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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Oman

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 128/1 of 18 June 2007, held its twenty-third session from 2 to 13 November 2015. The review of Oman was held at the 8th meeting on 5 November 2015. The delegation of Oman was headed by the Minister of Legal Affairs, H.E. Dr Abdullah Mohammed Said Al Sa'eedi. At its 14th meeting held on 10 November 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on Oman.

2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Oman: Montenegro, South Africa and Viet Nam.

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

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/23/OMN/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/23/OMN/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/23/OMN/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by the Czech Republic, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Norway, Kenya, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of the Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Oman 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. The delegation of Oman extended his thanks to the Human Rights Council, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the troika members.

6. The delegation noted that following the first UPR, the Sultanate had established a committee to examine and follow-up the recommendations made by other states. This committee encompasses representatives from the Government and institutions from the civil society. It has elaborated a plan to implement the results of the interaction with the UPR.

7. The delegation highlighted that as the Sultanate was committed to protect human dignity and rights, its Constitution expressly provides that no person shall be subjected to physical or psychological torture, inducement or demeaning treatment and that any statement or confession proven to have been obtained under torture, inducement, demeaning treatment, or the threat of any of these acts, shall be deemed void. The delegation added that the Constitution also affirms that the accused is innocent until proven guilty in a legal trial in which the essential guarantees to exercise their right of defence in accordance with the law are guaranteed, and that it is not permissible to harm an accused either bodily or mentally.

8. The delegation stated that the amendments introduced to the Constitution in 2011 had constituted a comprehensive development in the protection, promotion and respect of human rights. In this vein, the Sultanate has agreed in principle to adhere to the following conventions: the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the United Nations Convention against Torture and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

9. According to the delegation, the Sultanate has also agreed in principle to withdraw its reservation to paragraph (4) of article (15) of CEDAW. Furthermore, Oman guarantees, through Articles (11) to (40) of its Constitution, all human rights throughout its three generations. Furthermore, although the Sultanate is not a party to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, it guaranteed the large majority of rights enshrined in this convention.

10. Regarding the political system in Oman, the delegation noted that it was stable and founded on the rule of law, good governance as well as equality among citizens, and that one of the main principles in the Constitution was the achievement of economic and social development. The delegation also noted that the constitutional amendments gave extensive legislative and regulatory powers to the Council of Oman in order to develop the march of Shura and to affirm the importance of political participation and democratic process. The delegation added that free and transparent elections for the Shura Council had been held lately under the supervision of the High Electoral Commission, as stipulated by the Constitution. The National Human Rights Commission also observed these elections.

11. With regard to the judicial system, the delegation highlighted that it had been reformed and that the Judiciary consequently enjoyed further administrative and financial independence. The Constitution expressly states that the Judiciary shall be independent, its authority shall be exercised by the courts in their different types and hierarchies, and their judgments shall be rendered in accordance with the Law; and that there shall be no power over judges in their ruling except for the Law; and that they shall be irremovable and that it is not permissible for any party to interfere in lawsuits or affairs of justice, and such interference shall be considered a crime punishable by Law.

12. The delegation noted that the Constitution also affirms the freedom of opinion and expression thereof through speech, writing as well as other means of expression and that the Omani legislation enshrined this principle.

13. Regarding the right to education, the delegation stated that it was one of the most important rights and that it had been among the Government's priorities since 1970. The Constitution affirms that education is the cornerstone for the progress of the society and that the State shall work to combat illiteracy, encourage and disseminate sciences, arts, literature and scientific research. The delegation explained that the Sultanate supported the establishment of innovation within the national education goals to enable students to keep abreast of scientific progress especially in the technical field which provides more employment opportunities for the youth.

14. The delegation indicated that the joint United Nations report had noted the progress achieved by the Sultanate in developing the national strategy for the child. The Government has developed a national work plan for the advancement of children in consultation with the civil society and established a commission to prevent ill-treatment of children.

15. The delegation stated that the Sultanate was a leading State in the region when it comes to women's rights. It noted that women had equal opportunities in higher education and in the labour market and that they assumed the highest positions in the State in the capacity of ministers, deputy ministers, ambassadors and members of the Council of Oman, as well as other administrative posts in both the public and private sectors. They have also become active members in the judiciary, police and armed forces. The delegation indicated

that in recognition of women role in society, the Sultanate celebrated the Omani Woman Day on 17th October annually.

16. On the fight against human trafficking, the delegation recalled that Oman was among the first States in the region to have issued a comprehensive law in this area and had established a national commission presided by a personality with the rank of minister. The delegation stated that it had achieved a remarkable progress since its first UPR in 2011 in its strategy to combat human trafficking which was based on four pillars: developing the legislation and rules related to human trafficking; guiding the concerned authorities in relation to the preventive and deterrent measures; providing protection and support to the victims and strengthening the international collaboration to combat human trafficking.

17. The delegation noted that Oman had established a strategy to combat all forms of forced labour by imposing heavy fines on offenders and had increased the number of shelters for women and children victims of sexual exploitation.

18. In the humanitarian field, the delegation indicated that the Sultanate worked on providing foreign financial support to developing countries, and Oman Charitable Organization supported urgent relief operations worldwide when natural disasters strike.

19. The delegation noted that in order to rehabilitate a national staff capable of tackling human rights issues, the National Human Rights Commission trained a national staff in collaboration with the High Commissioner for Human Rights and with many specialised training centres and strived to endorse human rights culture.

20. The delegation stated that the Sultanate permanently emphasised the importance of dialogue between stakeholders in the human rights issues based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the diversity of civilisations and the cultural specificity of each society. Oman makes concrete efforts to consolidate the concepts of coexistence and tolerance through the reinforcement of the principle of respect of religious freedom; in this context, the Sultanate created centres for dialogue between different religions and confessions and established scientific chairs in international universities. The delegation added that tolerance was an inherent characteristic of the Omani society and that the Government ensured religious and intellectual freedom for both citizens and residents.

21. The delegation mentioned that Oman was located in a troubled region, but this does not dissuade it from seeking peaceful resolutions and narrowing the differences to put an end to regional conflicts. This role was noted recently by the Secretary-General who thanked the Sultanate of Oman for its “constructive role” in helping to resolve the conflict in Yemen and in discussing the last developments in the peace process in the Middle-East and Syria.

22. The delegation recalled its firm position in supporting the Palestinian people in their right to self-determination; to establish their State with East-Jerusalem as its capital, side by side with Israel, and to end the oldest occupation in the world.

23. The delegation highlighted that the events that the Arab world had been witnessing had brought a lot of countries to face huge challenges, but Oman had worked to preserve its stability and safety while balancing between adding further rights and freedoms and the dictates of stability and security through wise policies under the leadership of His Majesty the Sultan.

24. The delegation concluded by saying that the Sultanate of Oman would carry on its efforts aiming at the protection and promotion of human rights, and at making of this council a place to advance the human rights away from politicisation and selectivity.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

25. Costa Rica was concerned, among others, at the limited representation of women in decision-making positions; lack of independence of the judiciary and restrictions to the freedom of expression and association.
26. Bahrain commended the efforts made by Oman to adopt measures and initiatives to strengthen and protect human rights, in particular through its commitment to fulfil its obligations and pledges.
27. Cyprus welcomed the decision that Oman had agreed in principle to accede to a number of international human rights legal instruments.
28. The Czech Republic appreciated the responses made to some of its advance questions.
29. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea commended Oman for the promotion of the role of women, in particular the fact that women constituted 43 per cent of the workforce in the civil service sector.
30. Denmark was pleased to note that Oman had in principle agreed to accede to the CAT.
31. Qatar valued the developments in promoting and protecting human rights and commended legislative measures, such as the law on children; military judicial law and ratification of treaties.
32. Egypt highlighted the adoption of several national laws and strategies as well as the establishment of institutions for the promotion of human rights.
33. Estonia noted with appreciation the Oman's cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association and encouraged Oman to fulfil his recommendations.
34. France made recommendations to Oman.
35. While acknowledging the steps undertaken in the protection of the rights of the child and the promotion of the role of women, Georgia encouraged Oman to make more efforts to reach international standards.
36. Germany asked Oman at what state of affairs was the accession to the ICESCR and ICCPR.
37. Ghana was concerned at the reports of discrimination against women; use of excessive force by the police against citizens exercising their rights to freedoms of speech and assembly and conditions of employment of migrant workers.
38. Honduras welcomed the decision to prohibit the female genital mutilation in hospitals. It also acknowledged the national strategy 2016-2025 on the rights of women, persons with disabilities and children.
39. While welcoming the Omani Citizenship Law that enabled Omani women married to foreigners to pass their citizenship onto their children, Iceland was concerned at some provisions that undermined efforts for an equal treatment of all citizens.
40. Brunei Darussalam welcomed laws and legislations enacted to maintain the rights of workers and employers.
41. Indonesia took note that Oman had developed education compulsory up to the completion of the basic level and its commitments to fulfil access to education for all people.

42. Iran (Islamic Republic of) appreciated the legislative measures taken by Oman since its first UPR and the positive development in human rights institutions and mechanisms.
43. Iraq commended the human rights achievements since the first review and the efforts in amending national legislation in accordance with the ratified international human rights treaties.
44. Ireland expressed concern at reports of discrimination against women and of arrests of human rights defenders and journalists. It called upon Oman to take further steps to protect and support civil society organizations.
45. Italy welcomed the commitment to ratify ICESCR; ongoing review of the ICCPR, and promulgation of Decrees 22/2014 and 38/2014. It also acknowledged the efforts to strengthen women empowerment.
46. Jordan commended the initiatives and special measures to develop the legislative, institutional and constitutional framework and to establish action plans and special commissions of human rights.
47. Kuwait acknowledged the cooperation with the civil society; ratification of human rights treaties and amendment of the legislation in accordance with the constitution.
48. Latvia encouraged Oman to strengthen its efforts to eliminate discrimination against women, in particular with regards to divorce, inheritance, child custody and legal guardianship of children.
49. Lebanon highlighted the good practice in human rights education and the free and compulsory education, in particular the inclusion of human rights in curricula.
50. Libya commended Oman for the ratification of the Arabic treaty on money laundry and financing terrorism.
51. Malaysia appreciated efforts to combat trafficking and noted the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, particularly in education.
52. Maldives appreciated the efforts made in establishing institutional mechanisms focusing on strategies for social work, women and children, and persons with disabilities.
53. Mauritania noted with satisfaction the amendments to Omani nationality law granting additional rights to its holders, and encouraged Oman to comply with its implementation.
54. Mexico welcomed the actions taken to promote a more inclusive education through the adoption of the national strategy for the persons with disabilities.
55. Montenegro asked the delegation to elaborate on the measures that the Government had planned to undertake to prohibit discrimination against women in all areas of life.
56. Namibia commended the adoption of the Children's Act, and increased representation of women in the public and private sectors. It encouraged Oman to increase the participation of citizen in public life.
57. The Netherlands commended Oman for its invitation to the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.
58. Nigeria commended Oman for the policies and legislation implemented to promote human rights, including citizenship and transparency in the electoral appeal law.
59. While Norway acknowledged that Oman made progress in advancing the status of women, it noted that their status still lagged behind that of men, especially regarding the right to transfer their nationality to children.

60. Panama commended Oman for the development of a national work plan for the implementation of the recommendations that it had accepted during the first UPR.
61. The Philippines encouraged Oman to set up a NHRI compliant with the Paris Principles and urged the Government to continue to ensure the protection of migrant workers.
62. The delegation of Oman stated that the Sultanate's policies, plans and programmes were all devoted to achieve the objectives of sustainable development. The Sultanate works on taking measures to improve social development, as well as on focusing on the concept of development based on partnership, empowerment and equality.
63. The delegation noted that the Sultanate ensured the social protection of children, women and persons with disabilities as well as other vulnerable groups. In this context, the Sultanate ratified a number of international conventions in the field of human rights. In addition, the Sultanate has been working since 2013 on the preparation of a social work strategy.
64. Regarding women's rights, the delegation indicated that women had a privileged position in the Omani society, and played an active role in the economic and social development process in the country. They have the same rights as men according to the constitution.
65. The delegation mentioned that the provision of rehabilitation programmes for persons with disabilities was one of the priorities of the Sultanate in order to develop their potential and their abilities to promote participation and integration in society.
66. In confirmation of its commitments to the International Convention on the Rights of the Child and its two additional protocols, and in reinforcement of the rights of the Child in Oman, the delegation noted that the Government had issued the Child Law in 2014 and had created child protection committees in various governorates of the Sultanate. These committees receive and follow-up on complaints and communications (from individuals, governmental and civil actors) related to any violations of the rights of the Child.
67. With regard to the civil society institutions, the delegation reaffirmed their importance and indicated that their representatives were invited to participate in various committees and conferences.
68. The delegation explained that the cooperation of the Ministry of Manpower with the International Labour Organization and the benefits taken from its technical expertise and practical capacities had contributed in enabling the Sultanate to develop labour legislation, to organise the labour market and to develop programmes and regulations that guarantee the rights of employers and workers.
69. Regarding the expatriate labour force, the delegation stated that it worked on the basis of a contract agreed by the employer and the worker and approved by the official authorities in the Sultanate including some of the embassies of the sending States.
70. The delegation noted that the Sultanate paid great attention to workers and that was reflected by the Labour Law which did not distinguish between man and woman. This law also provides for penalties for those who violate its provisions including workers' rights defined by the Law.
71. The delegation mentioned that the Ministry of Manpower provided various services in order to ensure the application of the Labour Law and the related Ministerial Decisions and the control of the private enterprises through inspection services. It also settles labour disputes, receives complaints and seeks their amicable settlement. In addition, the Ministry ensures that workers receive their wages through the protection of wages system. The delegation added that the Ministry had also issued, by Ministerial Decision 322/2011, the

Regulation on Safety and Occupational Health Measures in enterprises subject to the Labour Law.

72. On the domestic labour force, the delegation stated that the Sultanate paid utmost attention to this matter. This is reflected by the Ministerial Decision 189/2004 on rules and conditions related to the work of domestic workers; and the Ministerial Decision 1/2011 related to the Regulation of the recruitment of non-Omani domestic workers, whereby the Government regulates the work of offices recruiting expatriate domestic workers in order to guarantee their rights and to prevent trafficking. The delegation added that the Ministry had also established a committee mandated to meet with the embassies of the sending States to find adequate solutions for the difficulties facing domestic women workers and to discuss the situation of the expatriate labour force.

73. The delegation noted that in the event that any worker was subject to exploitation, violence or violation of any of their rights, they were entitled to resort to the competent judicial authorities to seek legal protection. It added that committed to its obligations towards the international labour standards, the Sultanate had signed a memorandum of understanding with the International Labour Organization in 2011 to implement the National Programme for Decent Work.

74. The delegation affirmed Oman's commitment to the implementation of the international labour standards in accordance with its national needs with a view to achieving sustainable development and an equitable labour market for all.

75. Portugal welcomed the efforts made by Oman to consolidate the legal framework for the protection and promotion of human rights but regretted that it still retained the death penalty.

76. Djibouti commended Oman for its efforts in the strengthening of human rights, in particular in targeting the economic growth and improving the living conditions of its population.

77. The Republic of Korea noted with appreciation the withdrawal or modification of the reservations to the CRC and its invitation to the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association.

78. Saudi Arabia commended Oman for the achievements in education and human rights awareness among different sectors.

79. Senegal welcomed efforts towards the establishment of a compulsory primary education free of charge; the access to healthcare and the new law on transfer of Omani nationality.

80. Sierra Leone noted with appreciation the passing of an impressive number of decrees. It encouraged the implementation of the CEDAW recommendation of ensuring active participation of women in society.

81. Singapore commended Oman's commitment to ensure equal educational opportunities without discrimination and encouraged Oman to continue efforts to develop quality healthcare.

82. Slovakia acknowledged efforts to improve the level of protection of children's rights. It encouraged Oman to explore further ways of intensifying cooperation with other special procedures mandate holders.

83. Slovenia noted positively the withdrawal of reservations to the CRC, and efforts towards the eradication of child labour. It remained concerned at the lack of legal protection of violence against women.

84. Spain acknowledged the progress made in the participation of women in the public life and the reforms of the law of nationality. It welcomed the visit of the Special Rapporteur in peaceful assembly and association.
85. Sri Lanka noted the promulgation of the Child Law making education compulsory and free, the Health Vision 2050 including strategies for the advancement of Women and the National Plan for the Elderly.
86. The State of Palestine noticed the efforts in strengthening the judiciary to ensure its independence. It commended Oman for making the education free and compulsory and for incorporating human rights in the curricula.
87. The Sudan commended Oman for the constitutional and legislative institutional changes such as the child law; law on nationality and establishment of the General Directorate for persons with disabilities.
88. Sweden made recommendations to Oman.
89. Switzerland welcomed the absence of executions in Oman for over ten years. It expressed concern about the restriction of rights to freedom of expression and association and peaceful assembly.
90. The Syrian Arab Republic noted that Oman had taken upon itself a humanitarian role of bringing religious and cultures together.
91. Tajikistan noted the measures taken in the area of labour; to improve the situation of families and the education from the prospective of encouraging human rights.
92. Thailand acknowledged the progress made in education, healthcare and social services and welcomed initiatives to promote and empower Omani women.
93. Tunisia noted the adoption of laws to strengthen human rights; the ratification of treaties and the acceptance to accede to additional ones as well as the implementation of the strategy for the empowerment of women and persons with disabilities.
94. Turkey encouraged Oman to continue its efforts for women's rights, particularly through representation in decision-making mechanisms such as the Shura Council.
95. Turkmenistan noted that Oman enhanced the working conditions of expatriate labourers by issuing legislation and regulations.
96. Ukraine noted Oman's elaboration of national strategies and national plans for the advancement of women, childhood and elderly persons, for healthcare and to combat human trafficking.
97. The United Arab Emirates commended Oman for the measures taken to achieve human development, through the adoption of a number of national strategies on women, elderly and children.
98. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed the visit of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of assembly and association. It encouraged Oman to grant the NHRC with greater independence.
99. The United States of America remained concerned at the Government's limited efforts to hold forced labour offenders accountable through criminal prosecution, at the continuing restrictions on freedom of expression and at detention of bloggers.
100. The delegation of Oman noted that the Omani legislator guaranteed the freedom of assembly as long as it was peaceful and did not disturb the public order, health and tranquillity to avoid violating others' rights. It explained that law did not criminalise assembly per se unless it constituted an offence to provisions of the law; in the event that an

offence was committed in this regard, a trial where all legal rights were guaranteed was held.

101. The delegation added that the Omani legislator also guaranteed the freedom of association. Although the Law of Civil Associations promulgated by Royal Decree 14/2000 made the Ministry of Social Development responsible for receiving applications for the registration of civil associations, it requires the Ministry to justify its negative decisions in this regard according to Article 11 of the Law. It also provides the possibility for the associations, whose applications are rejected, to appeal to the Minister within a month from the date of receipt of the refusal decision. In the event that the Minister rejects the appeal, the concerned association has the right to appeal the Minister's decision before the independent Administrative Judiciary Court to verify the validity of the administrative decisions. The delegation stated that the registration of many associations during the recent period in various fields and for various purposes underlines the flexibility and the transparency of the registration procedures.

102. The delegation noted that the Sultanate had a leading experience with regard to integrating human rights in the field of education. It listed the most prominent steps taken in this regard: the issuance of the Child Law which makes education free and compulsory and the implementation of the Arab Plan for Human Rights Education (2009-2014). The plan includes several pillars among which, integrating the concepts of human rights in school curricula, the qualification of staff in the field of human rights' education, and the dissemination of a culture of human rights.

103. With regard to children with disabilities, the delegation mentioned that the Ministry of Education worked on providing equal educational opportunities for all students in the Sultanate without discrimination. It also includes integration programmes for people with mental disabilities and hearing impairment in elementary education. It further provides opportunities for the completion of their university studies. In this context, a group of deaf students –graduates of the school year 2013/2014- was sent to the United States of America and the Kingdom of Jordan to complete their university studies.

104. The delegation noted that the institutions of higher education introduce the concepts of human rights in their cultural programmes. Moreover, advisory student councils of institutions of higher education were launched in the academic year 2014/201128 with the view to promote the practice of the democratic process among students.

105. Uruguay hoped that Oman would soon implement its decision to accede to CAT. It also encouraged Oman to ensure the full independence of the NHRC.

106. Uzbekistan welcomed the national strategies to protect and promote the rights of children, women, the disabled, the elderly as well as awareness raising activities on human rights.

107. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela highlighted the adoption of the National Strategy for the Development of Women and the decree on free and compulsory education.

108. Viet Nam noted progress regarding children's rights, women and persons with disabilities, and human rights education.

109. Yemen welcomed Oman's ratification of most of the international human rights instruments and its efforts in promoting the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities.

110. Afghanistan commended the measures aimed at eradication of illiteracy and at ensuring there is no quality gap in education between males and females.

111. Algeria noted the adoption and amendments to legislation on the judiciary and the fight against corruption. It welcomed the intention to adopt policies regarding children, women, workers and disabled persons.

112. Argentina congratulated Oman for its national strategy for childhood and the increase of women and girls tuition in all levels of education. It was concerned regarding the lack of free access and the obligatory nature of education.

113. Australia commended the Oman's progress in providing access to education for women and girls. It was concerned at the restrictions to freedom of expression and assembly.

114. Azerbaijan appreciated the establishment of the ministerial steering committee and executive working group to enable Oman to fulfil its commitments vis-à-vis human rights mechanisms.

115. Cuba highlighted the progress made by Oman in the health care system and the guarantee of a universal access to quality education.

116. Bangladesh appreciated the adoption of laws and regulations to develop the labour market in a manner consistent with national requirements and international labour standards.

117. Bhutan noted the steps taken by Oman to address the rights of all children through the promulgation of Children's Act. It also appreciated the policy of providing universal education.

118. Brazil praised Oman for providing financial contributions to OHCHR. It also encouraged Oman to ensure that its NHRC complied with the Paris Principles.

119. India commended Oman for its achievements in the fields of health and education and encouraged Oman to continue to take additional measures for promoting gender equality.

120. Burundi congratulated Oman for the measures taken for ensuring the independence of the judiciary, for its policy on free education and on human rights education.

121. Canada welcomed efforts to strengthen the participation of women during the Shura Council elections and the establishment of a committee to monitor Oman's compliance with CEDAW. It expressed concern at limits imposed on freedom of opinion and expression.

122. Chad noted the legislation and measures taken by Oman such as the nationality law; labour law; inclusion of human rights in policies and programmes as well as free and compulsory education.

123. Chile was concerned at the discrimination against women in Oman.

124. China commended Oman for the formulation of strategic plans to promote the right to health of women, children, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. It positively noted the drop of illiteracy rates and fairness in education.

125. Comoros congratulated Oman for the progress in the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, including education and training, and access to decision-making positions.

126. Morocco welcomed the efforts to enshrine the foundations of the rule of law through judicial reforms, and adoption of the law on transmission of nationality to children for women with foreign husbands

127. In conclusion, the delegation of Oman thanked all delegations for their statements and for their recommendations in order to promote and protect human rights. It assured that all the recommendations would be taken into consideration and that all the competent authorities would be consulted.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

128. **The following recommendations will be examined by Oman which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the 31st session of the Human Rights Council in March 2016:**

- 128.1. **Speed up the accession to the international human rights instruments that were approved in principle and take the necessary measures to apply their provisions (Algeria);**
- 128.2. **Ratify the outstanding human rights treaties (Slovenia);**
- 128.3. **Ratify the two 1966 Covenants and their Optional Protocols (Italy);**
- 128.4. **Ratify the ICCPR (Australia) (Costa Rica) (Montenegro) (Slovakia) (Slovenia) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), (Uruguay);**
- 128.5. **Ratify the ICCPR without reservations (Germany) (Switzerland);**
- 128.6. **Accede to the ICCPR (Canada);**
- 128.7. **Consider ratifying the ICCPR (Ghana);**
- 128.8. **Consider acceding to the ICCPR (Republic of Korea);**
- 128.9. **Continue to positively consider the accession to the ICCPR (1966) (Viet Nam);**
- 128.10. **Sign and ratify ICCPR (Sierra Leone);**
- 128.11. **Sign and ratify ICCPR-OP 2 (Sierra Leone);**
- 128.12. **Accede to the ICCPR-OP 2 (Australia) (France);**
- 128.13. **Ratify the ICCPR-OP 2 (Portugal);**
- 128.14. **Ratify the ICCPR-OP 2, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro);**
- 128.15. **Consider ratification of the ICCPR and its Optional Protocol (Namibia);**
- 128.16. **Ratify the ICESCR (Australia) (Slovakia) (Slovenia);**
- 128.17. **Accede to the ICESCR (Canada);**
- 128.18. **Ratify the ICESCR without reservations (Germany);**
- 128.19. **Sign and ratify ICESCR (Sierra Leone);**
- 128.20. **Consider ratifying the ICESCR (Ghana);**
- 128.21. **Consider acceding to the ICESCR (Republic of Korea);**

** Conclusions and recommendations will not be edited.

- 128.22. Pursue the necessary procedure to accede to the ICESCR (1966) (Viet Nam);
- 128.23. Take the necessary measures to accede to the ICESCR of 1966 (Jordan);
- 128.24. Take all appropriate actions in order to become a party to the ICESCR (Cyprus);
- 128.25. Expedite the domestic legal procedures required for early ratification of ICESCR (India);
- 128.26. Ratify the ICESCR and its Optional Protocol (France) (Portugal);
- 128.27. Ratify the CAT (Canada) (France) (Slovakia);
- 128.28. Ratify the CAT, as previously recommended (Denmark);
- 128.29. Ratify the CAT without reservations (Germany) (Switzerland);
- 128.30. Sign and ratify the CAT (Sierra Leone);
- 128.31. Pursue the necessary procedure to accede to the CAT (1984) (Viet Nam);
- 128.32. Take all appropriate actions in order to become a party to the CAT (Cyprus);
- 128.33. Consider ratification of the CAT and its Optional Protocol (Namibia);
- 128.34. Ratify the CAT and its Optional Protocol (Slovenia) (Portugal);
- 128.35. Ratify the OP-CAT (Denmark);
- 128.36. Withdraw its reservations to the CEDAW, as supported by Oman during its first cycle Universal Periodic Review (Netherlands);
- 128.37. Take all necessary measures to officially withdraw the reservation from paragraph 4 of article 1128 of the CEDAW (Djibouti);
- 128.38. Lift its reservations to paragraph 4 of Article 1128 of the CEDAW, not only in practice but also in its legislation (Burundi);
- 128.39. Ratify the OP-CEDAW (France) (Turkey);
- 128.40. Consider the possibility to accede to the OP-CEDAW (Panama);
- 128.41. Withdraw the remaining reservations to the CRC and to the Optional Protocols to the CRC ratified by Oman (Estonia);
- 128.42. Ratify the ICCPED (Argentina);
- 128.43. Ratify the OP-CRPD (Slovenia);
- 128.44. Accede to the ICRMW (Nigeria);
- 128.45. Ratify the human rights instruments to which it is not yet Party, in particular ICRMW (Honduras);
- 128.46. Consider accession to the ICRMW and ILO Convention 189 (Philippines);
- 128.47. Ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its Protocol (France);

- 128.48. **Ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (France);**
- 128.49. **Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Chad) (France);**
- 128.50. **Take all necessary measures towards ratifying the Rome Statute of the ICC (Cyprus);**
- 128.51. **Ratify and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC (Latvia);**
- 128.52. **Ratify the Rome Statute that it signed on 20 December 2000 (Switzerland);**
- 128.53. **Ratify and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC, and accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Estonia);**
- 128.54. **Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC and implement it fully at national level and accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Slovakia);**
- 128.55. **Ratify and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC (Portugal);**
- 128.56. **Ratify ILO Conventions No. 87 and 98 (Slovenia);**
- 128.57. **Accede to the International Labour Organization (Nigeria);**
- 128.58. **Accede to the ILO Convention No.189 on Domestic Workers (Senegal);**
- 128.59. **Ratify the different ILO Conventions on the labour market (Chad);**
- 128.60. **Continue improving the protection of labour rights, in particular regarding foreign and domestic workers, by ratifying and implementing ILO Convention No. 189 “Concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers” (Germany);**
- 128.61. **Increase the participation of its citizens in governance in line with the pledge in the previous round of the UPR and support the National Human Rights Commission by ratifying and implementing ILO Convention No. 87 regarding Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize (Sweden);**
- 128.62. **Ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Afghanistan);**
- 128.63. **Seek means and guarantees to apply the provisions of the Basic Law of the State and its amendments (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 128.64. **Continue strengthening domestic legislation in light of recognized international human rights standards, including the CRC (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**
- 128.65. **Include an explicit provision in the Omani domestic legislation on prohibition of discrimination against women in all areas of life, including in the private sphere (Portugal);**
- 128.66. **Put in place policies, legal frameworks and executive actions for human development and empowerment of women (Costa Rica);**

- 128.67. Further revise the current legislation on personal status, nationality, employment and education in order to reinforce non-discrimination against women (Italy);
- 128.68. Consider amending its domestic laws to grant Omani women equal rights with men with regard to transmission of their nationality to their children, as previously recommended (Republic of Korea);
- 128.69. Review its Nationality Law in order to ensure that an Omani mother has the right to confer the Omani citizenship to her children without discrimination (Portugal);
- 128.70. Take further measures to eradicate discrimination against women, as prescribed by Article 17 of the Omani Basic Stature of the State, as well as by positive remarks made during the previous round of the State, as well as by the positive remarks made during the previous round of the UPR in 2011, by considering the withdrawal of its reservation to Article 9 of the CEDAW and allowing women to pass on their citizenship to their children in the same manner as men (Sweden);
- 128.71. End discrimination against women and girls in accordance with CEDAW and allow women to pass their nationality in an equal manner with men (Iceland);
- 128.72. End discrimination in law and practice against women and girls, including by allowing women to pass their nationality onto their children in an equal manner with men (Ireland);
- 128.73. Modify the law on citizenship to grant women the right to transmit the Omani nationality to their children (France);
- 128.74. Amend the provisions of the Nationality Law to ensure that women are granted equality with men in conferring nationality to their children (Canada);
- 128.75. Adopt legal measures to ensure equality between men and women regarding nationality rights (Chile);
- 128.76. Take active steps to amend or repeal all discriminatory provisions that prevent women acquiring, retaining and transferring citizenship on equal basis with men and ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of the CEDAW (Namibia);
- 128.77. Take further concrete measures to advance the personal status of women, including their right to transfer nationality to their children (Norway);
- 128.78. Revise Omani Nationality Law, to guarantee citizenship for children born to non-Omani fathers (Sierra Leone);
- 128.79. Amend the Nationality Code to eliminate the possibility that the withdrawal of the Omani nationality would lead to cases of statelessness (France);
- 128.80. Take steps to eliminate violence against women and include in the legislation an explicit prohibition on discrimination against women (Mexico);
- 128.81. Adopt legislation to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence (Italy);
- 128.82. Pass a law to criminalize violence against women explicitly (Chile);

- 128.83. Ensure by law the effective protection of women against gender-based violence, including domestic violence, sexual harassment, and marital rape (Slovenia);
- 128.84. Continue to make efforts to eliminate FGM by enacting legislation which prohibits this practice and adopt a National Action Plan to increase awareness among women of the harmful consequences of the FGM practice (Italy);
- 128.85. Consider withdrawing reservations to CEDAW and to adopt and implement specific legislation to prevent and counter violence against women, including domestic violence, and to create an institutional framework dedicated to receiving complaints, to ensuring the effective protection of women who suffered or are at the risk of suffering from violence and to provide compensation and accountability against perpetrators (Brazil);
- 128.86. Further ensure, in accordance with the positive stated ambitions in the previous round of the UPR and Omani practice, the well-being of Omani girls by formally and explicitly encode the prohibition against female genital mutilation into the Child Law, accompanied by a public information campaign (Sweden);
- 128.87. Continue efforts to close the gender gap, especially in workforce participation and equality before the law (Australia);
- 128.88. Strengthen its efforts to ensure that youth and children who come into contact with the justice system enjoy adequate protection and are subject to courts specialized in juvenile justice (Thailand);
- 128.89. Undertake a process with a view to repealing the legislation that criminalizes homosexuality and adopt measures to combat discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation (Mexico);
- 128.90. Safeguard the right to opinion and speech, as prescribed by Article 29 of the Omani Basic Statute of the State, by reviewing current legislation and working towards specifying its limits and boundaries in a clear and consistent manner (Sweden);
- 128.91. Adopt and implement a national legislation with the view to provide public access to information including governmental information (Ukraine);
- 128.92. Revise its Law to Counter Information Technology Crimes to protect online expression and allow internet access without blocking content (United States of America);
- 128.93. Reform civil society laws to establish a streamlined legal framework through which independent organizations can register, and to allow these organizations to accept assistance and contributions from foreign sources (United States of America);
- 128.94. Continue its efforts to enhance the working conditions of expatriate labourers by issuing legislation and regulations to promote and protect the rights of expatriate workers in Oman Labour Law (Turkmenistan);
- 128.95. Consider participating in solving the problems of refugees from Middle East region that are forced to seek asylum abroad. In this regard, elaboration of the national legislation on refugees could be advisable (Ukraine);
- 128.96. Recommend that the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking carry out further efforts to implement its mandate, taking into

- account the standards contained in the international and regional conventions to which Oman is a party (Qatar);
- 128.97. Allow the National Human Rights Commission to function in an independent manner in full compliance with the Paris principles (Ghana);
- 128.98. Ensure the National Human Rights Institution that is in full compliance with the Paris Principles and has a broad and inclusive human rights mandate (Sierra Leone);
- 128.99. Reform the status of the National Commission of Human Rights in line with the Paris Principles, thereby guaranteeing its independence (Spain);
- 128.100. Ensure the institutionalization of an independent national human rights commission in accordance with the Paris Principles (Chile);
- 128.101. Continue the significant reforms that have been already implemented to enable the National Human Rights Commission to be in conformity with the Paris Principles (Comoros);
- 128.102. Continue forward with the humanitarian efforts undertaken by the Omani Charitable Organization (United Arab Emirates);
- 128.103. Continue efforts to develop laws and legislation to bring them in line with international texts and strengthen efforts in education (Morocco);
- 128.104. Develop a mainstreaming strategy for women's rights, to be applied to policies in all fields, with a view to ensure gender equality (Turkey);
- 128.105. Continue to strengthen its policies and programmes for enhancing women's rights, empowerment and equality in accordance with its socio-cultural and national context (Bangladesh);
- 128.106. Continue to adopt policies and legislations to guarantee the equality for women in all spheres and that they benefit of judicial remedies against any discriminatory practice or violence (Honduras);
- 128.107. Adopt concrete policy measures to eradicate the clandestine practice of female mutilation and to allocate human and financial resources to relevant authorities to succeed (Honduras);
- 128.108. Redouble efforts to effectively end the practice of female genital mutilation, in line with recommendations by the CRC Committee (Slovenia);
- 128.109. Continue to carry out various programs for the advancement of the status of women and children in the Sultanate (Bahrain);
- 128.110. Continue its positive measures in the advancement of women and children in the country including by ensuring effective implementation of its policies and programmes (Malaysia);
- 128.111. Enhance its awareness raising campaign to combat negative stereotyping against women and prohibit violence against women (Malaysia);
- 128.112. Intensify the efforts and the measures taken to protect women rights in an effective way which corresponds with the culture of the society (Saudi Arabia);
- 128.113. Establish a coordinated general strategy on gender issues in all public institutions (Chile);

- 128.114. Continue including young people in the democratic process through the commission established for this purpose (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 128.115. Continue to seriously combat trafficking in persons, implementing legislation in this area, the National Plan against Trafficking in persons (2008-2016), the on-line police system to receive complaints of victims of trafficking in persons and to fight this plight (Cuba);
- 128.116. Implement what came in the women's and children's strategies, and the development of policies and programs that promote these two issues (Kuwait);
- 128.117. Continue strengthening practical measures to bring about effective implementation of the Children's Act (Bhutan);
- 128.118. Thoroughly implement the Child Law and strengthen awareness-raising campaigns to promote children's rights (Slovakia);
- 128.119. Ensure effective monitoring on the electronic wage protection system at national level and extend its implementation to all companies based in Oman (Turkey);
- 128.120. Continue to address the challenges which impede progress in human rights (Cuba);
- 128.121. Pursue the strengthening of the capacity-building of country's qualified specialists and managers working in the human rights field (Viet Nam);
- 128.122. Raise the level of human rights awareness among members of society (Bahrain);
- 128.123. Enhance its efforts to promote and raise awareness of the culture of human rights (Sudan);
- 128.124. Launch media campaigns to raise awareness of human rights (State of Palestine);
- 128.125. Continue raising awareness of the culture of human rights (Lebanon);
- 128.126. Exchange information and opinions with States to achieve the best practices on human rights issues (Kuwait);
- 128.127. Continue its engagement with the human rights mechanisms of the UN for the protection and promotion of human rights and consider the issuance of a standing invitation to these human rights mechanisms (Azerbaijan);
- 128.128. Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures (Spain);
- 128.129. Strengthen cooperation with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council by extending a standing invitation to all the special procedures mandate holders (Latvia);
- 128.130. Adopt measures to address all forms of discrimination – such as against women or religious minorities – including support to public debates, awareness-raising campaigns and steps towards the revision of discriminatory provisions in the legislation (Czech Republic);

- 128.131. Further work to achieve effective equality between men and women, particularly when it comes to laws governing divorce, inheritance and custody of children (Uruguay);
- 128.132. Adopt the necessary measures to abolish the death penalty (Mexico);
- 128.133. Adopt a moratorium on the death penalty (Costa Rica);
- 128.134. Announce a moratorium on the application of the death penalty in view of its abolition in law (France);
- 128.135. Adopt a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing capital punishment in national legislation (Italy);
- 128.136. Establish a moratorium on the death penalty as an interim measure towards its total abolition (Portugal);
- 128.137. Establish an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to abolishing it (Slovenia);
- 128.138. Consider the possibility to establish a moratorium to the application of the death penalty, and commuting death sentences to prison sentences (Spain);
- 128.139. Establish of a *de jure* moratorium on the death penalty and a commutation of all capital sentences with a view to its future abolition (Switzerland);
- 128.140. Ensure that foreign nationals in detention have access to consular assistance by establishing measures that could facilitate timely issuance of permits for prison visits by consular authorities (Philippines);
- 128.141. Increase its efforts for more attention to child issues (Iraq);
- 128.142. Explicitly prohibit all corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home (Estonia);
- 128.143. Continue efforts to prohibit child labour (Georgia);
- 128.144. Organize awareness raising programmes in favour of public as well as local and national authorities on issues related to combating human trafficking and relevant laws (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 128.145. Strengthen measures to combat human trafficking and take measures to protect victims of trafficking (Sri Lanka);
- 128.146. Increase efforts aiming at building the capacity of the judicial personnel technically and administratively (State of Palestine);
- 128.147. Increase human rights training and awareness-raising programmes for prosecution and judicial officers and the media (Egypt);
- 128.148. Implement training programs on human rights to further increase awareness of civil servants, including law enforcement and justice system personnel (Uzbekistan);
- 128.149. Continue its efforts to organise intensive courses for members of the public prosecutor office in the field of human rights, in line with the steps being made for the independence of the public prosecutor and to separate it from the police (Yemen);

- 128.150. Enhance efforts in a way which guarantee combatting corruption as the government amended its financial and administrative bureau and expand its mandate in accordance with the sultanate decree 27 of 2011 (Iraq);
- 128.151. Continue its efforts to protect the freedoms and to strengthen human rights (Lebanon);
- 128.152. Continue in its efforts in protecting general freedoms and basic rights in all areas that the Constitution emphasised in harmony with the principles of human rights (United Arab Emirates);
- 128.153. Ensure the full enjoyment of the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, including those of human rights activists, journalists and users of social networks, so that they no longer have to fear being arrested, detained, harassed or intimidated (Switzerland);
- 128.154. Improve protection of the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association, by amending the Press and Publications Law and the Civil Societies Law in line with international standards and by accepting the recommendations by the Special Rapporteur on freedom of assembly and association in 2014 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 128.155. Ensure that all criminal law provisions, including Articles 126,13128, 137 and 173 of the Penal Code, which impose harsh penalties for a wide range of legitimate expression, are fully consistent with the full enjoyment of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association (Canada);
- 128.156. Guarantee that the law on media and publications enables full exercise of freedom of expression, in particular on Internet (France);
- 128.157. Keep up with the environment of freedom of publication and freedom of expression (Libya);
- 128.158. Demonstrate the Government's commitment to uphold international human rights standards by ensuring full respect for the rights of citizens to freedom of speech and peaceful assembly (Ghana);
- 128.159. Amend the relevant labour laws to enhance the protection of the human rights of all migrant workers (Ghana);
- 128.160. Guarantee in legislation and in practice the right to peaceful assembly for all, without exceptions, regardless to nationality (Chile);
- 128.161. Take steps to guarantee the right to peaceful assembly for its citizens (Namibia);
- 128.162. Facilitate procedures for holding peaceful protests and refrain from criminally punishing the exercise of the right to peaceful assembly, including through unregistered peaceful assemblies (Czech Republic);
- 128.163. Properly investigate cases of the excessive use of force by law enforcement officials against protestors in 2011 and 2012, including prosecuting and punishing all those responsible (Czech Republic);
- 128.164. Guarantee in law and in practice the freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and remove all restrictions placed on the right to peaceful protests (Estonia);
- 128.165. Guarantee the full exercise of freedom of association, promote and facilitate the activities of all NGOs (France);

- 128.166. Amend article 134 of the Penal Code of Oman and any other legislation that disproportionately restricts the right to freedom of association (Iceland);
- 128.167. Implement the recommendations of the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (Netherlands);
- 128.168. Fully and effectively implement the recommendations by the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, following his mission to Oman in September 2014 (Republic of Korea);
- 128.169. Implement the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur on the rights and freedoms of peaceful assembly to extend the guarantee of peaceful assembly to non-Omani citizens (Sierra Leone);
- 128.170. Review its legislative measures and practices in relation to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, with regard to the report of the United Nations Special Rapporteur of peaceful assembly and association following his mission in September 2014 (Australia);
- 128.171. Amend or, at least, to abstain from applying any law or measure which might endanger the right to life, to freedom and to physical integrity of individuals for reasons associated with their alleged or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity (Brazil);
- 128.172. Enact a law on access to freedom of information in line with international standards (Chile);
- 128.173. Allow for a more open expression of individual opinions, allow civil society organisations to develop and allow public expression of popular demands (Norway);
- 128.174. Support the efforts of civil society in strengthening human rights through specifying the necessary resources to implement its activities in spreading awareness on the principles of human rights (Iraq);
- 128.175. Provide more support to civil society associations (Bahrain);
- 128.176. Take measures to protect rights activists and remove any impediments to the work of political opposition parties, human rights groups, and other independent civil society organizations (Ireland);
- 128.177. Take new measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to promote their participation in public life, including in decision-making positions and governmental functions (Spain);
- 128.178. Provide more opportunities to women to be represented in high-level government posts (Georgia);
- 128.179. Continue the efforts aimed at empowering and protecting women rights, in addition to empowering women socially and politically (Jordan);
- 128.180. Increase the space for the representation of women in senior government positions (Lebanon);
- 128.181. Take additional efforts towards the participation of women in the area of political life (Libya);
- 128.182. Strengthen efforts to promote the active presence of women in society and in political life, including by combating stereotypes through awareness raising campaigns (Turkey);

- 128.183. Increase the representation of women in high government positions and elected councils (Algeria);
- 128.184. Take steps to increase women's participation in elections to the Shura Council, both as voters and candidates, and to widen the participation of all citizens in the decision-making processes (Czech Republic);
- 128.185. Continue the efforts aiming at economic growth in the country (Pakistan);
- 128.186. Continue efforts to promote and strengthen human rights, in particular by focusing on the economic growth and by improving the well-being of the population (Djibouti);
- 128.187. Continue making further efforts to promote the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights (Qatar);
- 128.188. Take steps to ensure the successful implementation of the various programmes in accordance with its social security law (Brunei Darussalam);
- 128.189. Continue the establishment of development programmes, especially in rural areas (Brunei Darussalam);
- 128.190. Continue the practices of valuing social dialogue and promoting the concept of tolerance in Omani culture (Turkmenistan);
- 128.191. Continue strengthening its excellent programmes for social protection, working for the achievement of welfare and the best possible standard of living for its people (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 128.192. Continue its efforts aiming at providing adequate housing to all its citizens (United Arab Emirates);
- 128.193. Continue to work collaboratively with the private sector and relevant stakeholders in protecting the labour rights (Thailand);
- 128.194. Continue to make efforts to enhance the awareness among workers and employers on laws and rules on labour by implementing concrete programmes for awareness raising (Tajikistan);
- 128.195. Continue efforts to improve labour relations system through the development of social dialogue between the Government and the organizations of employers and workers (Uzbekistan);
- 128.196. Increase efforts to investigate and criminally prosecute forced labour offenses and sentence convicted offenders to adequate terms of imprisonment (United States of America);
- 128.197. Strengthen the mechanism dealing with expatriate workers to meet the service requirements and to protect their rights according to its Labour Law (Brunei Darussalam);
- 128.198. Step up its efforts in promoting and protecting human rights of migrant workers in the country (Indonesia);
- 128.199. Continue its policies to improve access to education for all, including for migrant workers and members of their families (Indonesia);
- 128.200. Continue increasing the rate of women in the workforce in the civil service sector and further enabling women in the labour area (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);

- 128.201. **Abolish the kafala system which restricts rights of foreign workers and their access to redress mechanisms and make them vulnerable to various forms of abuse (Czech Republic);**
- 128.202. **Continue its efforts in addressing the welfare of foreign workers (Bangladesh);**
- 128.203. **Take all necessary measures, as appropriate, to ensure the legal protection of foreign workers through policies designed at preventing any form of abuse (Panama);**
- 128.204. **Review the kafala system, and study possible alternatives in managing foreign labour, with a view to strengthening protection for domestic workers, including from violence and abuse, and to provide effective avenues for redress (Philippines);**
- 128.205. **Continue to take measures for greater participation, involvement and empowerment of women in all socio-economic fields of the country (Pakistan);**
- 128.206. **Continue efforts to improve the status of women in society and further promote gender equality at all levels, enhancing the contribution of women to the country's development process (Sri Lanka);**
- 128.207. **Support the social integration of women in all spheres of life (Tajikistan);**
- 128.208. **Promote the active presence of women in the society (Chile);**
- 128.209. **Take further steps to strengthen the delivery of healthcare services and improve healthcare infrastructure (Singapore);**
- 128.210. **Pursue efforts to ensure fairness in education in particular the right to basic education for students with disabilities (China);**
- 128.211. **Continue providing universal and free education (Bhutan);**
- 128.212. **Ensure compulsory and free education for all (Slovenia);**
- 128.213. **Establish a mandatory and free education for all, with a view to continue the fight against illiteracy (Argentina);**
- 128.214. **Continue its efforts in finalizing the process of free and compulsory basic education (Sudan);**
- 128.215. **Continue its efforts in strengthening moderation and religious tolerance, particularly through the education sector (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 128.216. **Continue efforts to ensure equal access to education for women and girls, and advocate for broader participation of women in the labour force (Maldives);**
- 128.217. **Continue setting up national annual plans on education and awareness raising of human rights including through field visit in this area (Saudi Arabia);**
- 128.218. **Continue to pursue efforts to improve access to education, including for persons with disabilities (Singapore);**
- 128.219. **Taking into account the capacity of Oman in protecting the right to education, carry out an exchange of experience in the area of education, and an exchange of achievements in the area of the oversight of educational institutions (Tajikistan);**

- 128.220. Consolidate the concepts of human rights through students' activities and exhibitions organized by Omani Universities (Cuba);
- 128.221. Adopt a comprehensive policy to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, and to build on measures already adopted such as the establishment of the General Directorate for persons with disabilities (Spain);
- 128.222. Increase the access to education of children with disability by allocating more resources (Honduras);
- 128.223. Continue strengthening its policy to improve access of persons with disability to education (Panama);
- 128.224. Further improve access by persons with disabilities to education through the implementation of the National Strategy for the Disabled (Maldives);
- 128.225. Improve the access of disabled children to education by increasing the number of specialized educational teams and customized facilities (Turkey);
- 128.226. Strengthen the protection of people with disabilities, step up exchange of experience with other States in the field of protection of rights of children with disabilities (China);
- 128.227. Work to share and implement best practices in the area of promoting the rights of children with disabilities (Saudi Arabia);
- 128.228. Continue to assist and protect minorities, vulnerable groups and persons displaced due to natural disasters or conflicts (Senegal);
- 128.229. Continue its efforts to combat the phenomenon of terrorism and money laundry (Libya);
- 128.230. Strengthen the legal mechanisms for combating terrorism and extremism (Uzbekistan);
- 128.231. Implement training programmes for information technology to help combat electronic crimes (Morocco);
- 128.232. Continue the efforts to combat cyber-technology crimes, in particular when committed against youth (Egypt);
- 128.233. Continue efforts to protect the environment (Djibouti).
129. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Oman was headed by H.E. Dr Abdullah Mohammed Said Al Sa'eedi, Minister of Legal Affairs, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Abdulla Nasser Al Rahbi, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Sultanate of Oman in Geneva;
- H.E. Mr. Taleb Miran Al Rayissi, Advisor to the Minister Responsible for Foreign Affairs, Head of the Legal Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Yousuf Said Al Amri, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Sultanate of Oman in Geneva;
- Dr. Yahya Mohammed Zaher Al Hinai, General Director of Family Development, Ministry of Social Development;
- Mr. Mohammed Asalam Al Shanfari, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Sultanate of Oman in Geneva;
- Dr. Hamda Hamad Al Saadi, Associate Professor in the Rustaq College of Applied Science, Ministry of Higher Education;
- Mr. Khalid Saleh Al Lamki, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Sultanate of Oman in Geneva;
- Mr. Saif Nasser Al Hamidi, Chief of Minister's Office, Ministry of Legal Affairs;
- Mr. Saleh Ali Al Mahrouqi, First Assistant Advisor, Ministry of Legal Affairs;
- Mr. Jamal Salem Al Nabhani, First Assistant Advisor, Ministry of Legal Affairs;
- Mr. Dawood Suleiman Al Busaidi, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Abdullah Murad Al Mullahi, Director of the Directorate of International Organizations and External Relations, Ministry of Manpower;
- Ms. Faiza Masoud Al Nabhani, Second Secretary, Minister's Office Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.