

Responses to Recommendations

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

Review in the Working Group: 31 January 2011
 Adoption in the Plenary: 8 June 2011

Sao Tome and Principe’s responses to recommendations (as of 24.11.2011):

In the Report of the Working Group:	In the Addendum:	During the plenary:	Summary:
72 REC accepted; 10 pending	No addendum	The delegation stated taking note of the recs pertaining to the Rome Statute (part of recs. n°65.4 and 65.5 and recs. 65.8 and 65.10) and that the other recs. were accepted ¹	Accepted: 80 Rejected: 0 No clear position: 0 Pending: 4

List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/17/13:

- A - 64.1. Consider accession to the main regional and international human rights instruments (Angola);
- A - 64.2. Ratify and implement outstanding core international human rights treaties (Hungary);
- A - 64.3. Continue to extend the range of fundamental international instruments to which Sao Tome is already a party (Cape Verde);
- A - 64.4. Proceed with ratifying and fully implementing international instruments to which it is a signatory, including CAT (United Kingdom);
- A - 64.5. Immediately ratify ICCPR and its Optional Protocols, and incorporate the provisions into national legislation (Sweden);
- A - 64.6. Ratify ICCPR and ICESCR, which it signed in 1995 (Canada);

¹ The total number of recommendations is now 84 as 2 were split.

A - 64.7. Consider, with the assistance of the relevant United Nations bodies, if needed, ratifying the core international human rights instruments to which Sao Tome and Principe is not a party, starting with ICCPR and ICESCR (Algeria);

A - 64.8. Consider taking progressive actions to ratify the core human rights treaties, starting with ICESCR and ICCPR, which it signed in 1995 (Timor Leste);

A - 64.9. Ratify ICCPR, ICESCR and the Optional Protocols to CRC as a matter of priority (Norway);

A - 64.10. Step up its efforts to accelerate the ratification, among others, of ICESCR as well as its Optional Protocol (OP-ICESCR), ICCPR and its first Optional Protocol (ICCPR-OP 1), CAT and its Optional Protocol (OP-CAT), CRC and its Optional Protocols (OP-CRC-AC and OP-CRC-SC), and the Optional Protocol to CEDAW (OP-CEDAW) (Portugal);

A - 64.11. Ratify the treaties already signed, such as the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), ICESCR, ICCPR, and CAT (Brazil);

A - 64.12. Accede to ICCPR, ICERD and CAT (Poland);

A - 64.13. Ratify ICESCR, ICERD, ICCPR and CAT (Maldives);

A - 64.14. Ratify and implement OP-CRC-SC on the sale of the children, child prostitution and child pornography (Hungary);

A - 64.15. Bring national legislation in line with the provisions of the international instruments, and ensure its implementation in practice (Angola)

A - 64.16. Consider adopting laws and regulations in favour of children, abandoned minors, persons with disabilities and the elderly (Morocco);

A - 64.17. Seek technical and financial assistance from United Nations partners and specialized agencies to fill in the gaps in its legislation so as to ensure better treatment for children with disabilities and those at a disadvantage (Mauritania);

A - 64.18. Work towards the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Nigeria); create an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Portugal); consider establishing an independent national human rights institution (Morocco); establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Norway); establish a national human rights institution with the assistance of OHCHR (Maldives); consider creating an independent national human rights institution that operates in accordance with the Paris Principles (United Kingdom); establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Argentina); set up a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ecuador); establish a national human rights institution according to the Paris Principles (Ghana); establish a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Hungary);

A - 64.19. Either strengthen the existing National Child Rights Committee or establish a national human rights institution according to the Paris Principles, and ensure that the National Child Rights Committee or the new national institution is provided with sufficient human and financial resources (Poland);

A - 64.20. Continue its efforts to establish legal and institutional mechanisms to protect children from all forms of physical, sexual and psychological violence (Argentina);

A - 64.21. Take effective measures to safeguard the full enjoyment of civil and political rights of its people (Sweden);

A - 64.22. Continue to develop and implement measures aimed at the promotion and protection of human rights of vulnerable groups, such as children, women, people with disabilities, and the elderly (Nigeria);

A - 64.23. Continue implementing its socio-economic development strategies and plans (Cuba);

A - 64.24. Adopt plans for the promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, particularly women and children (Algeria);

A - 64.25. Initiate awareness programmes to educate citizens on existing and new legislation (United States);

A - 64.26. Undertake sustained efforts to increase institutional capacity and the broadest dissemination of human rights culture (Cape Verde);

A - 64.27. Consider extending a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Portugal); consider issuing a standing invitation to the human rights special procedures (Brazil); extend a standing invitation to all special procedures (Spain); issue a standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders to help establish the basis of human rights education and training (Maldives); issue an open invitation to the special procedures (United Kingdom); extend a standing invitation to the special procedures (Ecuador); take necessary actions to implement its commitment to extend a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Latvia); cooperate with the special procedures (Norway);

A - 64.28. Review its national legal framework, and fully incorporate the principle of non-discrimination, and adopt a pro-active strategy to eliminate discrimination on any grounds, notably against the most vulnerable groups (Slovakia);

A - 64.29. Conduct an in-depth revision of all legislation in order to fully guarantee the application of the principle of non-discrimination in domestic legislation (Norway);

A - 64.30. Step up its efforts to protect the rights of the child, especially those living in situations of poverty, victims of child prostitution, and children with disabilities. In this regard, conduct a comprehensive review of its national legislation to guarantee the full application of the principle of nondiscrimination and adopt a national strategy to remedy this situation as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2004 (Spain);

A - 64.31. Increase its efforts to address existing gaps in the legislation, including and especially with regard to discrimination against women (Timor Leste);

A - 64.32. Adopt in its national legislation a definition of inhuman and degrading treatment in accordance with international standards (Brazil);

A - 64.33. Define ill-treatment in the national legislation (Germany);

A - 64.34. Take effective measures to safeguard the basic rights of prisoners, provide them with adequate nutritious food and sanitation, and separate juvenile and adult prisoners (Sweden);

A - 64.35. Take necessary measures to eradicate violence against women and improve their participation in public life (Ecuador);

A - 64.36. Fully implement the laws to combat discrimination against women, and strengthen effectiveness in combating domestic and sexual violence against women (France);

A - 64.37. Develop and implement a holistic strategy to prevent violence within the family, with the participation of all stakeholders, including men, women, girls, boys, religious groups, the media and NGOs (Canada);

A - 64.38. Establish permanent mechanisms to carry out investigations into cases of sexual exploitation, and provide victims with the assistance and services necessary for their rehabilitation (Canada);

A - 64.39. Take measures to address the problem of violence against children and ensure there is a national system for receiving, monitoring and investigating complaints (Norway);

A - 64.40. As recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, take measures to address the problem of violence against children, ensure a national system to receive, monitor and investigate complaints, and, when necessary, prosecute and punish perpetrators (Ghana);

A - 64.41. Pay attention to the promotion of the rights of the child, particularly children with disabilities, and strengthen efforts to combat violence against children (Burkina Faso);

A - 64.42. Adopt and implement efficient measures to protect all children from sexual exploitation, including the ratification of OP-CRC-SC (Slovakia);

A - 64.43. Intensify efforts to enforce existing laws and/or create laws to protect children from discrimination and violence, particularly sexual violence (United States);

A - 64.44. Take all necessary measures to effectively protect children from sexual exploitation (Norway);

A - 64.45. Conduct a comprehensive study to assess the scope and nature of sexual exploitation of children, in order to be able to develop necessary measures to protect children from sexual exploitation (Hungary);

A - 64.46. Undertake awareness-raising campaigns on sexual exploitation of children (Hungary);

A - 64.47. Enact domestic legislation in line with the provisions of CRC to eliminate child prostitution (Maldives);

A - 64.48. Strengthen provisions to protect children, particularly given the threat of trafficking and sexual exploitation of minors, and reform legislation so that children who are prostituted are not considered criminals or delinquents (France);

A - 64.49. Prohibit corporal punishment by law, protect victims, and punish perpetrators (Germany);

A - 64.50. Enact legislation to prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including at home and in care institutions (Hungary);

A - 64.51. Pursue appropriate policies with a view to strengthening efficiency, impartiality, and independence of its judiciary (Slovakia);

A - 64.52. Step up efforts to achieve greater independence of the judiciary. In this regard, substantially increase the resources for the administration of justice, provide training and education on human rights for its staff, and adopt legislative measures to strengthen the independence of judicial action in accordance with international standards (Spain);

A - 64.53. Adopt and implement legislation establishing appropriate criminal justice procedures for persons under the age of 18 (United States);

A - 64.54. Establish juvenile courts (United States);

A - 64.55. Bring its legislation into conformity with its support for the General Assembly Statement on Human Rights, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and its international human rights obligations, by repealing the provisions which criminalize sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex (Norway);

A - 64.56. Develop awareness-raising campaigns and programmes against sexual orientation discrimination (Brazil);

A - 64.57. Repeal the provisions under its criminal legislation that punish sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex (France);

A - 64.58. Bring its legislation into conformity with its commitment to equality and non-discrimination and its international human rights obligations, by repealing all provisions which may be applied to criminalize sexual activity between consenting adults (United Kingdom);

A - 64.59. Continue organizing thematic meetings, such as the 2009 National Forum on Justice, and whenever appropriate involve civil society as well as other non-governmental stakeholders (Morocco);

A - 64.60. Adopt measures to impose sanctions that are sufficiently effective and dissuasive on employers who discriminate against trade union activity (Chile);

A - 64.61. Continue to implement and consolidate programmes and measures aimed at reducing poverty, in particular through its Poverty Reduction Strategy (Nigeria);

A - 64.62. Intensify programs to combat poverty so as to improve the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, particularly with regard to food security (Algeria);

A - 64.63. Continue to take measures to guarantee universal access to primary health care, particularly maternal and child care services (Chile);

A - 64.64. Continue implementing programmes and measures to improve the enjoyment of the right to education and the right to health (Cuba);

A - 64.65. Further develop strategies to improve health services for all its citizens, especially in relation to combating maternal mortality (Norway);

A - 64.66. Work with WHO and ILO to improve levels of sanitation, hygiene and maternal health care in order to reduce the spread of communicable diseases (Maldives);

A - 64.67. Consider strengthening programmes to combat and prevent HIV/AIDS, with special attention to women and children (Brazil);

A - 64.68. Organize public-awareness campaigns regarding HIV/AIDS through the media, and include awareness-raising campaigns in school curricula (Germany);

A - 64.69. Cooperate with, inter alia, UNESCO and UNICEF to improve the education sector (Maldives);

A - 64.70. Seek the technical and financial assistance of United Nations partners and specialized agencies to improve its education system so as to reduce illiteracy and school drop-out rates, particularly of girls (Mauritania);

A - 64.71. Establish as soon as possible mechanisms to ensure transparent and responsible governance of the extractive industries sector which fulfil the membership requirements in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (Canada);

A - 64.72. Improve the financing methodology, strengthen relevant coordination, and create better conditions for its own development (China).

65. The following recommendations will be examined by Sao Tome and Principe, which will provide responses in due course, but no later than the seventeenth session of the Human Rights Council in June 2011. The response of Sao Tome and Principe to these recommendations will be included in the outcome report adopted by the Human Rights Council at its seventeenth session.

A - 65.1. Consider ratifying all core international human rights treaties to which it is not yet a party and align them to their national legal framework (Nigeria);

A - 65.2. Seek the technical and financial assistance of United Nations partners and specialized agencies to ratify the human rights treaties to which it is not yet party (Mauritania);

A - 65.3. Sign and ratify all international human rights instruments to which it is not yet party (Ecuador);

A - 65.4. Consider signing and ratifying ICESCR and ICCPR,
P - as well as the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Mauritius);

A - 65.5. Fulfil its international commitments by ratifying ICERD, CAT, OPCAT, CED, OP-CRC-AC, OP-CRC-SC,

P - as well as the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (France);

A - 65.6. Ratify the main international human rights instruments, including ICCPR, ICESCR, ICERD, and CAT. Also sign and ratify OP-ICESCR, OPCAT, OP-CRC-AC, OP-CRC-SC, CED, CRPD and its Optional Protocol (OPCRPD (Spain));

A - 65.7. Consider ratifying the following international instruments: ICCPR, ICESCR, CAT, ICERD, OP-CEDAW and CED (Argentina);

P - 65.8. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Poland);

A - 65.9. Ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Ghana).

P - 65.10. Step up efforts to accelerate the ratification of, among others, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Portugal);

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