of women and children and the situation of the rights of indigenous populations, BATWAS, were a cause of concern. Congo made recommendations.

98. Mauritius commended Uganda's institutional strengthening of its human rights infrastructure including the "A" status Human Rights Commission; the ratification and

domestication of regional and international human rights instruments; the National Development Plan, and measures taken regarding the right to health and education and persons with disabilities' rights. It called upon the international community to provide technical assistance to Uganda.

99. Indonesia appreciated the wide-ranging legal framework for the promotion and protection of human rights in Uganda and the establishment of the Uganda Human Rights Commission mandated by the Constitution. It also applauded provision of free basic education and improvement of health care services. It made recommendations.

100. Angola was pleased that Uganda gave particular importance to primary education, making it free and compulsory for all. It noted the increase in budget allocated to education, and progress accomplished in the field of health. Angola further stated that notwithstanding this progress, tuberculosis, malaria and HIV/AIDS continued to be the principle causes of death and morbidity. Angola made recommendations.

101. Costa Rica acknowledged Uganda's institutional framework, in particular its Human Rights Commission in conformity with the Paris Principles, and the Commission on Equal Opportunities. It also noted the constitutional and legislative development regarding the health and clean environment. It made recommendations.

102. United Republic of Tanzania commended the enactment of the Domestic Violence Act 2010, the implementation of the economic stimulus package as well as the efforts to prioritize the health sector. It noted with encouragement Uganda's adoption of a recommendation for a National Action Plan to be developed as part of a follow up mechanism for issues raised in its national report. It made a recommendation.

103. Bangladesh acknowledged Uganda's Human Rights Commission with « A » status; success regarding decline in poverty; control of HIV/AIDS; education and gender mainstreaming, among others. It noted Uganda is party to many international human rights instruments, its commitment regarding children associated with armed forces, and also poverty and diseases' persistence. Bangladesh encouraged Uganda to protect children from cultural and legally unacceptable practices.

104. The delegation responded to comments The United kingdom raised the concern that Uganda has not passed the Domestic Violence Act, however it was enacted and passed in 2010.

105. The United States (US) representative raised the issue of safe houses for torture. The head of delegation categorically refuted this and stated that clearly under no circumstances there is anything like safe houses in Uganda, and that, if there is any, they are welcomed to point them out. On the issue of massive deployments of security forces, this is a practice that is common over the world, when times of abnormality and threat to security and Uganda was there for doing nothing, unusual.

106. On the issue raised by the US government on the concern of the president call for constitutional amendments to limit rights to bail, the president is an Ugandan with equal rights within the constitution, and no one can stifle his constitutional rights.. The president was simply exercising his right as stated in the Uganda constitution under article 29, on the protection of freedom of conscious expression, movement, religion, assembly and association.

107. The delegation clarified that it is not true that the registration of NGOs is to the state to control NGOs. NGOs are registered as matters of procedure to enable simplify management and work relations.

108. The delegation emphasized that the Uganda Anti Homosexuality Bill, is a private member's Bill.

109. In response to the issue of the independence of Electoral Commissioners, Uganda pointed out that they are vetted by Parliament.

110. In conclusion, the government is committed to fully adopting and implementing positive recommendations within its available resources. The government called on the Working Group to support and endorse proposals for an action plan, as a framework for follow up action on the implementation of the recommendations and urged the international community to support its efforts in its development and its implementation.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

111. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue listed below have been examined by Uganda and enjoy the support of Uganda:

- 111.1 Integrate international human rights instruments into domestic law (Chad);
- 111.2. Continue to harmonize its domestic legislations with those international human rights instruments that Uganda is a party (Indonesia);
- 111.3. Amend accordingly all laws that are contrary to Uganda's national and international obligations to respect, protect and promote the freedoms of expression and assembly (Sweden);
- 111.4. Put in place a comprehensive strategy, including review and formulation of legislation, to modify or eliminate traditional practises and stereotypes that discriminate against women² (Poland);
- 111.5. Take further steps to protect right to assembly in line with their international obligations under the ICCPR and the provisions in the Ugandan constitution (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 111.6. Continue to take measures to ensure an effective compliance with the legislations regarding the most vulnerable groups of the population (Costa Rica);
- 111.7. Continue efforts to build and strengthen national human rights and democratic institutions (Nepal);
- 111.8. Ensure the independence and adequate capacity of the Ugandan Human Rights Commission (Austria);
- 111.9. Introduce human rights education to increase the awareness of people about all sets of human rights (Nepal);
- 111.10. Integrate human rights in the school curricula (Chad);
- 111.11. Incorporate the World Programme on Human Rights Education and Training, particularly its second step, to its national programmes (Costa Rica);
- 111.12. More resources be allocated to Human Rights education in parts of the country that have for a long time been under rebel control or have endured destabilization as a results of many years of civil strife (Swaziland);
- 111.13. Engage civil society in the process of implementation of UPR recommendations (Poland);

² The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue "Put in place a comprehensive strategy, including review and formulation of legislation, to modify or eliminate traditional practises and stereotypes that discriminate against women, such as polygamy" (Poland).

- 111.14. Establish a permanent institution to synchronise the implementation of recommendations, the monitoring of performance and reporting (Hungary);
- 111.15. Enhance the status of the national plan of UPR follow up into a comprehensive national human rights' plan of action (Indonesia);
- 111.16. Ensure effective implementation of the Proposed National Plan of Action for the issues raised in its National Report as well as UPR recommendations (Tanzania);
- 111.17. Further enhance the cooperation with civil society in the promotion of human rights (Hungary);
- 111.18. Take administrative measures to ameliorate the situation of children and women (Congo);
- 111.19. Intensify the implementation of the National Action Plan on Women and of gender-sensitive poverty reduction and development programmes (Ghana);
- 111.20. Continue with the implementation of its National Development Plan (NDP) which promotes greater public-private partnership and the continuation of its export-led and market-driven development (Singapore);
- 111.21. Pursuing a participatory process in implementing the National Development Plan (Algeria);
- 111.22. Continue to implement strategies and socio-economic development plans in order to advance in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 (Cuba);
- 111.23. Strengthen long-term efforts to provide reintegration measures in order to provide all children who have been recruited or used in hostilities with child- and gender- sensitive multidisciplinary assistance for their physical and psychological recovery (Ghana);
- 111.24. Draw up and implement a national plan of action on the implementation of recommendations made in the course of the UPR (Russian Federation);
- 111.25. Establish as soon as possible its national plan of action on human rights, in order to coordinate, promote and advance human rights in sustainable manner (China);
- 111.26. Establish a separate centralised mechanism for the preparation of national human rights reports (Russian Federation);
- 111.27. Establish a "one stop" centre to handle human rights treaty bodies and reporting obligations (Rwanda);
- 111.28. Strengthen its cooperation with the Office of the High Commission on Human Rights and seek international assistance for the implementation of the Plan of Action on Human Rights (Mozambique);
- 111.29. Harmonize civil, religious and customary legislation with articles 15 and 16 of the Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, specifically through revising and amending the current version of the bill on Marriage and Divorce, ensuring that it does not discriminate against women (Mexico);
- 111.30. That laws, regulations and plans are followed-up with adequate training and resources to ensure that the improved rights of women become a reality on the ground (Norway);

111.31. Strengthen efforts to fulfil its obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, including by full implementation of the Domestic Violence Act (Australia);

111.32. Take further necessary measures to increase and strengthen the participation of women in designing and implementing local development plans, and pay special attention to the needs of rural women (Azerbaijan);

111.33. The Ministry of Health in partnership with Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development mainstream disability in their awareness raising campaigns with a view to eliminate negative attitudes towards persons with disabilities in health centres (Slovakia);

111.34. Implement the steps envisaged in the promotion of rights of people with disabilities, with a special emphasis on equal opportunities for children with disabilities³ (Hungary);

111.35. Adopt measures to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities, in particular, to fight against all forms of discrimination faced by women with disabilities, and regarding the lack of equal opportunities for minors with disabilities, with a particular attention to albino children (Spain);

111.36. Ensure the right to vote for persons with disabilities, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and implement, among others, alternative measures to enable them to vote freely and in secret, and to easily access to facilities (Mexico);

111.37. Consistently apply the rulings of the Court by converting all death sentences into life in prison after more than three years on death row (Belgium);

111.38. Enhance the separation of powers between the executive branches and the judiciary (Hungary);

111.39. Ensure that impartial, independent investigations are undertaken into allegations of human rights violations by security forces, including torture and other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment, and that the findings of those investigations be made public (Canada);

111.40. Establish without delay a national prevention mechanism against torture, allowing non-governmental organizations and the Human Rights Commission of Uganda to have access to detention centres (Spain);

111.41. Take immediate measures to investigate the excessive use of force and incidents of torture by the security forces and to prosecute and punish its perpetrators (Czech Republic);

111.42. Eliminate detention facilities known as “safe houses” (United States of America);

111.43. Improve overall conditions of prisons and adopt relevant measures to tackle the problems such as overcrowding, unsatisfactory state of prisons and shortcomings in the supply of health care (Czech Republic);

111.44. Complete its strict approach to female genital mutilations with awareness-raising, prevention and education of the concerned communities (France);

³ The recommendation as made during the interactive dialogue ‘Urgently implement the steps envisaged in this regard, with a special emphasis on equal opportunities for children with disabilities’.

111.45. Ensure the implementation of laws protecting women from violence, including sexual violence and sexual harassment (Czech Republic);

111.46. Ensure the effective implementation of the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act of 2010, as well as to prosecute and punish the perpetrators of that practise (Poland);

111.47. Take measures to prevent domestic violence, ensure equal rights and equal political participation of women, and take all the necessary steps to effectively implement the Act on the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation adopted in 2010 (Slovenia);

111.48. Strengthen its efforts, including with the international cooperation, aimed at preventing, sanctioning and eradicating all forms of violence against women, including the Female Genital Mutilation, and also adopt measures to harmonize the legal recognition of civil, political, economic and social rights between women and men (Argentina);

111.49. Implement the recently approved legislation on discrimination and violence against women and on prohibition of Genital Female Mutilation⁴ (Spain);

111.50. Take necessary measures, including implementing the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act 2010, to ensure that victims of sexual violence and other types of violence have access to effective protection and remedy (Japan);

111.51. Continue its initiatives aimed at improving the rights of Ugandan women and girls, including through the enforcement of the domestic violence act (Burkina Faso);

111.52. Prevent, investigate and prosecute sexual and gender violence against all women, including women with disabilities (Chile);

111.53. Prevent and investigate the incidents of sexual violence against women and bring perpetrators to justice (France);

111.54. Put in place appropriate regulatory and enforcement measures to increase compliance with the Domestic Violence Act and the Female Genital Mutilation act, and take steps to ensure that acts of violence against women, including women with disabilities, are investigated and prosecuted (Canada);

111.55. Investigate cases of gender violence and bring perpetrators to justice and provide legal and medical support to victims (Brazil);

111.56. Put in place stringent measures to ensure that children and youths are not recruited into the abhorrent practices incompatible with Ugandan law and culture (Zimbabwe);

111.57. Take the necessary measures to combat incidents of ritual killings of children and adults in various parts of Uganda and to ensure effective investigation and prosecution of these crimes (Czech Republic);

111.58. Take necessary measures to protect Ugandan children against all practices detrimental to their physical and moral integrity (Burkina Faso);

⁴ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue "Effectively implement the recently approved legislation on discrimination and violence against women and on prohibition of Genital Female Mutilation".

- 111.59. Continue efforts to provide better protection for the children, including reviewing its juvenile justice system (Indonesia);
- 111.60. Investigate and hold accountable police and security officers who attacked human rights defenders, journalists and civilians during the 2011 post-election period (Norway);
- 111.61. Accelerate the improvement of the judicial, police and prison systems in line with international human rights standards (Holy See);
- 111.62. Investigate and prosecute all persons found guilty of extrajudicial killings and attacks on human rights defenders (Belgium);
- 111.63. Let the decision to grant or withhold bail remain a prerogative of the judiciary (Belgium);
- 111.64. Make efficient and independent investigations of allegations of torture and ill treatment at earliest with a view to bringing perpetrators to justice (Switzerland);
- 111.65. Undertake a thorough investigation of all alleged cases and hold the officers accountable who committed these violent acts (Denmark);
- 111.66. In order to further prevent impunity, broaden victim participation in court proceedings, as well as ensure witness protection (Hungary);
- 111.67. Hold security personnel accountable for human rights violations (United States of America);
- 111.68. End intimidation and hold accountable state security agents and members of the police and army who have committed human rights abuses as well as ensure adequate compensation for victims⁵ (Austria);
- 111.69. Investigate and prosecute intimidation and attacks on LGBT-community members and activists (Netherlands);
- 111.70. Investigate thoroughly and sanction accordingly violence against LGBTs, including gay rights activists (Belgium);
- 111.71. Take immediate concrete steps to stop discrimination and assaults against LGBT persons (Czech Republic).
- 111.72. Strengthen and further develop measures to ensure that all children born within the national territory are registered (Ghana);
- 111.73. Guarantee freedom of expression, particularly the possibility to express criticism and opinion regarding acts of the government (Chile);
- 111.74. Lift laws that are contrary to the state's international obligations to respect, protect and promote freedom of expression and the right of peaceful and legitimate assembly (Belgium);
- 111.75. End intimidation, threats and physical attacks on journalists and promote open reporting and commentary on issues of public concern (Netherlands);
- 111.76. Ensure that human rights defenders can perform their legitimate duties free from any harassment and intimidation in line with international standards including the UN Declaration on HR Defenders (Slovakia);

⁵ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: "Enact the anti-torture bill and investigate and hold accountable state security agents and members of the police and army who have committed human rights abuses as well as ensure adequate compensation for victims" (Austria).

- 111.77. Uphold the rights to freedom of expression and assembly⁶ (Austria);
- 111.78. Train security forces to respect freedoms of expression and assembly (United States of America);
- 111.79. Take steps to put in place public order legislation which respects the right of assembly and demonstration while safeguarding citizen's rights to protection and safety (Ireland);
- 111.80. Undertake legislative reforms so that protection and promotion of laws on the freedom of expression and peaceful assemblies and associations would be guaranteed to all the residents of the country (Switzerland);
- 111.81. Lift the ban on all forms of public assembly and demonstration (Switzerland);
- 111.82. Repeal all relevant provisions in the legislation that are contrary to the country's international obligations with regards to the respect, protection and promotion of the right to freedom of expression (Slovakia);
- 111.83. Make the Electoral Commission appointment process more consultative (United States of America);
- 111.84. Assure full respect of freedom of association and peaceful assembly and punish all excessive use of force by security officers against peaceful demonstrators (France);
- 111.85. Implement policies to support food production, access to credit and school meals programs linked to local food production (Brazil);
- 111.86. Advance in designing a health programme allowing to tackle Malaria, Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, and continuing decreasing the child and maternal mortality rates, and increase life expectancy (Cuba);
- 111.87. Maintain measures to reduce HIV-AIDS mainly through strategies of abstinence and fidelity as well as through better access to medicines for all people in need, to avoid an increase in the infection rate (Holy See);
- 111.88. Continue to work with the World Health Organization and other relevant international agencies to further reduce the prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS and enhance access to quality health services for its people (Singapore);
- 111.89. Take steps to ensure that well-functioning health information systems are in place which combine disaggregated data from facilities, administrative sources and surveys, to enable effective monitoring of progress (Canada);
- 111.90. Consolidate on-going actions to reduce maternal mortality, to improve life conditions of persons with disabilities and to address the challenge of costly justice system, especially for the poor and in rural areas (Algeria);
- 111.91. Improve health indicators, particularly decrease maternal Mortality Rates which remain short of the 2015 MDG's target (Turkey);
- 111.92. Create a health insurance scheme for the poor⁷ (Belgium);

⁶ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue "Uphold the rights to freedom of expression and assembly and ensure that the Public Order management bill currently discussed is fully in line with international human rights standards" (Austria).

⁷ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue "Increase access to sexual and

- 111.93. Improve access for persons with disabilities to education and health care, with particular focus on children (Slovakia);
- 111.94. Continue to ensure access to education for all and to improve the education standards to lay a firm foundation for its economic development (Singapore);
- 111.95. Continue its efforts in the area of the right to education, in particular, the integration of human rights in sectorial strategies for education, by guaranteeing the inclusion of modules on human rights in the school curricula (Morocco);
- 111.96. Increase public expenditure on education and undertake additional efforts to improve the functioning of the education system, in order to ensure quality education for all children (Poland);
- 111.97. Continue to reinforce the development policy on primary education (Angola);
- 111.98. Continue efforts to protect the rights of marginalized and vulnerable population (Nepal);
- 111.99. Pursuing accommodative dialogue with indigenous communities, with a view to minimize disruptive approaches to their lifestyle and traditions while improving their life conditions (Algeria);
- 111.100. Continue to take legislative and administrative measures to improve the rights of BATWAS people⁸ (Congo);
- 111.101. Improve the life conditions of migrants and refugees in Uganda (Holy See);
- 111.102. Enforce more effectively the child labour and trafficking laws (United States of America);
- 111.103. Improve the protection of children by fighting against child labour (Holy See);
- 111.104. Amend the laws to include protection for domestic service work (United States of America);
- 111.105. Continue tirelessly to address the issue of resettlement of IDPs including by putting in place resources in provisions of basic services and infrastructure development (Zimbabwe);
- 111.106. Consider sharing with other countries in need its best practices on promotion and protection of human rights (Rwanda);
- 111.107. Request international assistance in order to combat scourges such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS (Angola);
- 111.108. Receive the assistance it requires, in personnel and logistical resources, to develop the health sector in order to reduce the child mortality rate (Sri Lanka);
- 111.109. Seek technical assistance with a view to strengthening its appreciable efforts in the area of human rights (Senegal);
- 111.110. Ensure that military personnel assigned to peace missions are provided with adequate training and clear guidance in relation to the protection, rights and

reproductive health services by raising the health budget to 15 per cent in line with the Abuja declaration and by creating a health insurance scheme for the poor" (Belgium).

⁸ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue "Take legislative and administrative measures to improve the rights of BATWAS people" (Congo).

needs of women, including issues related to sexual and gender-based violence as well as sexual exploitation and abuse (Canada).

112. The following recommendations will be examined by Uganda which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the 19th session of the Human Rights Council in March 2012. The response of Uganda to these recommendations will be included in the outcome report adopted by the Human Rights Council at its 19th session in March 2012:

112.1. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Czech Republic, Belgium, Switzerland, Australia);

112.2. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Right that aims to abolish the death penalty and amend the constitution to abolish any constitutional provisions that provide for death penalty (Sweden);

112.3. Ratify the optional protocol to the Convention against Torture (Switzerland, Brazil, Chile, Argentina) and adopt national legislation accordingly (Belgium);

112.4. Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and incorporate its provisions into domestic law (Australia);

112.5. Ratify the Optional Protocol on Torture, and urgently adopt the draft Prohibition and Prevention of Torture Bill (Sweden);

112.6. Consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatments and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Costa Rica);

112.7. Adopt legislation against torture, accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, and take all necessary measures to put an end to such acts, notably by bringing to justice State officials guilty of torture or ill-treatment (France);

112.8. Ratify the Optional Protocol on the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

112.9. Study the possibility to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Argentina);

112.10. Conclude the ratification process of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (Spain);

112.11. Ratify as soon as possible the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Japan);

112.12. Ratify the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Slovakia);

112.13. Passing of the Anti-Torture Bill and efforts to hold accountable all those committing acts of torture and ensure timely and adequate compensations to victims (Norway);

112.14. An anti-torture bill be enacted by the current Parliament (Ireland);

112.15. Enact a law prohibiting torture and ratify the Optional Protocol of the Convention Against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as the Uganda Human Rights Commission has recommended;

demonstrate real commitment by holding those accountable who have committed acts of torture and ensuring timely and adequate compensation to victims (Denmark);

112.16. Give effect to the provisions of the Conventions Against Torture in national legislation (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

112.17. Approve and implement as soon as possible the bill against torture, in order to effectively implement protection as provided by the Convention against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Mexico);

112.18. Enact pending anti-torture legislation (United States of America);

112.19. Enact the anti-torture bill⁹ (Austria);

112.20. That Public Orders Management Draft Bill be brought in line with Uganda's international human rights obligations (Norway);

112.21. Ensure that the Public Order management bill currently discussed is fully in line with international human rights standards¹⁰ (Austria);

112.22. Amending or reforming other areas than the Domestic Violence Act of Ugandan legislation where women still face discrimination (Norway);

112.23. Enact the Marriage and Divorce Bill (Norway);

112.24. Align policies to ensure access to land and water for pastoralists with the African Union Framework on Pastoralism and conclude regional agreements to facilitate cross-border pastoralism (Netherlands);

112.25. Issue a standing invitation to all mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Hungary);

112.26. Issue a standing invitation to Special Procedures (Brazil);

112.27. Extend an open and standing invitation to all the Special Procedures (Spain);

112.28. Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);

112.29. Positively consider issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Romania);

112.30. Arrange for the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression as soon as possible (Canada);

112.31. Consider positively the request for visit by Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and recent request by Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association (Latvia);

⁹ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue "Enact the anti-torture bill and investigate and hold accountable state security agents and members of the police and army who have committed human rights abuses as well as ensure adequate compensation for victims" (Austria).

¹⁰ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue "Uphold the rights to freedom of expression and assembly and ensure that the Public Order management bill currently discussed is fully in line with international human rights standards" (Austria).

- 112.32. Establish a de jure moratorium on executions, with a view to totally and definitively abolishing the death penalty, and commute all death sentences into life imprisonment (France);
- 112.33. Establish a moratorium on all executions and eventually abolish the death penalty (Switzerland);
- 112.34. Consider abolishing the death penalty (Turkey);
- 112.35. Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Holy See);
- 112.36. Declare a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing it, and commute the death penalty sentence by prison sentences (Spain);
- 112.37. Establish a moratorium on executions and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at abolition of the death penalty (Romania);
- 112.38. Consider abolishing, or institute a de facto moratorium, regarding the use of death penalty (Costa Rica);
- 112.39. Introduce, as a matter of urgency, comprehensive, efficient measures to prevent and combat the widespread economic exploitation of children, in line with its international commitments, notably ILO Conventions No. 138 and 182 (Slovakia);
- 112.40. Adopt a list of hazardous jobs for children¹¹ (United States of America);
- 112.41. Increase access to sexual and reproductive health services by raising the health budget to 15 per cent in line with the Abuja declaration¹² (Belgium);
- 112.42. Speed up the registration in the pipeline in order to deal with the pending challenges in the promotion and protection of human rights (Rwanda).
113. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Uganda:
- 113.1. Publicly announce the shelving of the proposed bill on homosexuality and decriminalize homosexual behaviour (Canada);
- 113.2. The Parliament to dismiss the proposed Anti-homosexuality Bill 2009¹³ (Norway);
- 113.3. Reject the Anti-Homosexuality Bill and decriminalize homosexual relationships between consenting adults (Slovenia);
- 113.4. Fulfil its obligations under international human rights law to decriminalize same-sex relationships between consenting adults and repeal any laws or reforms that explicitly or implicitly discriminate on any grounds, including sexual orientation and gender identity (Norway);
- 113.5. Repeal laws that discriminate against LGBTs (Belgium);

¹¹ The recommendation was not understood.

¹² The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue "Increase access to sexual and reproductive health services by raising the health budget to 15 per cent in line with the Abuja declaration and by creating a health insurance scheme for the poor" (Belgium).

¹³ Uganda upholds the principle of separation of Powers and therefore the Executive has no control over Parliament. Furthermore, this is a Private Member's Bill and the Executive has no powers to stop it.

- 113.6. Revise its national legislation to decriminalise homosexuality and prohibit all forms of discrimination (Switzerland);
 - 113.7. Remove criminal penalties for offences on the basis of sexual orientation (Australia);
 - 113.8. Study the possibility to decriminalize relationships between consenting adults of the same sex (Argentina);
 - 113.9. Abstain from applying legislation that criminalizes homosexuality (Brazil);
 - 113.10. Immediately and unconditionally release all persons currently detained for the reason of homosexuality alone (Switzerland);
 - 113.11. Decriminalize same-sex relations between consenting adults and ensure that no person is subject to arbitrary arrest or detention because of their sexual orientation or gender identity (Austria);
 - 113.12. Derogate the legislation that criminalizes the LGBT community, and put an end to the defamatory and harassing campaigns against them” (Spain).
 - 113.13. Reconfirms its commitment to protecting the rights of all persons regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity in anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation and bodies (Sweden);
 - 113.14. Repeal all provisions criminalizing sexual activity between consenting adults and ensuring the same rights for same sex couples as heterosexual couples (Netherlands);
 - 113.15. Ensure equal rights for all individuals, regardless of sexual orientation (United States of America);
 - 113.16. Fulfil its obligations under international human rights law and ensure the protection of all minorities and repeal any laws or reforms that explicitly or implicitly discriminate on any grounds, including sexual orientation; gender identity and gender expression (Denmark);
 - 113.17. Refrain from enacting the proposed Public Order Management Bill and fully guarantee the freedom of assembly¹⁴ (Germany);
 - 113.18. Ease the heavy administrative burdens on NGOs, such as the yearly registration obligations¹⁵ (Hungary);
 - 113.19. Simplify NGO registration requirements and remove the NGO Board from the supervision of security organizations¹⁶ (United States of America).
114. All conclusions and recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting States and the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

III. Voluntary pledges and commitments

115. Uganda is committed to:
 - (a) develop and implement a national action plan on human rights issues;

¹⁴ Uganda upholds the doctrine of separation of powers.

¹⁵ Regulations on registration and regulation of NGOs are adequate and necessary.

¹⁶ Regulations on registration and regulation of NGOs are adequate and necessary.

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- (b) carry out annual review of the human rights situation in the country and report as appropriate;
 - (c) establish a Cabinet Sub-Committee to provide policy oversight and guidance on human rights issues;
 - (d) mainstream human rights issues in all aspects of governance;
 - (e) establish an Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee to provide technical back-up to the Cabinet Sub-Committee;
 - (f) establish a human rights desk under the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to coordinate human rights issues at the national level. The mandate of the Desk will be defined in consultation with the Uganda Human Rights Commission;
 - (g) establish a Focal Point in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to provide coordination of stakeholders with the international community;
 - (h) designate Focal Points in each of the stakeholders to follow up and report on the implementation of human rights issues;
 - (i) inculcate human rights, voter education and civic education in the education curriculum of schools;
 - (j) mainstream human rights issues in the training curriculum of security agencies.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Uganda was headed by Hon. Oryem Henry Okello, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in charge of International Cooperation and composed of the following members:

- Ambassador David Etuket, Director/International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- H.E. Maurice Peter Kagimu Kiwanuka, Ambassador, Permanent Representative
- Uganda Permanent Mission, Geneva;
- Ambassador Rossette Nyirinkindi Katungye, Deputy Permanent Representative
- Uganda Permanent Mission, Geneva;
- Ms. Eunice Kigenyi Irungu, Counsellor, Uganda Permanent Mission, Geneva;
- Mr. Justinian Kateera, First Secretary, Uganda Permanent Mission, Geneva;
- Mr. Oscar J. Edule, First Secretary, Uganda Permanent Mission, Geneva;
- Mr. Benjamin Mukabire, Second Secretary, Uganda Permanent Mission, Geneva;
- Mr. Evans Aryabaha, Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Francis M. Katugugu, Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Pius Perry Biribonwoha, Director Legal and Legislative Services, Parliament of Uganda;
- Mr. Sam Rwakoojo, Secretary, Electoral Commission;
- Mr. Joshua Wamala, Head, Electoral Management, Electoral Commission;
- Mr. Aliyi Walimbwa, Senior Health Planner, Ministry of Health;
- Ms. Rosette N. Kuhirwa, Senior Development Officer, National Planning Authority;
- Mr. Christopher Gashirabake, Director, Legal Services, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs;
- Ms. Patricia Habu, State Attorney, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs;
- Lt. Col. Timothy Kanyogonya, Chieftaincy of Military Intelligence-UPDF Headquarters;
- Mr. Aioka Victor, Assistant Commissioner, Uganda Prisons Service;
- Ms. Christine Nading, Superintendent of Police, Uganda Police Force;
- Mr. Henry Irumba, Principal Policy Analyst, Ministry of Lands and Urban Development;
- Mr. John Kamyia, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Uganda Police Force.