



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
1 February 2016

Original: English

UNEDITED VERSION

Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Twenty-fourth session
Geneva, 18-29 January 2016

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

Namibia

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	3
I Summary of the proceedings of the review process	3
A. Presentation by the State under review	3
B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review	5
II. Conclusions and/or recommendations.....	14
Annex	
Composition of the delegation	27

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-fourth session from 18 to 13 January 2016. The review of Namibia was held at the 1st meeting on 18 January 2016. The delegation of Namibia was headed by Honourable Albert Kawana. At its 10th meeting held on 22 January 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Namibia.
2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Namibia: Republic of Korea, Morocco and Latvia.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Namibia:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/NAM/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.6/24/NAM/2);
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/NAM/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by The Czech Republic, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Namibia 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 Namibia stated that Namibia valued the distinct universal and peer review nature of this mechanism. Namibia submitted a 2nd cycle report, which provided information on the implementation of recommendations and other progress made. The report also provided information on the challenges faced in the implementation of some of the recommendations. Namibia valued the contribution of civil society in the preparation of the report.
6. Namibia had submitted all outstanding treaty body reports on international and regional instruments, to which it was party.
7. The Government of Namibia remained committed to delivering on the promises made to build on the progress achieved during the era of peace and stability, and move into the era of economic emancipation and prosperity for all, where no Namibian shall be left behind.
8. Namibia is the driest country in Sub-Saharan Africa, and is frequently exposed to the brunt of global climate changes in the form of droughts and floods. Namibia was currently experiencing a severe drought which is entering its second year. As a result, the Government was forced to inter alia, redirect resources from education, health, infrastructure development to drought relief.

9. The budget of the Office of the Ombudsman has been increased to enable investigation cases of human rights abuses and carry out awareness programs. The Office of the Ombudsman recently completed a draft white paper on the rights of marginalized communities, and facilitated the process for the preparation and drafting of the National Human Rights Action Plan, which was adopted by the Government in December 2014.

10. Namibia continued to do well on media freedom. Reporters Without Borders World Press Freedom Index of 2015, ranked Namibia 17th out of 180 countries in the world and first in Africa in the area of media pluralism and independence, respect for the safety and freedom of journalists and the legislative, institutional and infrastructural environment in which the media operated.

11. The overriding challenges experienced by Namibia was effectively tackling and overcoming the problem of unemployment and persistent poverty. Based on the Gini coefficient, Namibia was one of the most unequal societies in the world with a huge income gap between the rich and poor which was inherited at independence. Namibia was regarded as an upper middle income country, due mainly to its per capita Gross National Income, relatively world class infrastructures, sophisticated banking system, good coverage of medical services, stable democracy and many other amenities reminiscent of a developed country. Consequently, Namibia has experienced the withdrawal of many international social partners which aggravated the challenges.

12. In 2015, the Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare was established, with the mandate to coordinate all programmes aimed at eradicating poverty. The percentage of people receiving social grants such as disability grants, old age pension and grants for orphans and vulnerable children, have drastically increased. The Wage Order for Domestic Workers Regulations under the Labour Act of 2007 which came into force on 16 December 2014 sets the minimum wage and supplementary minimum conditions for employment for Domestic workers.

13. A draft legislation, which will be tabled in Parliament before the end of 2016, defines the crime of torture in accordance with the Convention against Torture.

14. In 2015, Parliament passed the Child Care and Protection Act, which deal with inter alia juvenile justice, adoption, and protection from harmful cultural practices. The first Children's Advocate was appointed in the Office of the Ombudsman.

15. In 2014, the Government implemented free universal primary education in public schools which has also been extended to secondary education in public schools.

16. Violence against women and children remained a serious concern. The Combating of Domestic Violence Act was currently being reviewed with a view to increasing penalties.

17. In March 2010, a revised National Gender Policy (2010-2020) was launched. The overarching goal is to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of both men and women. Following elections in 2014 and last year, Namibia has 41.6 percent of women representation in the National Assembly, 23.8 percent of women in the Regional Councils and 48.2 percent in the Local Authority Councils.

18. Maternal mortality remained a concern and measures to reduce maternal mortality have been introduced. These measures include a road map for acceleration of reduction in maternal and neonatal mortality and revision of scope of practice for the health profession-Nurses and Mid-wives, an increase in capacity building, information awareness campaign on health issues, and Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV. The 2013WHO guidelines on the starting of ARV treatment earlier have been adopted.

19. The Judiciary has introduced a number of measures aimed at reducing the backlog of criminal cases in the courts. The Criminal Procedure Act, of 1977 has been amended to give prosecutors authority to issue admission of guilt fines in specified cases and circumstances, thereby not requiring court appearances. The Magistrates' Commission, an independent body, is considering the possibility of operating Saturday courts to specifically deal with the backlog of cases. In addition, the Constitution was amended in 2014 and the Judiciary Act was passed in 2015 to further enhance the independence of the Judiciary with its separate budget and administrative staff. Mobile courts will be introduced in 2016.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

20. During the interactive dialogue, 96 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

21. Panama welcomed the adoption of the National Plan on Human Rights 2015-2019, and efforts to provide universal access to education and to end gender inequality, child marriage and sexual violence.

22. The Philippines appreciated Namibia's recognition that gender-based violence is a serious concern and Namibia's achievement in providing universal access to health services and to education.

23. While applauding the adoption of gender policies, Portugal was concerned at discrimination against minorities and the lack of access to basic rights like drinking water, sanitation and education.

24. The Republic of Korea noted Namibia's efforts to advance gender equality at all levels, especially through the National Gender Policy and its cooperation with ILO on the elimination of child labour.

25. Romania commended the particular attention attached by Namibia to the UPR process, notably by presenting a mid-term report on the implementation of the accepted recommendations.

26. The Russian Federation noted that despite a number of existing problems, Namibia took effective measures to build democracy and the rule of law through, inter alia, the institution of mechanisms monitoring the implementation of human rights.

27. Senegal welcomed progress on reforming land property laws and the reduction of poverty within the framework of project "Vision 2030", and efforts in the field of education and health.

28. Serbia acknowledged Namibia's efforts to combat discrimination on all grounds, and encouraged Namibia to take all necessary legal actions to guarantee equal protection of women before the law.

29. Sierra Leone noted Namibia's commitment in preventing gender based violence and in providing universal access to compulsory basic education, including the creation of mobile schools for nomadic communities.

30. Singapore commended Namibia's efforts in protecting the rights of the child and children's welfare, enhancing access to quality education, achieving gender equality and eliminating gender based violence.

31. Slovakia noted that the backlog of cases in the criminal justice system remains a challenge. Slovakia also noted the persistence of harmful practices against women despite Government's focus on achieving gender equality.

32. Slovenia welcomed the creation of institutions and the adoption of policies and measures on human rights, but noted the persistence of harmful practices and the prevalence of violence against women.
33. South Sudan appreciated the strengthening of the institutional human rights framework, the establishment of the Namibian Police human rights department, and empowerment of persons with disabilities.
34. Spain commended ratification of almost all international and regional human rights conventions, and the development of a wide legal framework at national level. Spain expressed concern at the discrimination of indigenous minorities.
35. Sri Lanka observed that the Office of the Ombudsman has been maintaining the “A” status in terms of the Paris Principles consecutively for the past nine years and welcomed efforts at promoting gender equality and children protection.
36. The State of Palestine welcomed progress made in addressing poverty and under development despite several challenges like droughts, lack of available resources and insufficient assistance from the international community.
37. Swaziland was pleased that the wage order for domestic workers regulations, setting the minimum conditions for employment, came into force in 2014. Swaziland also welcomed Namibia’s emphasis on children’s rights and welfare.
38. Sweden welcomed the passing of the Child Care and Protection Act which includes provisions aimed at safeguarding children in prisons. Sweden stated that the implementation of this legislation is of vital importance.
39. The delegation stated that the 2nd National Conference on Gender Based Violence held in July 2014 examined the underlying causes and trends, national responses and approaches to combat gender-based violence. Recommendations adopted by the Conference were approved by Cabinet. The Criminal Procedure Act, Act 51 of 1977, as amended, makes provision for support to vulnerable witnesses and social workers in the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare also provide support to vulnerable witnesses. Several multi-media public awareness campaigns have been launched. Fifteen specialized Women and Child Protection Units have been established to protect and provide services to survivors of gender based violence. The Gender-Based Violence and Human Rights Cluster, one of six clusters of the Coordination Mechanism for the implementation of the National Gender Policy advised the Government on strategies for rooting out gender based violence.
40. One of the seven themes of the National Human Rights Action Plan is the right not to be discriminated against. The specific objectives under this theme include enhancing affirmation of the rights of people with disabilities, indigenous people, women and LGBTIs; having information on the extent to which human rights of people with disabilities, indigenous people, women and LGBTI’s were infringed upon; intensifying education and raising awareness; and implementation of the legal and regulatory reform that will give effect to non-discriminatory provisions in various international and regional instruments. New legislation will be adopted to prohibit discrimination.
41. The delegation stated that LGBT persons were not victimized or persecuted for practicing their preferred sexual orientation. Article 13 of the Constitution protects the right to privacy. No person is requested to disclose his or her preferred sexual orientation in any official Government form or document and no person can be refused access to public or private services based on their preference. The laws do not make provision for marriage between same sex adults.

42. Considering the colonial history of the country during which time the policy and the law of the colonial occupying power were systematically aimed at disadvantaging the majority black population, the framers of the Constitution saw it fit to attempt to correct some of the wrongs of the past. To this end, Parliament was empowered by the Constitution to promulgate affirmative action legislation aimed at achieving a balanced structuring of the public service, including the police, the defence force and the prison service. The Government passed the Affirmative Action (Employment) Act, 1998 (Act No. 29 of 1998), which provides measures to achieve equal opportunity in employment for racially disadvantaged persons, women and persons with disabilities. The Public Service Commission has also been pursuing an affirmative action programme. Racial discrimination by the Government and its agencies and private persons or institutions has been prohibited and is criminalized by the Racial Discrimination Prohibition Amendment Act No. 26 of 1991.

43. The delegation stated that Namibia is State party to the core international and regional human rights instruments. The remaining instruments, to which Namibia was not yet State party will be continuously studied to assess Namibia's ability to comply with the obligations imposed by those instruments. Namibia followed a monist approach to the reception of international instruments and the rules of international law in its domestic legal system. A thorough study of international instruments are conducted to ensure that national laws were harmonized to comply with the provisions of those instruments before they are signed, ratified, or acceded to. Namibia had no intention of condoning the violation of the rights of migrant workers and their families and they are already protected under domestic labour laws.

44. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia welcomed the adoption of the National Human Rights Action Plan for 2015-19, but noted that according to UN bodies, it will be necessary to intensify reforms, particularly regarding the rights of the child.

45. Togo congratulated Namibia for progress since the first UPR, for creating various mechanisms for human rights protection, and noted that women enjoy the same rights than men regarding land property.

46. Trinidad and Tobago commended Namibia for the launch of the National Human Rights Action Plan 2015-2019, and for its efforts since the first review to increase the capacity of the Office of the Ombudsman.

47. Turkey welcomed the creation of Inter-Ministerial Committee on Human Rights and Namibia's efforts in the field of media freedom and independence, and in the fight against child abuse.

48. Uganda commended the adoption of the National Action Plan 2015-2019, establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Committee, and appointment of the Minister for marginalized communities.

49. Ukraine welcomed the positive changes in the national legislation with a view to promote and protect children's rights. However noted violence against children, poor standards of health facilities and health disparities in rural areas are still serious challenges.

50. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland noted the high prevalence of violence against women. It was concerned by customary practices that impede the promotion of gender equality. It encouraged the repealing of laws that made same-sex relationships illegal.

51. The United Republic of Tanzania was impressed with the achievement in tackling poverty in line with the vision 2030. It commended Namibia for its commitment to empower women with knowledge and skills. It encouraged Namibia to continue with land reform and resettlement programs.

52. The United States of America noted the prevalence of gender-based violence and violence against children. It urged the adoption of implementing regulations to enforce the Child Care and Protection Act.
53. Uruguay noted the high number of reports submitted to treaty bodies for review and encouraged Namibia to follow-up on the recommendations received from those bodies. It also noted progress made in relation to the wages of domestic workers and access to drinking water.
54. Uzbekistan stated that steps had been taken to strengthen the normative and institutional basis for the protection of human rights, which included the national human rights action plan, the national gender policy and the creation of the media ombudsman.
55. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the significant social investment made in education, and the building of 90 new primary health care clinics, 45 medical centers and 4 hospitals.
56. Zambia noted that 40 recommendations from the last review have fully been implemented in 2015, which inter alia resulted in the establishment of a human rights department within the Namibian Police.
57. Zimbabwe commended Namibia for implementing 40 recommendations from its first review. It noted the national gender policy and the initiatives taken in the promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples.
58. Afghanistan appreciated Namibia's dedication to protecting children rights, eliminating all forms of gender-based violence, as well as measures to comply with international human rights obligations.
59. Algeria welcomed the 2015-2019 National Human Rights Plan of Action, as well as efforts regarding the administration of the penitentiary system, poverty reduction, access to education and health care and safe drinking water.
60. Angola noted progress, in particular the adoption of legislation to guarantee equality to men and women and to prohibit discrimination. It welcomed legislation regarding the salary of domestic workers.
61. Argentina congratulated Namibia for the launching of the 2015-2019 National Human Rights Plan of Action and took note of efforts to combat gender-based violence and discrimination suffered by women and girls.
62. The delegation of Namibia stated that Namibia has ratified CAT and consultations were underway to ratify OP-CAT. Plans were underway to take legislative and other measures to criminalize torture and establish a National Preventative Mechanism. In the absence of a National Preventative Mechanisms, the Ombudsman visited prisons and places of detention to receive complaints from inmates and inspects the facilities. The Correctional Services Act of 2012 makes provision for visiting justices to correctional facilities.
63. The Namibia Correctional Service provided each correctional facility with a Health Care Services section at bigger facilities and Nursing Services at smaller facilities. Inmates were treated on the premises and serious cases were referred to State health facilities. All HIV-positive inmates have access to free ARV treatment. All inmates have access to hygiene products, receive three meals a day, while those with lifestyle diseases including HIV and AIDS receive special diet as stipulated in the Correctional Service Menu. Several measures to improve the standards of living in correctional facilities were being implemented. A new law, the Correctional Service Act, Act No. 9 of 2012 and its regulations came into force, which repealed the Prisons Act, Act No. 17 of 1998. The Inmate Information Handbook provides for inmates to lodge complaints with the correctional authorities or with the Namibian Police. A Code of Conduct for Prison

members was issued by the Office of the Commissioner-General in 2008 and revised in 2014.

64. After the National Land Conference of 1991, two approaches to land reform were adopted with the aim of acquisition and redistribution of commercial agricultural land to redress past imbalances in land ownership. The Government acquired land from Commercial farm owners through the *willing seller willing buyer* and *expropriation* principles and tenure reform in the communal areas to ensure tenure security through registration of Communal Land Rights. This resulted in the adoption of policies including the National Resettlement Policy of 2001 and the Communal Land Reform Act (Act No. 5 of 2002). Land reform has contributed to the reduction of poverty. It gave an opportunity for target groups to produce their own food with view towards self-sufficiency. It creates employment through farming and related activities and to bring smallholder farmers into the mainstream economy by participating in an open market economy. It has also allowed previously disadvantaged groups to have subsidized loans to buy commercial farms.

65. The delegation stated that the Cabinet has directed that specific legislation to combat trafficking in persons be drafted and tabled before Parliament as soon as possible. It is anticipated that the Bill will be tabled in Parliament in 2016. In the meantime there is a provision criminalizing this offence under the Prevention of Organized Crime Act 29 of 2004.

66. Steady progress has been made in combating and eliminating child labour through the Action Program, which was developed in 2011. A Technical Co-operation Program on elimination of child labour in the country has also been produced. The Directorate of Labour Inspectors in the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare conducted periodic inspections to farms and other places of employment to identify cases of child labour. The Labour Act, (No 11 of 2007) has statutory provisions in place to regulate child labour. The Child Care and Protection Act was passed by Parliament in 2015 and will be implemented once the regulations are passed.

67. The delegation stated that Namibia recognized the need to raise the age of criminal responsibility of children in line with international standards. The Child Justice Bill will, amongst other provisions, provide for the minimum age of criminal capacity for children in compliance with international standards.

68. Australia appreciated Namibia's leadership in advocating for the abolition of the death penalty, particularly through UPR recommendations. It remained concerned that traditional laws and customary practices that are harmful to girls and women persist.

69. Austria acknowledged the sustained engagement of Namibia with the UPR. It asked about steps envisaged, as announced in 2015, to ensure that women in customary marriages enjoy the rights equal to those in civil marriages.

70. Bangladesh appreciated efforts to promote and protect human rights and took note of progress made in the areas of health, education and poverty reduction.

71. Benin welcomed efforts made by Namibia, notably the 2015-2019 National Human Rights Plan of Action, the adoption of a public policy in favor of equality and a project on human rights education.

72. Botswana remained concerned about reports of high prevalence of violence against girls and women, the lack of special detention facilities for children and that the minimum age of criminal responsibility is 7 years.

73. Burkina Faso recognized efforts in the areas of access to justice, human rights training to law enforcement officials and detention conditions. It considered that Namibia should improve the access of women to land and to reduce the maternal mortality rate.

74. Burundi welcomed efforts to reinforce access to justice, the National Human Rights Action Plan and the establishment of an inter-ministerial human rights and international humanitarian law committee and a human rights department within the Police.
75. Canada commended Namibia for its commitments to set targets for improving human rights promotion and protection, to address violence against women and to protect children, through various action plans and bills.
76. Chad welcomed Namibia's efforts to honor commitments made during the 2011 review. It noted that Namibia cooperates with treaty bodies and has positively responded to requests for visits by special procedures.
77. Chile welcomed progress to combat gender-based violence and violence against children. It noted positive steps towards the respect and guarantee of human rights.
78. China recognized efforts to combat poverty and underdevelopment and positive progress in terms of gender equality and living standards of its population by granting access to water, education and health care.
79. The Congo encouraged Namibia to pursue efforts towards the integration of marginalized children in the education system, the prevention and care of pregnancies in the school system and addressing gender-based and sexual violence.
80. Costa Rica valued efforts to improve access to justice, investigation of human rights violations and improvement of political representation of women. It shared CRC concerns regarding the trafficking of children.
81. Côte d'Ivoire welcomed the adoption of various legislative measures, such as the adoption of a national policy and plan of action towards gender equality.
82. Cuba appreciated efforts to combat poverty, such as programs of land distribution, housing and safe drinking water. It noted actions to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence and the protection of children.
83. The Czech Republic appreciated responses to their advance questions. It requested more information about the reported intention of Namibia to withdraw from the ICC.
84. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea appreciated the commitment and consistent efforts, as well as achievements in the protection and promotion of human rights.
85. The Democratic Republic of the Congo invited Namibia to ratify the human rights Conventions to which it had agreed to accede in its first UPR.
86. Denmark welcomed Namibia's acceptance of recommendations to ratify the OP-CAT during its first UPR, and expressed the hope that concrete steps were being taken to honour this commitment.
87. Djibouti commended Namibia for the adoption of the 2015 Child Care and Protection Act.
88. Ecuador highlighted the measures taken by Namibia to combat poverty and inequality, and among them, the plan called Vision 2030.
89. Egypt applauded the efforts made by Namibia in the area of economic and social rights and call on the country to continue this progress.
90. Estonia called on Namibia to issue a standing invitation to UN Special Procedures mandate holders; decriminalize defamation and adopt an all-encompassing freedom of information legislation.
91. Ethiopia commended Namibia for the adoption of the first national human rights action plan 2015-2019.

92. Fiji welcomed the steps taken to provide accessible education to all, but noted that for some minority groups, education was still costly.
93. France requested to know about measures to be taken, if any, to address the problem of the abandonment of newborn babies and maternal mortality, in light of the prohibition of abortion.
94. Gabon welcomed the establishment of the Inter-ministerial Committee on human rights and international humanitarian law.
95. Georgia encouraged Namibia to submit a mid-term report on the implementation of UPR recommendations as it did for the first cycle.
96. Germany noted that the gender-based violence remained a serious concern, although Namibia was committed to combat violence against women and children.
97. Ghana appreciated steps taken by Namibia to upgrade and improve conditions of detention and welcomed the adoption of the first national human rights action plan.
98. Haiti thanked Namibia for its inclusive and comprehensive national report.
99. Honduras commended Namibia for the adoption of the national gender policy and its plan of action; the Child Care and Protection Act and national plans on education.
100. Iceland noted with concern the criminalisation of sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex.
101. India requested Namibia to share more details about the challenges being faced in implementing Vision 2030 which focuses on improving the quality of life of Namibians.
102. Indonesia stated that measures could be taken to manage and prevent the exploitation of migrant workers.
103. Iraq made a recommendation.
104. Kenya commended Namibia for the strengthening of the Office of the Ombudsman and for efforts to provide free legal aid.
105. The delegation of Namibia has put in place several measures to reduce poverty with the view to eventually eradicate it. At a national conference on wealth redistribution and poverty eradication, held on 26 October 2015, the President declared that the first step in the fight against poverty is the recognition that all Namibians deserve a dignified life. A dignified life as articulated by him included decent employment, shelter, water, sanitation, education and access to health care.
106. Research by the World Bank has shown that the Namibian budget is indeed pro-poor. This was not only because of the generous social grants, but also because of the tax system that is progressive in nature. Government will introduce a solidarity tax in the next budget that will call on each income making Namibian above a certain threshold to make a contribution towards a fund that will be earmarked for poverty eradication activities. Another form of solidarity tax under consideration would be to entice owners of companies to dilute shareholding to include workers, thereby redistributing more of company income downward instead of upward as is the case when shareholding is concentrated in the hands of a few.
107. Food banks will be established to bring to a halt hunger, especially in urban areas, where there is no access to productive land. It is the pledge of the Government that no child should go hungry in the Namibian House. Namibia could eradicate poverty by 2025 beating the global deadline of 2030.

108. A recommendation on extending a standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders had not been supported during the first review because of the preference of the Government to decide if and when such invitations should be extended. Namibia has attached great importance to the work of the special procedures mandate holders, and three mandate holders have visited the country since the last review. Namibia was open and willing to consider extending an invitation to any mandate holders and will render its usual support and cooperation to those mandate holders.

109. Legislation has been enacted to ensure consultation with and the participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making processes relating to traditional sites and objects. In this context, the delegation referred to the Traditional authorities Act No. 25 of 2000, the Communal Land Reform Act No. 5 of 2002, the Forest Act No.12 of 2001, the Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and the National Heritage Act, Act No. 27, 2004.

110. In response to questions and recommendations on access to health, excessive fees and legal abortions, the delegation stated that both the public and private sector funded the healthcare system. The public system provided services to the majority of the population and was predominantly funded through general taxation while the private health care system, which provides either comprehensive or partial health care coverage, was funded largely through employee and employer contributions. Namibia was close to meeting its goal per capita spending on health, which was 14.3 percent in 2008/09, just short of the 15 percent target set by the 2001 Abuja Declaration. All Namibians, without discrimination, have access to health facilities across the country and there is no Government policy, which authorizes any official at any of these facilities to refuse anyone medical care, even when such person is unable to pay the minimal fee imposed. Senior citizens have access to all public health care facilities free of charge.

111. The delegation stated that Namibia was a product of the international community and will continue to cooperate with the international community. Namibia was subject to the resolution passed by the African Union in 2013 regarding the International Criminal Court and will express its position through the auspices of the African Union. Namibia intends to work with the African Union to find an amicable solution to this issue.

112. The Lao People's Democratic Republic noted the progress made in promoting freedom of expression, improving education, access to health care services and addressing poverty reduction.

113. Latvia welcomed measures to address poverty, provide clean water, increase the number of health facilities and ensure access to education.

114. Lebanon commended Namibia for its national human rights action plan and for the progress made in terms of education, social policy and health.

115. Lesotho took note of the initiatives taken by Namibia for the advancement of human rights in the country.

116. Liechtenstein welcomed the programmes to combat gender-based violence and encouraged Namibia to continue these efforts.

117. Libya welcomed the adoption of new laws in the field of human rights and efforts made in eradicating poverty.

118. Madagascar welcomed the legislative and institutional efforts made by Namibia, particularly in setting up of the Inter-ministerial Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Committee.

119. Malaysia noted that Namibia launched its National Human Rights Action Plan for the period 2015-2019. It encouraged Namibia to continue its positive efforts in ameliorating the standard of living of its people.
120. Mauritius took note of the creation of a human rights division within the Namibian Police Department. It encouraged Namibia to pursue the implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan for the period 2015-2019.
121. Mexico welcomed the approval of the Child Care and Protection Act and recognised the measures adopted to eradicate gender violence.
122. Montenegro asked Namibia to elaborate on the level of implementation of the National Sanitation Strategy for the period 2010-2015.
123. Morocco welcomed the role played by the Ombudsman to ensure that human rights have a place in the school curricula.
124. Mozambique took note of the fact that Namibia is considering a draft bill on criminalizing torture as a specific offence.
125. Myanmar welcomed measures taken to ensure the right to education for all children and the abolishment of the compulsory financial parental contribution to the School Development Fund.
126. The Netherlands noted the efforts made to combat HIV/AIDS, particularly the progress in preventing mother to child transmission and in access to medications. It expressed the willingness to share its experiences in developing a national action plan on business and human rights.
127. Nicaragua highlighted the efforts to eliminate all forms of gender violence and to achieve greater equality between men and women, and encouraged Namibia to continue along this path.
128. The Niger welcomed the 2015-2019 human rights national action plan, and efforts to set up a ministry to address poverty and to promote social protection.
129. Nigeria commended Namibia for the introduction of poverty reduction programmes, the adoption of legislation to increase employment, bring about prison reforms, to regulate wages of domestic workers, as well as the replacement of the High Court rules on immovable poverty.
130. Oman made recommendations.
131. Pakistan stated that the National Human Rights Action Plan 2015-2019, training to police officials, the Electoral Act of 2014, the Employment Service Act 2011, and the National Gender Policy will further contribute to the protection and promotion of human rights.
132. South Africa was encouraged by Namibia's efforts in providing legal protection for women through its Constitution and legislation, strides in good governance and impressive results in primary school enrolment rates.
133. Tunisia noted progress since the first UPR cycle, particularly the adoption of national plans for children and for gender equality, and the creation of Ombudsman offices for media and for children.
134. Brazil noted as a good precedent for the follow-up to recommendations, the elaboration of the national report by an inter-ministerial committee, in dialogue with civil society. It suggested the integration of recommendations into domestic laws and policies.

135. The delegation of Namibia stated that Namibia had no national legislation directly related to indigenous peoples and the term “marginalised people” was used. One of 1991 Land Conference Resolutions was that the land rights of disadvantaged communities should receive special protection with the San and other marginalized communities receiving specific mention. The National Resettlement Policy of 2001 identified the San as a specific target group for resettlement, and was given conditional rights in terms of hunting concessions.

136. The delegation thanked all the delegations for their participation in the review. The valuable input, comments and recommendations received serve as guidance to better the lives of the people of Namibia.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

137. The following recommendations made during the interactive dialogue will be examined by Namibia and responses to those recommendations will be provided in due time, but no later than the thirty-second session of the Human Rights Council in June 2016:

137.1. Consider ratifying the outstanding international human rights instruments and further update their national laws to be in line with those treaties (Lesotho);

137.2. Accelerate the process for the ratification of international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Benin);¹

137.3. Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines);

137.4. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Madagascar);

137.5. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Niger);

137.6. Ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Senegal);

137.7. Ratify the Convention for the Protection of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Turkey);

137.8. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Honduras);

137.9. Consider adhering to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families (Côte d’Ivoire);

137.10. Consider the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited

¹ The recommendation made during the interactive dialogue was “Accelerate the process for the ratification of international human rights instruments to which it is a party (Benin)”

- 137.11. Consider ratifying the 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ecuador);
- 137.12. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Ghana);
- 137.13. Accede to the international instruments to which it is not a party (Congo);
- 137.14. Ratify the optional protocol to ICESCR (Portugal);
- 137.15. Ratify the optional protocol to the CRC on a communications procedure (Portugal);
- 137.16. Ratify the Convention against Torture and the optional protocol thereto (Portugal);
- 137.17. That the necessary measures to ratify the Optional Protocol to CAT be adopted, in conformity with the commitments made by Namibia during the first UPR cycle (Chile);
- 137.18. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, as previously recommended (Mauritius);
- 137.19. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (Senegal);
- 137.20. Take measures towards the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Georgia);
- 137.21. Ratify the OP-CAT (Honduras);
- 137.22. Ratify the Optional Protocol of the Convention Against Torture (Tunisia);
- 137.23. Ratify the OP-CAT (Sweden);
- 137.24. Ratify OP-CAT (Congo);
- 137.25. Ratify the OP-CAT (Estonia);
- 137.26. Ratify the OP-CAT (Lebanon);
- 137.27. Ratify the OP-CAT (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);
- 137.28. Intensify its efforts to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (Denmark);
- 137.29. Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (France);
- 137.30. Ratify the OP-CAT and ensure a timely establishment of an effective national preventive mechanism (Czech Republic);
- 137.31. Ratify the UNESCO Convention on discrimination in education (Tunisia);
- 137.32. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Tunisia);

- 137.33. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Congo);**
- 137.34. **Ratify the international Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (Togo);**
- 137.35. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Madagascar);**
- 137.36. **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ghana);**
- 137.37. **Accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);**
- 137.38. **Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Oman);**
- 137.39. **Adhere to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay)**
- 137.40. **Adhere to the International Convention on the Protection of Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Uruguay);**
- 137.41. **Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Madagascar);**
- 137.42. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Montenegro);**
- 137.43. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and opt in to the inquiry and inter-state procedures (Slovakia);**
- 137.44. **Ratify the Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on communication procedures (Montenegro);**
- 137.45. **Consider the ratification of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 137.46. **Ratify the ILO Convention 189 (Philippines);**
- 137.47. **Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Latvia);**
- 137.48. **Ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute of the ICC (Estonia);**
- 137.49. **Ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute with a view to contributing to the activation of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court over the crime of aggression in 2017 (Liechtenstein);**
- 137.50. **Reconsider the country's position on a possible withdrawal as a State Party to the ICC Rome Statute (Austria);**
- 137.51. **Incorporate into the Constitution and the national legislation the right to enjoy the highest standards possible of mental and physical health (Egypt);**
- 137.52. **Update the constitutional provisions regarding the definition of a child to be in harmony with the overall definition in the CRC (Kenya);**

- 137.53. Expedite the adoption of pending bills such as the Child Care and Protection Act, with a view to ensuring better protection for children against all types of violence and abuses (Republic of Korea);
- 137.54. Take all necessary measures to effectively implement the Child Care and Protection Act (Slovenia);
- 137.55. Ensure effective implementation and enforcement of the Child care and Protection Act (United States of America);
- 137.56. Align the provisions of the nationality law with international human rights standards so as to enable children born in the territory of Namibia whose parents are unknown to acquire nationality of Namibia (Kenya);
- 137.57. Abolish laws and practices discriminating against women and girls (Panama);
- 137.58. Abolish all harmful and discriminatory customary laws and practices which are directed towards women and girls (Australia);
- 137.59. Take measures to review all relevant legislation with a view to end discrimination against women and girls (Slovakia);
- 137.60. Expedite the enactment of existing Bills that would impact on the enjoyment of women's rights (Sierra Leone);
- 137.61. Step up efforts to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in law and in practice also by adopting the pending Bills that have impact on the enjoyment of women's rights related to marriage, recognition of customary marriage, procurement, marital property, divorce and intestate succession (Slovenia);
- 137.62. Adopt as soon as possible, the draft laws that promote the rights of women in marriage, marital property and divorce (Uruguay);
- 137.63. Consider revising the Married Persons Equality Act of 1996 in a way that eliminates discriminatory provisions against women, including those affecting marriage, land ownership and inheritance rights (Republic of Korea);
- 137.64. Strengthens legislation to prohibit torture and ill treatment as well strengthen legislation against human trafficking (Zambia);
- 137.65. Expedite the process for drafting and adopting legislation on the punishment of torture (Burundi);
- 137.66. Review civil laws with the view of putting an end to discrimination against women and girls, in particular rights related to marriage and land property (Turkey);
- 137.67. That legislative measures be adopted to make it possible to harmonize the domestic legal system with the CEDAW provisions, promulgating legislative initiatives in process, aimed at ensuring equal legal status of men and women (Chile);
- 137.68. Abolish all discriminatory customary laws and practices that violate the rights of women in accordance with international obligations under CEDAW (Iceland);
- 137.69. Establish legislative measures to decriminalize sexual relations among adults of the same sex (Spain);

- 137.70. **Repeal provisions criminalizing sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex, to respect the principles of equality and non-discrimination among all people (France);**
- 137.71. **Bring its legislation into conformity with its international human rights obligations by repealing laws that criminalize sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex (Iceland);**
- 137.72. **Bring its law in conformity with its international human rights obligations by repealing all laws which result in, or are likely to result in the discrimination, prosecution and punishment of people solely for their sexual orientation or gender identity (Netherlands);**
- 137.73. **Adopt the necessary measures aiming at eliminating the normative provisions which criminalize and discriminate against LGBTI persons (Argentina);**
- 137.74. **Continue to strengthen their national legislation into line with international human rights instruments to which it is a party (Nicaragua);**
- 137.75. **Implement the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court including through adopting appropriate national legislation, so as to ensure full cooperation with the ICC and effective investigation and prosecution of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes before its national courts (Czech Republic);**
- 137.76. **Continue its efforts in drafting the Human Trafficking Legislation, with the active participation of the civil society (Indonesia);**
- 137.77. **Elaborate and enact the anti-trafficking legislation in line with international norms and standards (Ukraine);**
- 137.78. **Continue to strengthen its human rights institutions and develop additional measures to ensure the effective implementation of their mandate (Lesotho);**
- 137.79. **Create a national governmental independent mechanism in charge of the supervision of human rights policies (Morocco);**
- 137.80. **Strengthen the capacities of the Ombudsman office (Haiti);**
- 137.81. **Strengthen existing mechanisms within its institutional infrastructure to eradicate discriminatory, cultural or based on customary laws, practices to the detriment of women, children, minorities and LGBT groups (Honduras);**
- 137.82. **Continue to implement the National Human Rights Action Plan 2015-2019 (Pakistan);**
- 137.83. **Adopt and implement a national action plan on gender-based violence with the support from all sectors within the society, including the judiciary (Sweden);**
- 137.84. **Adopt and develop a comprehensive national action plan that addresses traditional harmful practices and gender based violence against women and girls (Botswana);**
- 137.85. **Adopt a National Action Plan to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (Netherland);**
- 137.86. **Develop an instrument to monitor the implementation and verification of the recommendations from the previous and current Universal**

Periodic Review, paying special attention to the ratification of international human rights instruments which are pending, including the Optional Protocol to CAT (Costa Rica);

137.87. **Launch a comprehensive national policy to universalize the right to civil registration, considering its pivotal role to ensure the realization of other human rights, including to an adequate standard of living (Brazil);**

137.88. **Further strengthen its successful land reform and resettlement program, which grants land to historically disadvantaged groups (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

137.89. **Continue implementing its agrarian reform policy and resettlement program by giving land to groups who have been historically disadvantaged (Cuba);**

137.90. **Pursue its land reform and resettlement program in order to enable underprivileged persons to have access to land, given that the right to land is a fundamental human right (Angola);**

137.91. **Continue Government's efforts with its land reform and resettlement programme, both at the rural and urban level (South Africa);**

137.92. **Implement effectively the Green Scheme, the San Development, Land distribution, the Mass Housing Programme, Water Supply and Sanitation, Safe drinking water, and Equipment Aid Scheme to SMEs (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**

137.93. **Maintain efforts to protect the rights of vulnerable groups, considering their specific needs and capabilities, through the empowerment of their rights, and fair reparation mechanisms (Ecuador);**

137.94. **Continue its efforts to promote human rights in all spheres, in particular in regard to protecting the victims of violence (Iraq);**

137.95. **Step up human rights education for traditional authorities (Costa Rica);**

137.96. **Implement awareness raising campaigns to educate individuals and traditional authorities on the violation of rights by harmful and discriminatory customary laws and practices, in particular on the need to ensure that these do not violate the rights of women and children (Latvia);**

137.97. **Strengthen efforts on youth development and empowerment (South Africa);**

137.98. **Strengthen its cooperation with treaty bodies (Niger);**

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

137.100. **Make effort to submit outstanding human rights reports to relevant bodies (Ethiopia);**

137.101. **Extend a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council (Turkey);**

137.102. **In the spirit of ongoing cooperation between United Nations and Namibia, extend an open and standing invitation to the United Nations special procedures (Chile);**

- 137.103. While acknowledging the efforts to cooperate with special procedures, consider issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures mandate holders (Georgia);
- 137.104. Extend a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Germany);
- 137.105. Extend a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council (Panama);
- 137.106. Extend a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council (Portugal);
- 137.107. Extend a standing invitation to all Special Procedure mandate holders (Latvia);
- 137.108. Continue to take steps in order to ensure the full equality between men and women and to combat all forms of discrimination against women (Romania);
- 137.109. Continue to promote equality between men and women in the application of their national legislation and the implementation of public policies (Nicaragua);
- 137.110. Continue to promote the empowerment of women and their participation in society (Nicaragua);
- 137.111. Take all necessary measures to eliminate discrimination against women and girls, particularly in relation to marriage, land ownership and inheritance rights (Mexico);
- 137.112. Double efforts towards gender equality and the empowerment of women through education and skills training (Malaysia);
- 137.113. Remove existing barriers to the full participation of women in economic life so as to further reduce poverty and inequality (Germany);
- 137.114. Work to eliminate traditional practices and repeal laws detrimental to women and girls (Haiti);
- 137.115. Make further efforts to end discrimination, domestic violence and violence in schools against women (Oman);
- 137.116. Continue to pay close attention to the full realization of the rights of women and girls (Portugal);
- 137.117. Intensify efforts aimed at accelerating the elimination of discrimination against women and promoting gender equality, including through the development of the proposed national database on gender-based violence (State of Palestine);
- 137.118. Implement awareness raising campaigns and education programs, working closely with traditional authorities, to promote and protect the rights of women and girls (Australia);
- 137.119. Implement policies dealing with the stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS (South Africa);
- 137.120. Ensure the issuance of birth registration documents for all children born on its territory (Romania);

- 137.121. Expedite efforts to ensure that a birth certificate is issued free of charge for all children without discrimination, including children born in rural and poor areas (Turkey);
- 137.122. Ensure the registration of all new born as a way to generate liable statistics and data (Mexico);
- 137.123. Continue to encourage the immediate registration of newly born children, and introduce mechanisms to ensure that the absence of a parent does not prevent the registration of the child concerned (Uruguay);
- 137.124. Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility in accordance with General Comment No. 10 (2007) of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Uruguay);
- 137.125. Develop a comprehensive national strategy to prevent all forms of violence against children, with particular attention to its gender dimension (Ukraine);
- 137.126. Fully implement and enforce laws on elimination of violence against children (Ukraine);
- 137.127. Continue to promote the rights of children by fighting effectively against corporal punishment (Djibouti);
- 137.128. Prohibit all corporal punishment of children, including in the home (Estonia);
- 137.129. Prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings (Tunisia);
- 137.130. Improve mechanisms of legal and social protection of children against sexual violence (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 137.131. Take further steps to eliminate harmful practices, and to abolish child, early and forced marriages (Sierra Leone);
- 137.132. Continue to take steps to ensure the full and effective implementation of its Child Care and Protection Act to guard against all forms of child abuse (Singapore);
- 137.133. Explicitly prohibit traditional practices that put at risk the physic and psychological integrity of women and girls (Argentina);
- 137.134. Strengthens measures aimed at eliminating all forms of gender – based violence (Zambia);
- 137.135. Continue efforts to combating customary practices which tolerate gender-based violence and discrimination against women (Algeria);
- 137.136. Step up its efforts in eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls and in that context improve the national legislation in accordance with relevant international human rights standards (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);
- 137.137. Take measures to prevent all incidents of violence against women, in particular in rural areas; and ensure effective interventions by law enforcement officials responding to allegations of violence committed by intimate partners; and prosecute perpetrators (Canada);
- 137.138. Strengthen legal framework to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence (Serbia);

- 137.139. Ensure that all cases of violence against women and girls are investigated and that perpetrators are brought to justice (Slovenia);
- 137.140. Ensure appropriate protection is offered to the victims of gender-based violence including enabling them to seek police assistance, leading to prosecution of the perpetrators as appropriate (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 137.141. Allocate the resources necessary for the full implementation of the “Zero Tolerance Campaign against Gender Based Violence (Canada);
- 137.142. An effective implementation of the combating of the domestic violence act to reduce gender-based violence (China);
- 137.143. Increase efforts to fight against gender violence by fully implementing the "National Gender Policy" and the national action plan against gender violence 2012-2016, and by ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice (France);
- 137.144. Effectively implement the Zero Tolerance Campaign and key interventions of the National Human Rights Action Plan 2015 with regard to gender-based violence (Germany);
- 137.145. Continue its efforts to combat violence against women and children at the national level, as previously recommended (Germany);
- 137.146. Redouble efforts in addressing gender-based violence, with the support of the international community (Mozambique);
- 137.147. Strengthen collaboration with the relevant stakeholders to address the causes of gender based violence (Singapore);
- 137.148. Adopt further measures to combat violence and sexual abuse against girls and women, as well as violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation (Brazil);
- 137.149. Take all relevant measures to fight against sexual violence and bring perpetrators to justice (Togo);
- 137.150. Enforce legislation to prevent sexual violence and sexual exploitation (Uzbekistan);
- 137.151. Allocate adequate funding and provide necessary human resources to fully implement policies and programmes aimed at eradicating all forms of gender based violence (Philippines);
- 137.152. Redouble its efforts to enforce the relevant legislation such as the Combating of Rape Act to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence, and continue the ongoing efforts to address the root causes and contributing factors of the violence (Republic of Korea);
- 137.153. Take steps to improve prison conditions and, particularly, ensure that adults and minor prisoners are separated at all times (Australia);
- 137.154. Ensure that minors are protected in prison, including by separating them from adults (Djibouti);
- 137.155. Adopt provisions to ensure that detained children are always held separately from adults (Sweden);
- 137.156. Take measures to ensure that children are housed in separate facilities from adults in cases of detention (Trinidad and Tobago);

- 137.157. Ensure all juvenile offenders are housed separately from adult prisoners in Correctional Facilities (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 137.158. Take additional measures to address issues of overcrowding in its prisons in compliance with international standards (Ghana);
- 137.159. Improve health, sanitation and habitability conditions in prisons, including a decrease in overcrowding (Spain);
- 137.160. Combat and address the worst forms of child labour by punishing offenders and by conducting research on the prevalence of child labour (United States of America);
- 137.161. Take all measures to eradicate child labour, particularly in the informal sector and rural areas (Uzbekistan);
- 137.162. Intensify its efforts in the area of prevention and fight against trafficking in particular girls and children in situation of vulnerability (Honduras);
- 137.163. Continue efforts in the prevention of human trafficking, with special attention to investigation and prosecution of all cases of sale and trafficking of children (Serbia);
- 137.164. Strive to reduce the timelines before the Courts and to expedite rulings (China);
- 137.165. Provide resources to introduce case management systems in both criminal and civil court registries to clear the backlog of cases and set out the times lines for the disposal of cases in accordance with the rights of every person to trial and justice within a reasonable time (Fiji);
- 137.166. Ensure that Namibia's juvenile justice system is in line with international standards (Botswana);
- 137.167. Raise the age of criminal responsibility so that it complies with international standards, create an effective juvenile justice system and provide separate detention and prison facilities for juveniles offenders and appropriate training for personnel working in the juvenile justice system (Czech Republic);
- 137.168. Ensure that members of the security forces responsible for violations of human rights are brought to justice, and improve prison conditions (France);
- 137.169. Consider establishing legal assistance offices in order to assist those who cannot afford the services of a private lawyer (Haiti);
- 137.170. Ensure that women – in particular women pursuing divorce or having experienced gender based violence – have effective access to justice in all parts of the country (Liechtenstein);
- 137.171. Establish a prosecution mechanism for perpetrators of violence against women and girls (Turkey);
- 137.172. Ensure that all cases of violence against women and girls are thoroughly and effectively investigated and that perpetrators are prosecuted *ex officio* and adequately punished (Liechtenstein);
- 137.173. Continue efforts to strengthen the capacity and compatibility between the investigation and prosecution of cases (South Sudan);

- 137.174. Establish mobile courts especially in the rural areas (Uganda);
- 137.175. Establish a mechanism under which victims of gender-based violence can file for protection orders in towns and villages where there is no magistrate, and under which protection orders can be filled outside of designated court hours (United States of America);
- 137.176. Regarding the “Caprivi” trial provide adequate compensation for the 35 persons acquitted who had spent long periods in remand detention (Austria);
- 137.177. Continue to support the family which is one of the main actors in achieving sustainable development goals in any state (Russian Federation);
- 137.178. Continue its work in upholding family as the basic social institution and in the protection of its rights (Bangladesh);
- 137.179. Enhance the law on the freedom of the media and promulgate laws on the freedom of expression (Lebanon);
- 137.180. Continue the practice of holding public meetings with senior authorities in the country, so that persons from the communities can have access to higher authorities and participate in the process of seeking solutions and decision-making (Cuba);
- 137.181. Enhance the participation of grass roots people in decision-making processes regarding their welfare (Zimbabwe);
- 137.182. Increase poverty reduction and development policies that promote the participation of vulnerable groups in decisions regarding their rights and interests (Mexico);
- 137.183. Make progress in the effective realization of human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation through increasing the public water infrastructures, particularly in rural areas and in informal urban settlements, through the adequate training and awareness raising on sanitation of the local communities who benefit from these services (Spain);
- 137.184. Ensure access to clean water supply and proper sanitation (Malaysia);
- 137.185. Continue to undertake measures to eliminate poverty and combat unemployment (Sri Lanka);
- 137.186. Strengthen the mechanism to fight against poverty, especially encouraging programmes aimed at child malnutrition (Turkey);
- 137.187. Accelerates on-going efforts to address the root causes of poverty and hunger so as to uplift the living standards of the poor (Zimbabwe);
- 137.188. Continue its efforts towards reducing poverty through continuing setting up programs aimed at this purpose (Libya);
- 137.189. Further strengthen the successful implementation of the Vision 2030 Strategic Plan, in the fight against poverty (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 137.190. Continue to promote access to health (Pakistan);
- 137.191. Issue clear directives to health officials to prohibit the sterilization of women living with HIV/AIDS without their informed consent (Canada);

- 137.192. **Implement policies and programmes aimed at preventing HIV/AIDS infections (Oman);**
- 137.193. **Intensify the efforts in fighting against HIV/AIDS, in particular, to improve access to health-care services in rural areas (Ukraine);**
- 137.194. **Continue to strengthen the appropriate health care provided to women, in particular in rural areas (Egypt);**
- 137.195. **Strengthen the capacities of health infrastructures in rural and remote areas (Haiti);**
- 137.196. **Ramp up the quality and access to health care and legal services in rural areas (Trinidad and Tobago);**
- 137.197. **Mitigate the lack of qualified and experienced healthcare professionals by putting in place a national training strategy in the medical and paramedical branches (Morocco);**
- 137.198. **Continue efforts to ensure universal access to quality education and health care (Uzbekistan);**
- 137.199. **Continue to further enhance access to education and health services in rural areas (State of Palestine);**
- 137.200. **Take the necessary measures to guarantee the right to schooling for all children (Algeria);**
- 137.201. **Consolidate efforts made to ensure access to education for all citizens without discrimination (Egypt);**
- 137.202. **Continue efforts to achieve universal primary education in line with the vision of the National Plan of “Education for all” (Sri Lanka);**
- 137.203. **Continue to develop its National Safe School Framework to provide a safe environment for students to receive a good education that is free from harassment, aggression and bullying. (Singapore);**
- 137.204. **That Namibia’s education policies which were designed for inclusivity, be evaluated by the Government for effectiveness in relation to access and affordability for minority cultural groups (Fiji);**
- 137.205. **Ensure equal access to education for all children (Portugal);**
- 137.206. **Continue its efforts to ensure the right to education for all people (Myanmar);**
- 137.207. **Continue to strengthen educational system and ensure equal access of disabled children to education (Lao People’s Democratic Republic);**
- 137.208. **Consider introducing civic and human rights education in the school curriculum (Ethiopia);**
- 137.209. **Take the necessary measures aimed at preventing discrimination against children with disabilities, children living in extreme poverty and street children (Oman);**
- 137.210. **Take steps to improve the access of persons with disabilities to various services (Trinidad and Tobago);**
- 137.211. **Take appropriate measures to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities including through proper infrastructure and facilities that can accommodate their needs in schools and in the workplace (Malaysia);**

- 137.212. **Take necessary measures to fight against discrimination against people from minority ethnic communities (France);**
- 137.213. **Protect fully the human rights of persons belonging to minorities including their rights to water, sanitation, land, education and health as well as access to all public services in an equal and just manner (Portugal);**
- 137.214. **Promote the effective access to basic social services for the indigenous minority including San and Himba on an equal footing with the rest of the society, as well rapid adoption and effective implementation of the “White Paper on Indigenous Rights” drafted by the Ombudsman Office (Spain);**
- 137.215. **Take effective measures to eliminate discrimination against the children of indigenous peoples, in particular the Himba and San communities (Uzbekistan);**
- 137.216. **Continue with the projects and programs for the protection of indigenous communities, particularly in the field of education of their children (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**
- 137.217. **Continue efforts to improve the access to adequate land by ethnic minority groups who have been deprived of their original lands (Austria);**
- 137.218. **Facilitate the access of ethnic minority group children to education for instance by allowing them to attend school in their traditional dress or by providing them with free school uniforms (Austria);**
- 137.219. **Continue enhancing the project and programmes aimed at ensuring the protection and the rights of indigenous communities (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea).**
138. **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 Namibia was headed by Honourable Albert Kawana, Minister of Justice and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Ambassador Sabine Böhlke-Möller – Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Namibia to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Switzerland;
 - Mr. Lennon S. Limbo – Ministry of Justice;
 - Mr. Christian Harris – Ministry of Justice;
 - Mr. Jens Prothmann – Deputy Director, Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation;
 - Mrs. Gladice Pickering – Legal Attaché, Permanent Mission of Namibia;
 - Ms. Isabella Rajala – Intern, Permanent Mission of Namibia.
-