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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Twenty-ninth session**  
Geneva, 15-26 January 2018

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

#### **Burundi**

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\* The annex is being issued without formal editing in English.

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## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-ninth session from 15 to 26 January 2018. The review of Burundi was held at the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 18 January 2018. The delegation of Burundi was headed by His Excellency Mr. Martin Nivyabandi, Minister for the Rights of the Person, Social Affairs and Gender of Burundi. At its 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 23 January 2018, the Working Group adopted the report on Burundi.
2. On 10 January 2018, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Burundi: Cote d'Ivoire, Germany and Saudi Arabia.
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 Burundi:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/29/BDI/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.6/29/BDI/2 and A/HRC/WG.6/29/BDI/2/Corr.1);
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/29/BDI/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Brazil, Czechia, Germany, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, was transmitted to Burundi through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

### I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

[To be completed by 2 February 2018]

- A. Presentation by the State under review
- B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

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

### II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

6. The following recommendations will be examined by Burundi, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council:
  - 6.1. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Georgia) (Honduras) (South Africa) (Spain) / Accede to the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Canada);**
  - 6.2. **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Belgium) (Croatia) (Georgia) (Honduras) (Montenegro) (South Africa) (Spain) (Togo);**
  - 6.3. **Formally abolish the death penalty, and accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);**

- 6.4. **Sign the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolishing of the death penalty (Albania);**
- 6.5. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Spain);**
- 6.6. **Intensify efforts to accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Georgia);**
- 6.7. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure (Croatia);**
- 6.8. **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Honduras) (Sierra Leone);**
- 6.9. **Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Egypt);**
- 6.10. **Continue taking steps towards the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by enhancing the knowledge and capacity of related national authorities (Indonesia);**
- 6.11. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Honduras) (Morocco) (Spain) (Togo) (Ukraine) / Accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sierra Leone);**
- 6.12. **Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Chile);**
- 6.13. **Accede again and without delay to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and incorporate it in national legislation (Austria);**
- 6.14. **Re-adhere to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and align national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute (Latvia);**
- 6.15. **Reconsider its withdrawal from the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Liechtenstein);**
- 6.16. **Reconsider its decision to withdraw from the Rome Statute (Croatia);**
- 6.17. **Reconsider the decision to leave the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Portugal);**
- 6.18. **Reconsider its decision to withdraw from the Rome Statute and cooperate fully with the International Criminal Court in the ongoing investigation (Cyprus);**
- 6.19. **Reconsider the withdrawal from the International Criminal Court and cooperate fully with international mechanisms, including the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi established by the Human Rights Council, allowing it to carry out visits to the country and providing it with all the information necessary to fulfil its mandate (Italy);**
- 6.20. **Expedite the ratification of the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Sierra Leone);**
- 6.21. **Ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Togo);**
- 6.22. **Implement the recent recommendations of treaty bodies (Cyprus);**

- 6.23. **Adopt an open, merit-based selection process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 6.24. **Respond positively to the pending visit requests by the special procedures mandate holders (Latvia);**
- 6.25. **Respond positively to requests for visit by United Nations Special Rapporteurs, including the Special Rapporteur on Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Zambia);**
- 6.26. **Guarantee free access for special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Costa Rica);**
- 6.27. **Step up efforts to finalise the Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights thereby establishing cooperation with the Office (Botswana);**
- 6.28. **Finalize swiftly the Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Ukraine);**
- 6.29. **Fast-track the process leading to the finalization of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to restoring that cooperation (Namibia);**
- 6.30. **Re-establish relations with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and conclude the outstanding Memorandum of Understanding on the status of the office of the OHCHR in Bujumbura (Germany);**
- 6.31. **Re-establish contact with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, ensure unhindered access to all human rights mechanisms and guarantee that those cooperating with the United Nations will not be subjected to reprisals (Republic of Moldova);**
- 6.32. **Urgently resume its cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights, and grant country access to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi (Ireland);**
- 6.33. **Resume full cooperation and collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Burundi to allow the High Commissioner to fulfil his mandate devoid of any interference (Ghana);**
- 6.34. **Resume swiftly the formal cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Bujumbura (Belgium);**
- 6.35. **Resume working with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the country (Portugal);**
- 6.36. **Resume cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and continue to cooperate with the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (Honduras);**
- 6.37. **Restore immediately cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and grant access to Human Rights Council-mandated Commission of Inquiry on Burundi (Rwanda)<sup>1</sup>;**
- 6.38. **Re-establish the cooperation and collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Commission of Inquiry by allowing their members unhindered access to the country and relevant sites and people (Albania);**

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<sup>1</sup> The recommendation originally stated in the room is as follows: “Restore immediately cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and grant access to Human Rights Council.”

- 6.39. **Cooperate fully with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights by restoring the full mandate of its office in Bujumbura (Switzerland);**
- 6.40. **Cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, in line with Human Rights Council resolution 36/2 and accepted by Burundi (Tunisia);**
- 6.41. **Implement resolution of the Human Rights Council 36/2, adopted on 28 September 2017 (Tunisia);**
- 6.42. **Fulfil its obligation as member of the Human Rights Council and fully cooperate with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi and with the team of three United Nations experts, and with the International Criminal Court, including by granting access (Germany);**
- 6.43. **Allow the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to resume its documentation of human rights violations in the country (Cyprus);**
- 6.44. **Allow the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Burundi and the Commission of Inquiry to conduct their work without undue interference or threat (United States of America);**
- 6.45. **Explore opportunities of partnership with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to benefitting from relevant assistance and support from the Office (Azerbaijan);**
- 6.46. **Cooperate with the United Nations Commission of Inquiry, as well as with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with a view to improving the human rights situation on the ground and promote accountability (Brazil);**
- 6.47. **Cooperate with the Human Rights Council-mandated Commission of Inquiry and allow its members unhindered access to the country, including to victims of human rights violations and abuses (Hungary);**
- 6.48. **Cooperate with the United Nations Commission of Inquiry, and the International Criminal Court's investigation, to help ensure perpetrators of abuse are brought to justice (Australia);**
- 6.49. **Offer full cooperation to the Human Rights Council-mandated Commission of Inquiry on Burundi to conduct unhindered visits to the country and provide it with all the information and assistance necessary to fulfil its mandate (Czechia);**
- 6.50. **Permit immediately the Commission of Inquiry to enter Burundi to conduct its investigation as mandated by the Human Rights Council (Denmark);**
- 6.51. **Give full and unhindered access in the country to the Commission of Inquiry established by the Human Rights Council and fully cooperate with the Commission (Norway);**
- 6.52. **Fulfil its obligation to cooperate with the investigation of the International Criminal Court (Canada);**
- 6.53. **Comply with its legal obligations by fully cooperating with the International Criminal Court in all stages of the recently opened investigation and proceedings (Liechtenstein);**
- 6.54. **Allow and enable conducting investigations by the International Criminal Court, which were launched before Burundi's withdrawal from the Court (Poland);**
- 6.55. **Allow investigations by the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court to be carried out unhindered (Denmark);**
- 6.56. **Fully cooperate with the International Criminal Court's investigation regarding crimes within the Court's jurisdiction and allegedly committed in**

**Burundi, or by Burundian nationals outside Burundi, between 26 April 2015 and 26 October 2017 (Sweden);**

6.57. **Improve its cooperation with United Nations mechanisms, in particular by implementing Resolution 2303 of the Security Council, by resuming cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, cooperating with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, and reconsidering its decision to withdraw from the Rome Statute (Greece);**

6.58. **Make progress with regard to the implementation of resolution 2303 of the Security Council, cooperate with the Commission of Inquiry, and respond positively to requests for visit from United Nations Special Rapporteurs (Austria);**

6.59. **Consider resuming cooperation with United Nations mechanisms, in particular, the Human Rights Council and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Senegal);**

6.60. **Fulfil its obligations and fully cooperate with United Nations mechanisms, including the Commission of Inquiry, set out by the Human Rights Council (Slovenia);**

6.61. **Fully co-operate with the UN human rights mechanisms, including the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, and in particular refrain from any acts of reprisal or intimidation against those who cooperate with such mechanisms (New Zealand);**

6.62. **Resume cooperation with the mechanisms of the United Nations system on the protection and promotion of human rights (Chile);**

6.63. **Resume its cooperation with the United Nations in addressing human rights violations, including in relation to refugee issues (Republic of Korea);**

6.64. **Further reinforce its cooperation with the United Nations system in the field of human rights (Côte d'Ivoire);**

6.65. **Re-establish cooperation with all international human rights, investigating and judicial mechanisms, including the International Criminal Court and the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi (Poland);**

6.66. **Ensure unhindered access by United Nations entities, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Commission of Inquiry, to all areas, and continue cooperating with the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (Iceland);**

6.67. **Allow independent international and regional human rights investigators full and free access to investigate allegations of extrajudicial executions and mass grave sites (Iceland);**

6.68. **Ensure full cooperation with all internationally recognised human rights bodies and mechanisms (Afghanistan);**

6.69. **Maintain full cooperation with international human rights mechanisms (Ukraine);**

6.70. **Continue to cooperate with all regional and international mechanisms on protection and promotion of human rights (Angola);**

6.71. **Continue cooperation with the African Union mechanisms on human rights (South Africa);**

6.72. **Engage constructively with the opposition to find a solution to the crisis in Burundi that is conducive to free, fair and peaceful elections in 2020 (Norway);**

6.73. **Commit to comprehensive dialogue involving all stakeholders, as it is crucial to ensure that a free, fair and transparent presidential election shall be conducted peacefully in 2020 (Japan);**

- 6.74. Engage in open and constructive dialogue with all stakeholders to end the political impasse, and take steps to ensure inclusive and equal participation in political decision-making (Australia);
- 6.75. Pursue its work to uphold the efforts of national mechanisms for Burundi wide dialogue and reconciliation (Belarus);
- 6.76. Ensure that all groups of citizens, including the members of opposition currently in exile, can freely and safely participate in the constitutional referendum; and discontinue the practice of systematic and illegal detention of returnees upon their arrival at the border (Czechia);
- 6.77. Initiate an unbiased mediation of the conflict and establish well-monitored democratic processes that include all sectors of society by promoting political and social reconciliation and respect for freedom of religion (Holy See);
- 6.78. Ensure that the Independent National Human Rights Commission is in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Liechtenstein);
- 6.79. Further strengthen the National Independent Human Rights Commission by ensuring its independence in accordance with the Paris Principles (Thailand);
- 6.80. Take all necessary steps ensuring the independence of the National Human Rights Commission of Burundi (Afghanistan);
- 6.81. Take all necessary actions, including the provision of resources, to ensure the credibility and independence of the Independent National Human Rights Commission (Namibia);
- 6.82. Strengthen the role of the Independent National Human Rights Commission (Morocco);
- 6.83. Continue strengthening national human rights institutions and mechanisms (Nepal);
- 6.84. Establish a national preventative mechanism regarding torture, to ensure investigation and prosecution of extra-judicial killing and torture and to hold perpetrators to account, including State agents (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.85. Establish an effective torture prevention mechanism in accordance with the obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Montenegro);
- 6.86. Consider establishing an independent mechanism tasked with preventing acts of torture (Senegal);
- 6.87. Establish an effective torture prevention mechanism (Holy See);
- 6.88. Pursue its work to enhance capacity of bodies in charge of prohibition of torture (Russian Federation);
- 6.89. Take measures to improve efficiency, accountability and transparency in the public service of the country (Azerbaijan);
- 6.90. Guarantee the respect of fundamental rights and freedoms of the whole population (Argentina);
- 6.91. Take measures, in collaboration with the international community, to create the environment where the people of Burundi can enjoy all human rights (Japan);
- 6.92. Implement measures to eradicate discriminatory practices against ethnic, political and religious minorities (Uruguay);
- 6.93. Decriminalize homosexuality (Iceland) (Timor-Leste);

- 6.94. **Decriminalize homosexuality and abolish practices that promote sexual orientation-based discrimination (Ecuador);**
- 6.95. **Take steps to decriminalise same-sex relations (Australia);**
- 6.96. **Take measures to decriminalize consensual sexual relations between same sex adults, guaranteeing the full respect for human rights of all, regardless of the sexual orientation or gender identity (Uruguay);**
- 6.97. **Take the necessary measures to repeal the legal provisions which criminalize and discriminate against LGBTI people (Argentina);**
- 6.98. **Establish legal protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity (Australia);**
- 6.99. **Ensure non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, in line with Burundi's national and international human rights obligations (Chile);**
- 6.100. **Strengthen the effort to better protect the rights of its citizens from the impact of climate change through State-sponsored strategies, action plans and disaster risk management (Indonesia);**
- 6.101. **Put an end to the gross human rights violations in a context of impunity and lack of independence of the judiciary, and in particular the violations to the right to life, extrajudicial executions, arbitrary arrests and detention, and enforced disappearances (France);**
- 6.102. **Put an immediate end to extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions and other serious human rights violations (Chile);**
- 6.103. **Take urgent measures to stop extrajudicial execution and acts of torture (Georgia);**
- 6.104. **Ensure that members of the country's defence and security forces respect human rights under all circumstances (Cyprus);**
- 6.105. **Ensure respect for human rights by security forces (Spain);**
- 6.106. **Issue orders to the police, the military and the Imbonerakure to refrain from all forms of violence, in particular against women, and ensure accountability for perpetrators of such violence (Liechtenstein);**
- 6.107. **Take prompt action to prevent Imbonerakure from continuing its abuses and illegal activities (Norway);**
- 6.108. **Continue efforts to end violence and preserve the sovereignty and independence of the State as a necessity for sustainable peace and development (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 6.109. **Call for the immediate ending of all forms of torture and set up an independent mechanism to investigate complaints of torture and ill-treatment (Hungary);**
- 6.110. **Take legislative measures to put an end to corporal punishment in all settings (Zambia);**
- 6.111. **Cease immediately torture and other ill-treatment of detainees and allow them to have a fair trial (Albania);**
- 6.112. **Take appropriate measures to align the conditions of detainees with international standards, also by preventing and combating torture and other ill-treatment of persons in custody (Italy);**
- 6.113. **Take further steps to enhance the condition and treatment of female detainees, pregnant prisoners and children born in prison (Thailand);**

- 6.114. Take immediate review on the legality of detention of arbitrarily arrested persons (Republic of Korea);
- 6.115. As a follow-up on recommendation 126.187 of the second cycle, devise and implement a strategy to improve and reduce the duration of police custody and pre-trial detention (Haiti);
- 6.116. Ensure due investigation into the findings of the Commission of Inquiry with regard to gross human rights violations and international crimes, and to ensure that alleged perpetrators are promptly prosecuted in credible, independent and fair judicial procedures (Sweden);
- 6.117. Undertake immediate and independent investigations into allegations of extrajudicial executions, excessive use of force by security forces, forced disappearance, and arbitrary detention, and where there is sufficient admissible evidence, prosecute those responsible (Netherlands);
- 6.118. Undertake independent, effective and impartial investigations into all allegations of serious human rights violations, such as extrajudicial executions and excessive use of force by security forces, intelligence services and Imbonerakure, and prosecute those (Germany);
- 6.119. Conduct prompt and impartial investigation of unlawful acts committed by security forces and Imbonerakure youth such as extrajudicial executions, arbitrary arrest and torture of members of the opposition, journalists, civil society activists and persons perceived as having supported the opposition and their families (Czechia);
- 6.120. Take measures for the effective investigation of serious human rights violations committed by all parties in the conflict, including State authorities, as well as ensure that members of the armed and security forces have the necessary training to respect the rights of the population (Mexico);
- 6.121. Investigate allegations of extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, abductions and torture committed by security forces and prosecute perpetrators (Poland);
- 6.122. Undertake immediately independent, effective and impartial investigations into allegations of extrajudicial executions and unlawful and excessive use of force by security forces, and where there is sufficient admissible evidence, prosecute those suspected of responsibility (Finland);
- 6.123. Investigate, prosecute lawfully and, if convicted, adequately punish those guilty of human rights violations, including those committed against human rights defenders, members of civil society and the press, as well as against LGBT people (Greece);
- 6.124. Promptly investigate extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances, torture and sexual violence, and bring the perpetrators to justice (Norway);
- 6.125. Investigate violations and abuses of human rights and ensure that those responsible are held accountable (United States of America);
- 6.126. Conduct effective investigations into all allegations of acts of torture, inhuman and degrading treatment in its detention centers (Zambia);
- 6.127. Take the necessary measures to investigate acts of violence and all human rights violations as well as to sanction the perpetrators (Argentina);
- 6.128. Investigate and hold to account perpetrators of extrajudicial killings (Australia);
- 6.129. Conduct investigations and prosecute alleged perpetrators of extrajudicial killings (Austria);
- 6.130. Conduct prompt and impartial investigation of all crimes against journalists (Georgia);

- 6.131. Put an end to impunity, by investigating and prosecuting all human rights violations, allowing an independent action by the National Human Rights Commission and cooperating with the Human Rights Council and the International Criminal Court (Spain);
- 6.132. Combat impunity by undertaking independent, effective and impartial investigations into allegations of extrajudicial executions and unlawful and excessive use of force, and allowing independent international and regional human rights investigators full and free access to investigate allegations of extrajudicial executions and mass graves sites (New Zealand);
- 6.133. Intensify its efforts to combat impunity by conducting thorough, independent and impartial investigations of alleged violations and abuses identified by its National Commission of Human Rights (Brazil);
- 6.134. Close the impunity gap and ensure that all perpetrators of atrocity crimes are held accountable in national courts or at the International Criminal Court (Liechtenstein);
- 6.135. Step up efforts to fight impunity and establish effective mechanisms which immediately ensure respect and fulfilment of human rights (Costa Rica);
- 6.136. Continue its efforts to combat impunity for the perpetrators of acts of torture (Angola);
- 6.137. Take all the necessary efforts to fight against impunity and guarantee that perpetrators are punished (Portugal);
- 6.138. Bring to justice without delay all perpetrators of acts of torture and of any other human rights violation (Switzerland);
- 6.139. Fight impunity for the perpetrators of gross human rights violations (France);
- 6.140. Ensure accountability for grave human rights violations (Ukraine);
- 6.141. Take measures to ensure accountability following the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Republic of Korea);
- 6.142. Establish a judicial mechanism to follow the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to end impunity and to ensure that human rights violations are prosecuted (Germany);
- 6.143. Ensure that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission can properly discharge its mandate (Sudan);
- 6.144. Establish a Special Tribunal as provided for in the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement or another similar and appropriate judicial instrument (Greece);
- 6.145. Set up a judicial mechanism to prosecute genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes or other gross human rights violations or serious violations of international humanitarian law (Estonia);
- 6.146. Take all appropriate measures to address the issue of impunity and implement a fully transparent and equitable judicial system, in line with international standards (Italy);
- 6.147. Combat corruption and impunity at all levels of the criminal justice system (Ecuador);
- 6.148. Continue training of judges and law enforcement officials in order to promote justice, while urging the international community and partners to make more technical and financial efforts (Sudan);
- 6.149. Take measures to strengthen efforts in increasing the number of judges and prosecutors with a view to curbing extended pre-trial detentions (Botswana);

- 6.150. Fully respect, protect and fulfil the rights to freedom of expression and of assembly, including by lifting restrictive provisions of the Penal Code Act, the 2015 Press Law, and the Law on Public Gatherings to conform with regional and international human rights obligations (New Zealand);
- 6.151. Fully respect freedom of expression and assembly, reopen independent media, and put an end to the persecution of human rights defenders, civil society actors and opposition politicians (Norway);
- 6.152. Ensure respect of the right to freedom of expression, in particular for the independent press and human rights defenders (France);
- 6.153. Guarantee fully freedom of expression and the press, freedom of assembly and association, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Greece);
- 6.154. Guarantee the full exercise of the rights to freedom of expression and association and ensure a safe environment conducive to the work of human rights defenders and civil society organizations (Italy);
- 6.155. Ensure respect of freedoms of association, assembly and protest, in particular for human rights defenders (France);
- 6.156. Lift the legal and financial measures targeting human rights defenders and journalists and, in the short term, take all necessary measures with a view to preventing acts of harassment and violence against them, in particular by ensuring that the perpetrators are brought to justice (Belgium);
- 6.157. Lift the measures limiting or preventing the legitimate work of members of civil society and journalists, in particular by amending the new laws governing the press, foreign non-governmental organizations and non-profit organizations in Burundi with a view to ensuring their compliance with international human rights norms (Switzerland);
- 6.158. Lift the legal and financial measures against human rights defenders and journalists, and prevent all acts of harassment and violence against them (Austria);
- 6.159. Review laws adopted in 2017 regarding non-profit organisations and foreign non-governmental organizations, and lift suspensions and reverse revocation of licenses for media and civil society organisations so they can resume their activities with complete independence (Sweden);
- 6.160. Ensure the safety, and respect the independence of, all media and civil society organizations, including by withdrawing all restrictive measures adopted since April 2015 (Canada);
- 6.161. Allow civil society activists, journalists and international human rights organizations to carry out their work without obstruction and reprisals, including by lifting the legal and financial measures targeting them (Finland);
- 6.162. End all acts of reprisal, intimidation and harassment against journalists and media in and outside Burundi, and avoid new legal restrictions on media independence (Netherlands);
- 6.163. Put an end to the sanctions against non-governmental organizations defending human rights, media and civil society and set up a national mechanism of protection of human rights defenders (Czechia);
- 6.164. Put an immediate end to any intimidations or sanctions against members of non-governmental organizations defending human rights and journalists (Estonia);
- 6.165. Guarantee that human rights defenders are able to carry out their legitimate activities independently and without fear of reprisals, prosecution or intimidation, and ensure prompt, thorough and impartial investigations into all violations against them, as well as prosecution of perpetrators (Ireland);

- 6.166. **Guarantee that human rights defenders can carry out their activities freely and without reprisals (Spain);**
- 6.167. **Take necessary measures to ensure full protection of human rights defenders (Georgia);**
- 6.168. **Take measures to prevent acts of harassment and intimidation against human rights defenders and journalists (Latvia);**
- 6.169. **Investigate all alleged reports of violence, intimidation, harassment and surveillance on human rights defenders and conduct prompt and impartial investigations with the view to hold the perpetrators accountable (Ghana);**
- 6.170. **Ensure humanitarian access and humanitarian space for all relevant actors, including human rights agencies and foreign non-governmental organizations, without discrimination, also by revising Articles 16-19 and 29 of the new charter on foreign non-governmental organizations (Germany);**
- 6.171. **Take adequate measures to ensure a safe environment before, during and after the constitutional referendum scheduled for May 2018, and to guarantee freedom of expression (Haiti);**
- 6.172. **Allow members of the political opposition, civil society, and the media to participate freely and openly in civic and political activity in Burundi (United States of America);**
- 6.173. **Continue the efforts to enable tangible progress in combatting trafficking in persons (Turkmenistan);**
- 6.174. **Implement fully the national anti-trafficking action plan and establish the Consultation and Monitoring Committee, ensuring adequate human and financial resource (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 6.175. **Build the legal framework to implement the complete protection of female domestic workers from exploitation and sexual abuse (Bahrain);**
- 6.176. **Continue implementing the Strategic Framework for Growth and to Combat Poverty and the Vision Burundi 2025 (Cuba);**
- 6.177. **Strengthen the capacity of national structures in charge of implementation of strategies and plans on social and economic development (Belarus);**
- 6.178. **Continue strengthening the social policies undertaken in favour of the most needed sectors of the population (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 6.179. **Continue to promote economic and social sustainable development, eradicate poverty and raise people's living standards (China);**
- 6.180. **Improve living conditions, and in particular to work at overcoming poverty and invest in projects for social and economic development (Holy See);**
- 6.181. **Develop policies and action plans for disaster response in order to reduce their negative effects on the infrastructure and poor families (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 6.182. **Continue to take positive measures to better protect people's rights to education, health, housing and other rights. (China);**
- 6.183. **Strengthen efforts to address hunger and child malnutrition in rural areas (South Africa);**
- 6.184. **As a follow-up on recommendation 126.153 of the second cycle, mobilize sufficient resources to significantly reduce chronic malnutrition throughout the country (Haiti);**
- 6.185. **Complete the ongoing judicial reforms and accelerate the revision of the labor code (Senegal);**

- 6.186. Continue prioritizing the implementation of national health policy 2016-2026 in order to improve the state of health of the population (Indonesia);
- 6.187. Continue efforts being taken to improve access to health through national health policy 2016-2025 and to improve universal access to basic health education (Sri Lanka);
- 6.188. Accelerate efforts to improve health services, especially in rural areas, through the effective implementation of the National Health Policy 2016-2025 (Maldives);
- 6.189. Further improve its healthcare infrastructure in order to enhance access to healthcare, particularly for women from poor and rural backgrounds (India);
- 6.190. Pay in-depth attention to strengthening healthcare system, in particular, prevent the spread of infectious diseases (Russian Federation);
- 6.191. Further strengthen efforts to improve the state of health of its population through a better health system (Myanmar);
- 6.192. Continue its efforts to improve the state of health of the population (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.193. Continue to take concrete measures to reduce the high ratio of maternal and infant mortality by improving skilled access to basic prenatal and postnatal care, emergency obstetric services and skilled birth attendance (Sri Lanka);
- 6.194. Continue its efforts to reduce the maternal mortality ratio and child malnutrition in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies, including the UNICEF and WHO (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 6.195. Reduce maternal mortality, including by improving access to basic prenatal and postnatal care (Estonia);
- 6.196. Address persistently high rates of maternal and infant mortality in the country (Nepal);
- 6.197. Continue efforts to ensure better access of the population to education and healthcare (Algeria);
- 6.198. Strengthen its efforts to promote access to education for all (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.199. Continue efforts to pass laws, programmes and plans to promote universal access to education (Libya);
- 6.200. Further promote the policy to ensure access to education for all and full enrolment of all children at schools in line with the Government's strategy (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 6.201. Step up legislative and political efforts to ensure access to education for all children, particularly girls, including those with disabilities, those born out of wedlock and those in a vulnerable situation (Mexico);
- 6.202. Continue to implement its education policy of universal access to basic schooling, particularly access of girls to education (Myanmar);
- 6.203. Continue efforts to increase the school enrollment rate of girls so that they have equal access to education and to fight against discrimination and violence against girls (State of Palestine);
- 6.204. Continue ensuring girls' education by abolishing school fees in basic education (Ethiopia);
- 6.205. Increase its efforts to ensure access to education for all, including girls, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups (Azerbaijan);

- 6.206. Pursue its efforts to eliminate discrimination in education against girls, children with special needs, internally displaced persons, refugees, children of Batwa minority and children with albinism (Slovenia);
- 6.207. Pay particular attention to the schooling of children with disabilities, displaced and refugee children, and children with albinism (Togo);
- 6.208. Step up its efforts towards achieving gender equality (Portugal);
- 6.209. Actively promote gender equality, the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, and awareness to LGBTI issues, including the strengthening of the legal framework in this area (Canada);
- 6.210. Harmonize gender equality for guaranteeing the equal rights of men and women (Turkmenistan);
- 6.211. Repeal all discriminatory provisions and align the legislation with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Latvia);
- 6.212. Accelerate the domestic law reforms in order to harmonize all laws in line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and ensure their effective implementation (Albania);
- 6.213. Amend the Code on Persons and Family and the Nationality Code, in order to remove the gender discriminatory provisions therein contained (Namibia);
- 6.214. Remove all discriminatory provisions between men and women relating to their ability to pass their nationality to their children (Sierra Leone);
- 6.215. Allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources necessary to ensure the implementation of the National Gender Policy (Ghana);
- 6.216. Allocate human, technical and financial resources necessary to implement the National Gender Policy, and in this context, lift obstacles that most women continue to face in the process of their economic empowerment (Mauritania);
- 6.217. Continue efforts to promote full and equal participation of women in decision-making at all levels (State of Palestine);
- 6.218. Strengthen the rights of women, in particular with regard to their representation in public life, as well as the fight against domestic violence and gender pay gap (Algeria);
- 6.219. Continue the full implementation of initiatives that break barriers for the economic empowerment of women (Bahrain);
- 6.220. Continue efforts to combat violence and discrimination against women (Egypt);
- 6.221. Continue efforts to fight against gender-based violence (Morocco);
- 6.222. Step up its efforts for an effective implementation of its policy to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women (Honduras);
- 6.223. Continue to significantly strengthen measures combatting gender based and sexual violence towards women, and consider decriminalizing certain conduct based on sexual orientation and gender identity (New Zealand);
- 6.224. Adopt effective measures to curtail violence against women and girls, thus enforcing the Law on Prevention and Punishment of Gender-based Violence, repeal also legal provisions which discriminate against women and end practices such as forced marriage and child marriage (Spain);
- 6.225. Further undertake firm preventive measures to combat and prohibit all forms of violence against women committed by all parties (Thailand);

- 6.226. **Adopt and implement effective measures to address sexual violence against women and girls (Maldives);**
- 6.227. **Continue efforts to combat gender-based violence against women and promote gender equality (Nepal);**
- 6.228. **Strengthen measures aimed at combating gender-based violence (Georgia);**
- 6.229. **Investigate cases and prosecute perpetrators of acts of violence against women, including physical abuse, rape, mutilation and torture (Poland);**
- 6.230. **Ensure that allegations on violence against women are thoroughly investigated and perpetrators are brought to justice (Sierra Leone);**
- 6.231. **Take all necessary measures as to effectively enforce Act No. 1/13 of September 2016 on the prevention and punishment of gender-based violence, by bringing perpetrators to justice and assuring full rehabilitation for the victims (Republic of Moldova)<sup>2</sup>;**
- 6.232. **Strengthen the capacity of criminal judiciary and enhance access to legal assistance for survivors of gender-based and sexual violence, without discrimination on any ground (Slovenia);**
- 6.233. **Take effective measures, including strengthening the capacity of the criminal judiciary and enhancing access to legal assistance for survivors of gender-based violence, without any discrimination, in order to punish the perpetrators of rape and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls (Hungary);**
- 6.234. **Strengthen multi-sectoral actions aimed at eradicating gender violence, considering the importance of the empowerment of rights and awareness initiatives, with special attention to appropriate mechanisms for this purpose (Ecuador);**
- 6.235. **Continue implementing policies aiming to promoting women's full and equal participation in decision-making at the national and local levels (Timor-Leste);**
- 6.236. **Conduct campaigns for the registration of boys and girls not registered at birth, and ensure their free inscription in the civil registry at any time (Mexico);**
- 6.237. **Prohibit child labour and raise the minimum age of employment (Timor-Leste);**
- 6.238. **Continue to promote the implementation of public policies on persons with disabilities (Libya);**
- 6.239. **Build conditions that will allow the safe and voluntary return of refugees (Holy See);**
- 6.240. **Step up initiatives aimed at fostering the environment for the repatriation of refugees, especially addressing the country's serious food shortages (Japan);**
- 6.241. **Improve human rights situation with regard to displaced persons (Ukraine);**
- 6.242. **Continue its efforts in reintegrating disaster victims by putting in place the National Reintegration Strategy (Ethiopia).**

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<sup>2</sup> The recommendation originally stated in the room is as follows: "Take all necessary measures as to effectively enforce Act No. 1/13 of September 2016 on the prevention and punishment of gender-based violence, by bringing perpetrators to justice and assuring full rehabilitation".

**7. 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 Burundi was headed by Mr. Martin Nivyabandi, Minister for the Rights of the Person, Social Affairs and Gender, and composed of the following members:

- Honorable Joseph Ntakarutimana, du Sénat;
  - Honorable Godeliève Nininahazwe, de l'Assemblée Nationale;
  - Honorable Félix Niragira, de l'Assemblée Nationale;
  - Honorable Gloriose Hakizimana, du Sénat;
  - Son Excellence Madame Aimée Laurentine Kanyana, Ministre de la Justice et Garde des Sceaux;
  - Monsieur Sylvestre Nyandwi, Procureur Général de la République;
  - Monsieur Anicet Mahoro, Conseiller Principal chargé de la Communication à la Première Vice-Présidence de la République;
  - Maître Elisa Nkerabirori, Assistante du Ministre des Droits de la Personne Humaine, des Affaires Sociales et du Genre;
  - Monsieur Frédéric François Niyonahabonye, Directeur Législatif à l'Assemblée Nationale;
  - Monsieur Célestin Sindibutume, Inspecteur Général au Ministère des Droits de la Personne Humaine, des Affaires Sociales et du Genre;
  - Monsieur Emile Manisha, Commissaire Général de la Police Judiciaire au Ministère de la Sécurité Publique.
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