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

Cuba

* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in English.

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirtieth session from 7 to 18 May 2018. The review of Cuba was held at the 16th meeting, on 16 May 2018. The delegation of Cuba was headed by H.E. Mr. Bruno Eduardo Rodriguez Parrilla, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba. At its 18th meeting, held on 18 May 2018, the Working Group adopted the report on Cuba.
2. On 10 January 2018, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Cuba: Egypt, Nepal and Peru.
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 Cuba:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/30/CUB/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.6/30/CUB/2);
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/30/CUB/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Brazil, Germany, Liechtenstein, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America was transmitted to Cuba through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation presented the national report and stressed that it was the result of a participatory consultative process involving both government and civil society entities.
6. The delegation stated that under the governments imposed by the United States until 1959, 45 per cent of children did not attend schools; 85 per cent of persons lacked running water; farmers lived without rights and in poverty, without ever owning the land they tilled; and immigrants were brutally exploited. Extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances and torture were recurrent and discrimination, poverty and exclusion were rampant. The Cuban Revolution led by Fidel Castro Ruz transformed this situation and, since then, Cuba had continued to improve its economic and social development model with the purpose of strengthening its political system, which enjoyed full popular support.
7. Cuba had continued to strengthen its legal and institutional framework for the protection and promotion of human rights and had improved the mechanisms available to the population to denounce any infringement of their rights. The protection of the right to life continued to be the highest priority and law enforcement authorities fulfilled their duties in accordance with the law and were subject to rigorous control processes and popular scrutiny.
8. Cuba had strengthened people's participation in government decision making and the exercise of lawfully recognized freedoms, including civil and political rights. The delegation noted that in Cuba there was a plurality of ideas and rich debates about different aspects of the civil, political, economic, social and cultural life of the nation. In this regard, the delegation highlighted that more than 1.6 million Cubans participated in the consultation of the Conceptualization of Cuba's Economic and Social Model for Socialist

Development and the Fundamentals for the National Economic and Social Development Plan by the Year 2030.

9. The delegation also noted that in Cuba the right to participate in the conduction of public affairs was not limited to the electoral processes and stressed that there was not one single model of democracy or an agreed formula on this concept. Elections in Cuba were held periodically and in absolute freedom in accordance with the electoral law, and were characterized by the existence of automatic and public electoral registries; popular appointment of candidates and high turnout levels.

10. At the recent election of deputies to the National People's Power Assembly, 86 per cent of the voting-eligible population voted, with 94 per cent of valid ballots. These results, which are not achieved in countries usually portrayed as ideal democracy models, showed the high level of legitimacy and popular support enjoyed by the Cuban political system. The National Assembly represented the Cuba's society in all its diversity. Fifty three per cent of deputies were women and 41 per cent were black and mulatto; the average age of deputies was 49 years and 13 per cent was between 18 and 35 years of age. This would be the first mandate for 56 per cent of elected deputies.

11. The delegation indicated that Cuba continued promoting the right to full equality. This was a permanent goal that Cuba would continue to pursue non-stop and without setbacks. Progress had been made to prevent and cope with manifestations of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Cuba had also strengthened programs aimed at the protection of children and youths; older persons and persons with disabilities.

12. Cuba's civil society consolidated itself as an important actor on the national scene, with the existence of more than 2200 organizations. In Cuba a priority obligation of the State was to guarantee the exercise of human rights and thousands of human rights defenders in every sphere of social life enjoyed government recognition. However, as it occurred in many other countries where the rule of law prevailed, in Cuba the legal system could not be infringed upon or subverted to satisfy a foreign agenda that called for a change of regime, the constitutional order and the political system.

13. The delegation reported that Cuba cooperated with the UN human rights mechanisms which were universal and non-discriminatory. Cuba was a party to 44 of the 61 international human rights instruments and was among the States with higher levels of ratifications. In 2017, Cuba had received the visits of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, and of the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity.

14. The delegation acknowledged that, despite the achievements, Cuba was aware of the remaining challenges and was striving to solve them. It stressed that the people deserved efficient institutions to improve the wellbeing and quality of life and promote social justice. In this regard, the delegation quoted the then President Raúl Castro, who in December 2017 stated: "In this period, efforts have been reinforced and intensified with greater comprehensiveness and scope, such that we are capable of, at the same time that we unify the currency system, overcoming the existing distortions in terms of subsidies, prices, and wholesale and retail rates and, as is logical, pensions and salaries in the state sector of the economy." The delegation also informed that Cuba would soon engage in a process to reform its Constitution, characterized by broad popular participation.

15. The delegation stressed that the strengthening of the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States against Cuba and its extraterritorial implementation caused deprivations and continued to be the main obstacle to the country's development. This policy, rejected by the international community, violated the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and International Law and represented a flagrant, massive and systematic violation of the human rights of the Cuban people, thus qualifying as an act of genocide under the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 1948. The delegation also demanded the return to Cuba of the territory usurped by the US Naval Base in Guantánamo, where the United States maintained a detention camp in which serious human rights violations were committed.

16. Finally, the delegation expressed its openness to dialogue and its will to offer all the necessary information during the UPR process, in which there should be no double standards or politically motivated manipulations. It concluded by quoting the President of the Council of State and Ministers, Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez, who in April 2018 said: “there is no room for a transition that ignores or destroys the legacy of so many years of struggle. In Cuba, by the decision of the people, there is only room for the continuity of that legacy with the Revolution and the founding generation, without giving up to pressures, without fear and setbacks, always defending our truths and reasons, without ever renouncing sovereignty and independence, development programs and our own dreams.”

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

17. During the interactive dialogue, 143 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

18. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Equatorial Guinea, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Morocco, Trinidad and Tobago, and Egypt made recommendations. The Bahamas made a statement. The complete version of the statements can be found in the webcast archived on the UN website.

19. In response to the questions formulated during the interactive dialogue, the delegation reiterated that in Cuba law enforcement authorities acted in strict compliance with the law. If unlawful violations were committed by official authorities, the penalties were more severe. It added that in Cuba no person was unlawfully or arbitrarily arrested and no person was prosecuted or convicted except by a competent court under laws prior to the offense concerned.

20. The delegation stated that Cuba's cultural policy had promoted and protected cultural rights and that there was a broad network of cultural institutions in the country aimed at ensuring support for creators.

21. With regard to the situation of persons deprived of their liberty, the delegation informed that Cuba ensured fair treatment and decent living conditions in penitentiary facilities. Detentions were carried out in accordance with criminal procedure and in compliance with due-process guarantees. In addition, Cuba's public health system provided universal coverage and free care. Cuba had 80.2 doctors per 10,000 inhabitants and fourteen communicable diseases had been eliminated.

22. The delegation highlighted that the Cuban political and electoral systems, the government structures and functions, human rights, the guarantees for their exercise and the duties of citizens were regulated by legal provisions. It also stated that Cuban judges were

independent in their functions and only owed obedience to the law, as a higher-ranking principle in Cuba's legal system.

23. Finally, the delegation indicated that Cuba strengthened the protection of workers, including non-state actors, enabled full employment and the incorporation of young people into work, protected women and strengthened social security and assistance.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

24. The following recommendations will be examined by Cuba, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council:

24.1 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Austria); (Japan) (Liechtenstein); Consider to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Côte d'Ivoire); Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Niger); Consider ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights respectively (Cyprus); Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (El Salvador); Consider the ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Chile); Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Mexico); (Nepal); (Paraguay); (Slovakia); (France); (Portugal); (Australia); Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as previously recommended (Poland); Ratify without delay the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Germany); Consider the ratification of the international human rights covenants (Peru); Finalize the process of ratification of the main international covenants, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Spain)¹;**

24.2 **Quickly proceed towards ratification of both, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, without reservations (Norway);**

24.3 **Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Greece);**

24.4 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and establish a legal and institutional framework that guarantee the free exercise of the rights enshrined in it, including the right to freedom of expression, assembly and peaceful association, and sign and ratify the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Costa Rica);**

24.5 **Ratify and implement the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Croatia);**

¹ The complete recommendation, as read out during the interactive dialogue, was: "Finalize the process of ratification of the main international covenants, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, as well as other instruments such as the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment."

- 24.6 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Trinidad and Tobago);**
- 24.7 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Italy);**
- 24.8 **Accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and bring national legislation in compliance with these Covenants including by ensuring unhindered internet access (Czechia);**
- 24.9 **Consolidate the legal and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights, among others through expediting the ratification process of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Indonesia);**
- 24.10 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and both its optional protocols (Estonia);**
- 24.11 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Second Optional Protocol (Lithuania);**
- 24.12 **Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Malta);**
- 24.13 **Ratify, without delay, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Finland);**
- 24.14 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights without restrictions (Sweden);**
- 24.15 **Act in accordance with and ratify the already signed International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights without restrictions to freedom of expression, freedom of press or freedom of assembly and incorporate them into its national legislation (Netherlands);**
- 24.16 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger); Ratify those international instruments to which it is not yet a party, in particular the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Honduras);**
- 24.17 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (France) (Portugal); Consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment at the earliest convenience (Ghana); Ratify main international instruments such as the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. (Spain)²;**
- 24.18 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Austria); (France.2); Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and fully align national legislation with all obligations under the Rome**

² The complete recommendation, as read out during the interactive dialogue, was: “Finalize the process of ratification of the main international covenants, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, as well as other instruments such as the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.”

Statute (Latvia); Ratify the Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court in its 2010 version, including the Kampala amendments on the crime of aggression, and review its national legislation in order to ensure full alignment with the Statute (Liechtenstein);

24.19 Ratify the ILO Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention (Portugal);

24.20 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as previously recommended (Romania);

24.21 Ratify the core international human rights treaties, namely the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Slovenia);

24.22 Ratify the core human rights documents: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Ukraine);

24.23 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Greece);

24.24 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

24.25 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Estonia);

24.26 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Georgia);

24.27 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Liechtenstein) (Togo); Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights with a view to abolish death penalty, as previously recommended (Uruguay);

24.28 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

24.29 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Democratic Republic of the Congo); Accede to the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Form of Discrimination against Women, as previously recommended (Liechtenstein);

24.30 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Slovenia);

24.31 Subscribe the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (El Salvador);

24.32 Consider becoming a party to the International Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families (Sri Lanka);

24.33 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Kenya);

24.34 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Slovakia);

24.35 Issue and implement a standing invitation to all special procedures (Czechia);

- 24.36 Respond positively to pending visit requests by the special procedures mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council and consider the extension of a standing invitation to all mandate-holders (Latvia);
- 24.37 Extend invitations to the UN Special Rapporteurs on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, and on the situation of human rights defenders (Finland);
- 24.38 Issue a standing invitation to all Special Procedures, including those working in the field of civil and political rights (Norway); Extend an open and permanent invitation to the Special Procedure mandate holders (Spain);
- 24.39 Issue a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council, including all Special Rapporteurs (Sweden);
- 24.40 Extend a permanent invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Switzerland);
- 24.41 Continue constructive cooperation with the United Nations Human Rights mechanisms (Tajikistan);
- 24.42 Cooperate closely with human rights monitoring mechanisms (Ukraine);
- 24.43 Fully cooperate with human rights mechanisms and grant them unhindered access to Cuba including to government officials, civil society organizations and human rights defenders, to prisons and detention centers (Germany);
- 24.44 Recognize the competence of treaty bodies to consider individual complaints (Ukraine);
- 24.45 Consider ratifying the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Lesotho);
- 24.46 Continue to strengthen the country's institutional and legal frameworks to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights (Zimbabwe);
- 24.47 Continue moving forward in the study of legislative amendments or new legislation, necessary to achieve even better results in the promotion and protection of human rights (Angola);
- 24.48 Continue on the very encouraging trajectory of progress made with respect to its commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights (Barbados);
- 24.49 Continue to strengthen the democratic, popular and representative nature of the social order, state institutions and laws that ensure social justice for the whole population (Belarus);
- 24.50 Further strengthen legal and institutional frameworks for the protection of human rights (Bhutan);
- 24.51 Maintain the political will to promote the broadest possible enjoyment of civil and political rights, the protection of which is recognized by the Constitution and laws (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 24.52 Strengthen the legislative framework to protect and promote human rights for all citizens (Egypt);
- 24.53 Continue to strengthen the principle of legality in the actions of the law enforcement authorities. (Kuwait);
- 24.54 Strengthen measures aimed at implementing the country's commitments derived from international instruments on human rights (Kyrgyzstan);

- 24.55 Continue the efforts to improve and strengthen human rights protection arrangements (Ethiopia);
- 24.56 Continue its efforts to encourage the participation of domestic legal institutions in international organizations with the aim to promote cooperation in the area of human rights protection (Myanmar);
- 24.57 Continue adopting measures for additional harmony between national legislation and international treaties to which Cuba is a party (Oman);
- 24.58 Strengthen national mechanisms for follow up and implementation of international human rights recommendations received by the State, through the establishment of a broad inter-institutional consultation mechanism that promotes the participation of civil society (Paraguay);
- 24.59 Incorporate the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment into its domestic law (France);
- 24.60 Continue efforts to strengthen the mechanisms and procedures to prevent and address human rights violations (State of Palestine);
- 24.61 Continue efforts to promote the integral and full development of human rights (Tunisia);
- 24.62 Ensure that the national institutions mandated to promote and protect human rights are adequately given resources to carry out their mandates (Uganda);
- 24.63 Fully implement all the international treaties it has ratified (Ukraine);
- 24.64 Continue to expand the framework of guarantees necessary for the exercise of civil and political rights, in conformity with national laws and international instruments to which Cuba is a party to (United Arab Emirates);
- 24.65 Continue measures to strengthen the capacities of national mechanisms for human rights protection (Uzbekistan);
- 24.66 Step up efforts for developing a system of human rights training (Uzbekistan);
- 24.67 Take steps towards establishing an independent National Human Rights Institution in line with the Paris Principle (Botswana);
- 24.68 Create a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and take legal and institutional measures to guarantee the independence of judiciary (Costa Rica);
- 24.69 Establish a national human rights institution in conformity with Paris Principles (Mongolia);
- 24.70 Establish an independent national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Montenegro);
- 24.71 Establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mexico); (Nepal); (Togo); (Portugal); Establish a national institution of human rights in conformity with the Paris Principles (Uruguay); Put in place a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Niger); Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and end restrictions imposed on associations (France);
- 24.72 Establish an effective, public complaint handling system and fully independent institution of Ombudsman (Poland);
- 24.73 Establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Zambia);

- 24.74 **Intensify awareness campaigns to fight against racial stereotypes (Angola);**
- 24.75 **Continue actions to prevent manifestations of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**
- 24.76 **Maintain awareness-building campaigns on the right to free sexual orientation and gender identity (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**
- 24.77 **Continue developing actions to contribute to the prevention and fight against racial discrimination from a cultural perspective (Burundi);**
- 24.78 **Continue to implement appropriate measures to ensure equality of all its citizens (Cambodia);**
- 24.79 **Continue to take steps aimed at preventing and combating discrimination from a cultural point of view (Djibouti);**
- 24.80 **Continue to work towards a better integration of Cubans of African descent in the political, social, cultural and economic life of the country (Haiti);**
- 24.81 **Continue training public and law enforcement officials on preventing and combating racism (Egypt);**
- 24.82 **Strengthen the application of existing legal framework that prohibit and punish discrimination that affects human dignity and values (India);**
- 24.83 **Continue its efforts in the fight against racism and racial discrimination (Mali);**
- 24.84 **Continue efforts to combat racial discrimination (Peru);**
- 24.85 **Pursue efforts aimed at combat discriminations and at raising awareness among Cuban population of its African heritage (Senegal);**
- 24.86 **Continue to develop the legal and institutional framework to fight against discrimination and racial prejudices and further advocate at international fora on the eradication of racism and hate speech and the promotion of supremacist ideologies (South Africa);**
- 24.87 **Continue efforts to combat racism and racial discrimination and encourage more discussion about the topic in the media (Tunisia);**
- 24.88 **Continue efforts to counteract all forms of racial discrimination (Turkey);**
- 24.89 **Continue with the fight against all forms of racial discrimination (United Republic of Tanzania);**
- 24.90 **Continue to support the work of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Afghanistan);**
- 24.91 **Continue to promote initiatives on international platforms on the compliance of economic, social and cultural rights and the third human rights generation that reflect the interests of developing countries (Belarus);**
- 24.92 **Continue to promote economic and social development according to national development plans, to better promote and protect human rights (China);**
- 24.93 **Maintain activities aimed at guaranteeing low levels of mortality as a result of natural disasters (Dominican Republic);**
- 24.94 **Strengthen the cooperation and solidarity with the CARICOM Member States by providing technical assistance to strengthen capacity, particularly with a view to universal social protection and universal health care (Haiti);**
- 24.95 **Promote the necessity of eliminating politicization and contextualisation of human rights issues at various fora (India);**

- 24.96 Continue to update its economic and social model, in order to preserve and strengthen social justice and solidarity (Namibia);
- 24.97 Continue to strengthen early warning systems for natural disasters to increase the perception of risk in the population (Nigeria);
- 24.98 Continue advocating in the international fora for the need to combat Islamophobia and discriminatory stereotypes based on religion, and particularly in the context of the fight against terrorism (Saudi Arabia);
- 24.99 Continue to modernize the legislative basis governing the civil defense system and regulate the preparedness and recovery functions of natural disasters (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 24.100 Keep denouncing the negative impact of the criminal economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed on Cuba by the United States of America, which affects the enjoyment of human rights (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 24.101 Continue to protect its population against the effects of the embargo imposed by the United States of America (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 24.102 Continue condemning in international fora the unilateral coercive measures against developing countries, such as the blockade imposed by the United States against Cuba, as instruments which violate the peoples' human rights (Nicaragua);
- 24.103 Pursue its national agenda against the imposed embargo which should be fully lifted to allow Cuba to build on its extraordinary record on socioeconomic rights (South Africa);
- 24.104 Continue to modernize the Cuban model of economic and social development in the face of the illegal American embargo that violates the human rights of the Cuban people (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 24.105 Continue to provide humanitarian assistance, particularly in the health field, to countries affected by disasters and major epidemics and share the experience of the Henry Reeve International Contingent (Algeria);
- 24.106 Maintain current South-South co-operation programmes with other Caribbean countries, including sharing the Cuban model of Disaster Risk Reduction Management Centres (Jamaica);
- 24.107 Continue to encourage dialogue and cooperation in the field of human rights with other states, based on the principles of mutual respect, sovereign equality, self-determination and the right to independently determine their political system (Russian Federation);
- 24.108 Continue fostering the development of values at all levels in society to help fight corruption (Kuwait);
- 24.109 Expand and share experiences with other countries in the prevention and treatment of diseases such as Cholera, Dengue and HIV (Mozambique);
- 24.110 Share at the international level, with the support of the United Nations, its experiences of bilateral cooperation in the promotion of the right to health, especially in the areas of training of human resources and of support to health services throughout the world (Tajikistan);
- 24.111 Promote and participate in the exchange of experience and good practice in the treatment of inmates and detention conditions (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 24.112 Stop arbitrarily arresting people, before, during and after peaceful demonstrations and release those who have been arbitrarily arrested (Iceland); End arbitrary detention of political activists (Australia);

- 24.113 Continue to implement necessary measures to ensure public safety and maintain the atmosphere of tranquility, internal order and confidence of the population in the authorities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 24.114 Guarantee that all detainees have access to a lawyer of their choice from the outset of the deprivation of liberty (Ireland);
- 24.115 Take concrete measures to promote the fair justice principles consistent with international standards, especially by reviewing the legislation and implementation of pretrial detention (Italy);
- 24.116 Continue to provide assistance and counselling in prisons to its applicants (Lebanon);
- 24.117 End arbitrary detention and harassment of human rights defenders, as well as media workers (Lithuania);
- 24.118 Enable independent human rights monitoring at all detention sites (Lithuania);
- 24.119 Promote inmates' access to culture and sports, as part of educational work programmes that are implemented in prisons (Malaysia);
- 24.120 Take measures to put an end to arbitrary detentions by ensuring that persons under arrest have immediate access to a defense counsel and are promptly brought before an independent judge for a hearing (Netherlands);
- 24.121 Immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience who have been imprisoned solely for the peaceful exercise of their rights to freedom of expression, association or peaceful assembly (New Zealand);
- 24.122 Continue to strengthen the mechanisms, channels and resources provided for prisoners to have timely access to legal assistance in prisons (Nigeria);
- 24.123 Continue to strengthen the measures to guarantee the right of all persons deprived of liberty to access the immediate remedies that allow them to challenge the legality of their detention (Nigeria);
- 24.124 Ensure that prisoners are treated with dignity and humanity (Poland);
- 24.125 Release all those who had been arrested on politically motivated charges (Slovakia);
- 24.126 Encourage less use of pre-trial detentions as a precautionary measure and ensure its use only for the most serious crimes (Sudan);
- 24.127 Continue to ensure that prisoners and detainees are treated with the dignity inherent to human condition, in compliance with the standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners (Sudan);
- 24.128 Strengthen the implementation of programs that favour the preventive approach and social reintegration of inmates to avoid the reproduction of patterns and criminal behaviour (Sudan);
- 24.129 Intensify efforts aimed at improving detention conditions in prisons (Georgia);
- 24.130 Continue to improve the prison system, particularly in the area of infrastructure development and living conditions in these facilities (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 24.131 Encourage the inclusion of a larger number prison inmates in the training and education process, to provide them with employment opportunities (Syrian Arab Republic);

- 24.132 **End measures to restrict freedom of expression and assembly including short-term detentions and the use of broad criminal charges such as “dangerousness” (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 24.133 **Ensure full compliance with the Standard Minimum Rules for Treatment of Prisoners and allow independent human rights monitors access to prison and detention centres (Zambia);**
- 24.134 **Consider including forced disappearance in its national legislation as a separate offence and a crime against humanity (Argentina);**
- 24.135 **Formally abolish the death penalty (Australia); Abolish the death penalty for ordinary crimes as a first step towards the complete abolition of the death penalty (Belgium); Adopt the necessary measures for the abolition of the death penalty (Brazil); Legally abolish the death penalty (Cabo Verde); Give due consideration to the legal abolition of the death penalty (Liechtenstein); Abolish the death penalty (France) (Portugal);**
- 24.136 **Include enforced disappearances into domestic law as a standalone crime and make it a crime against humanity (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**
- 24.137 **Maintain the moratorium on executions and consider moving towards abolition of death penalty (Italy);**
- 24.138 **Abolish the death penalty including through ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (New Zealand);**
- 24.139 **Consider imposing a de facto moratorium on the use of death penalty with a view towards its total abolition (Rwanda);**
- 24.140 **Abolish death penalty for all crimes (Switzerland);**
- 24.141 **Strengthen the penal protection afforded by national legislation against violations of civil and political rights, in particular when they are committed by public officials or law enforcement officers (Algeria);**
- 24.142 **Maintain the head-on fight against corruption, as a means of guaranteeing legality and trust in the Government and judicial institutions (Azerbaijan);**
- 24.143 **Continue to improve the judicial system, in all areas (Burkina Faso);**
- 24.144 **Improve transparency and due process in the justice system by ensuring that arrested individuals are promptly informed of the reasons, have access to legal representation of their choosing, are afforded public hearings within a reasonable timeframe, and are presumed innocent until proven guilty (Canada);**
- 24.145 **Continue fostering a greater culture of rejection of corruption (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea);**
- 24.146 **Study and adopt measures that favour a faster process of criminal proceedings (Jordan);**
- 24.147 **Strengthen the provisions and legal rules guaranteeing due process before the Judiciary (Lebanon);**
- 24.148 **Continue raising the levels of specialisation of judges, prosecutors and lawyers as well as their professional ethical training (Malaysia);**
- 24.149 **Strengthen the juvenile justice system for the treatment of children and adolescents who are in conflict with the law (Pakistan);**
- 24.150 **Undertake relevant steps to guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Poland);**

- 24.151 Continue to promote the principles of justice and the independence of judges and lawyers, in accordance with the provisions of national legislation and in conformity with Cuba's international obligations (Qatar);
- 24.152 Advance in the revision of article 121 of its Constitution and implement measures that ensure the independence and impartiality of the Judiciary (Spain);
- 24.153 Continue taking further steps for the strengthening of the judicial system (Tajikistan);
- 24.154 Ensure the right to a fair trial and improve prison conditions through ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adherence to the United Nations Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary and the Role of Lawyers, and the Standard Minimum Rules on the Treatment of Prisoners (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 24.155 Redouble efforts to perfect People's Power at the local level, as a genuine expression of its democratic model (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 24.156 Continue actions to ensure that citizens know the ways and means for the protection of human rights (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 24.157 Continue to expand Internet services throughout the country, especially in households (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 24.158 Recognize human rights monitoring as a legitimate activity, provide legal status to local human rights groups, cease using tactics that intimidate them, and allow human rights defenders and civil society to engage with the UN and its mechanisms (Australia);
- 24.159 Remove Internet access restrictions and relax control of the broader media environment (Australia);
- 24.160 Bring the framework on freedom of association and assembly into line with international law and standards (Austria); Adopt concrete measures aimed at eliminating restrictions to the right of association and to freedom of expression that are inconsistent with international human rights law (Brazil);
- 24.161 Take effective measures to guarantee that internet access corresponds to international regulations that protect the right to seek, receive and disseminate information and ideas (Austria);
- 24.162 Promote greater participation of public institutions, the population, social and mass organizations in the fight against corruption (Azerbaijan);
- 24.163 Improve the climate for freedom of expression by taking steps to develop independent and pluralist media (Belgium); Consider promoting a more pluralist and independent environment of mass media (Chile);
- 24.164 Publicly acknowledge the role and work of members of civil society and take the necessary steps to ensure that human rights defenders and members of civil society organizations can exercise their rights to peaceful freedom of expression, assembly and association, in conformity with Cuba's international obligations (Belgium);
- 24.165 Continue its efforts to expand access to information and culture to its people (Bhutan);
- 24.166 Increase the Internet penetration rate and the use of broadband Internet (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 24.167 Abstain from all forms of harassment, intimidation and repression against social activists, human rights defenders and journalists (Brazil); Guarantee freedom of expression, assembly and association and put an end to the harassment, intimidation, persecution and the arbitrary detention of

human rights activists, journalists and members of the opposition (France); Immediately stop arbitrary detention, imprisonment and harassment of activists who peacefully exercise their rights to freedom of expression, association or peaceful assembly (Germany);

24.168 Facilitate creation of a more pluralistic media environment in conformity with international standards (Bulgaria);

24.169 Increase the knowledge of the population, from an early age, about the political system in the country, the ways to participate in the conduct of public affairs and the mechanism of accountability (Cambodia);

24.170 Adopt legislation providing legal status for NGOs and independent journalists (Canada);

24.171 Immediately eliminate harassment and intimidation of activists, including arbitrary short-term and pre-trial detentions as well as house arrest (Canada);

24.172 Take the necessary measures to ensure the right of all people to freedom of expression, freedom of assembly and peaceful associations (Chile); Respect everyone's rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association (Iceland); Respect everyone's rights to freedom of expression and to peaceful assembly and association (Slovakia); Establish measures that guarantee freedom of association, freedom of expression and freedom of the press (Spain); Review all legal provisions, including Article 62 of the Constitution which unduly restricts the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, to bring them in line with international law and standards (Germany);

24.173 Maintain and improve existing measures and mechanisms to encourage young people to participate in all social affairs (China);

24.174 Remove legislative and practical obstacles for the functioning of civil society (Croatia);

24.175 Implement legal safeguards protecting civil society and the media workers against abuse of provisions for criminal prosecution, including by repealing Articles 72, 73 and 74 of the Criminal Code as well as the Law 88 (Czechia);

24.176 Continue to foster good relations with different the religious institutions (India);

24.177 Continue to improve Cuban political system, upholding the values of the society and the national unity, and promoting democracy (Islamic Republic of Iran);

24.178 Ensure that civil society members, human rights defenders and journalists can operate free from hindrance and insecurity, including by repealing legislation relating to so-called "pre-criminal social dangerousness" (Ireland);

24.179 Guarantee freedom of opinion and expression, online and offline, including dissenting political opinions, and safeguard the activity of human rights defenders and journalists (Italy);

24.180 Ensure Internet accessibility in the aim of improving the quality of education and social development (Japan);

24.181 Ensure everyone's rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association and to freedom of movement, including for civil society representatives, journalists and human rights defenders (Estonia);

24.182 Adopt a freedom of information law in accordance with international standards (Estonia);

- 24.183 Decriminalize defamation and include it in the Civil Code in accordance with international standards (Estonia);
- 24.184 End measures restricting rights to freedom of expression and to peaceful assembly and association, including short term detentions of political opponents, human rights activists and members of civil society organizations, as well as intimidation and arrests of journalists (Latvia);
- 24.185 Improve the possibilities of using Internet in rural and low-income areas (Lebanon);
- 24.186 Enable and promote the work of civil society by discontinuing restrictive laws and practices (Lithuania);
- 24.187 Guarantee freedom of peaceful assembly and association for all citizens in accordance with international standards (Lithuania);
- 24.188 Promote the effective use of mass media, mobile technologies and the internet to increase awareness on the reduction of disasters (Malaysia);
- 24.189 Continue strengthening the space of national non-profit associations in the country (Maldives);
- 24.190 Continue to strengthen the right of access to information for citizens in the areas of management of government and public institutions (Ethiopia);
- 24.191 Continue guaranteeing the right of everyone to freedom of worship and not to profess any religion, in accordance with the Constitution (Mozambique);
- 24.192 Review all legal provisions which restrict the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and association, to ensure compliance with international human rights law and standards (New Zealand);
- 24.193 Continue to remove unlawful limitations on the right to access information and on the freedom of opinion and expression under international human rights law (New Zealand);
- 24.194 Develop and implement specific laws, policies and mechanisms that recognize and protect the work of civil society, human rights defenders and journalists (Norway);
- 24.195 Continue adopting measures to further increase the participation of young people in the most important decision making processes in the country (Pakistan);
- 24.196 Redouble efforts to strengthen the rights to peaceful assembly and association and to guarantee to independent journalists the free exercise of their profession without discrimination on political grounds (Peru);
- 24.197 Strengthen measures to achieve public and political participation while respecting plurality (Peru);
- 24.198 Take effective measures to ensure freedom of expression, press and association as well as affordable and unrestricted access to internet for all (Poland);
- 24.199 Ensure a low-priced access to Internet facilities and a complete freedom of expression online (Romania);
- 24.200 Continue to expand the space and create mechanisms for the population to express its opinion on the main issues of national and international interests (Russian Federation);
- 24.201 Review legal provisions that restrict the rights of freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, and bring them in line with Cuba's international human rights obligations (Sweden);

- 24.202 **Bring its electoral legislation in line with international law and standards. (Sweden);**
- 24.203 **Take the necessary measures in order to guarantee the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, in conformity with international law, particularly human rights (Switzerland);**
- 24.204 **Increase the use of the e-government as a method to improve the interrelation between citizens and the government at all levels (Turkey);**
- 24.205 **Take measures to improve the participation of special groups including the elderly and persons with disabilities in the electoral and decision making processes (Uganda);**
- 24.206 **Eliminate all restrictions on the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the right to free access to the information (Ukraine);**
- 24.207 **Continue to promote the full right to freedom of religion (United Arab Emirates);**
- 24.208 **Reform its one-party system to allow for genuinely free and fair multi-party elections that provide citizens with real choices regarding their government (United States of America);**
- 24.209 **Cease the practice of arbitrarily detaining journalists, opposition members, and human rights defenders, including pre-emptively, and adopt a legal framework that ensures judicial independence (United States of America);**
- 24.210 **Release individuals who were arbitrarily detained and imprisoned for peaceful assembly, investigating and reporting on government activity, or expressing political dissent; and allow them to travel freely both domestically and internationally without limitation (United States of America);**
- 24.211 **Update standards and procedures to prosecute all manifestations of human trafficking and ensure that penalties reflect the gravity of the crime, in conformity with international obligations and the operating modes and forms of this unlawful activity (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 24.212 **Increase information and training on trafficking in persons among professionals and workers of entities responsible for prevention of this phenomenon (Bangladesh);**
- 24.213 **Establish a specific protection mechanism for victims of trafficking and provide, as necessary, medical and psychological assistance, legal advice, material support and social reintegration (Bangladesh);**
- 24.214 **Continue and expand the current efforts at tackling all aspects of trafficking in persons (Guyana);**
- 24.215 **Continue taking measures to fight against forced prostitution and trafficking of women for their sexual exploitation (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 24.216 **Introduce public awareness programs on trafficking in persons (Trinidad and Tobago);**
- 24.217 **Adopt comprehensive legislation and policy to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, which includes measures to the protect victims (Honduras);**
- 24.218 **Continue efforts to combat trafficking in persons (Iraq);**
- 24.219 **Consolidate the investigations of alleged cases of trafficking of persons, reinforce the means and human resources to combat it, and vigorously prosecute those involved to avoid impunity (Jordan);**
- 24.220 **Disseminate the knowledge and experiences acquired and to capitalize upon them in order to continue strengthen the perception of risk in**

the society, and correspondingly, improve the mechanisms to prevent, combat and protect victims of trafficking (Kuwait);

24.221 Continue taking measures to implement the 2017-2020 National Action Plan to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and protect victims (Kazakhstan);

24.222 Maintain the policy of “zero tolerance” against trafficking in persons and strengthen the mechanisms for detecting this crime (Kyrgyzstan);

24.223 Ensure that trafficking and sexual exploitation of children is properly sanctioned through normative and judicial measures (Madagascar);

24.224 Increase the participation of civil society organizations, communities and families in actions aimed at stopping, disseminating information, alerting and denouncing human trafficking to the corresponding State institutions, as well as in the identification of cases or persons vulnerable of being victims of this crime (Nicaragua);

24.225 Continue efforts in preventing the consumption and trafficking of illegal drugs and maintain a policy of “zero tolerance” (Philippines);

24.226 Establish measures aimed at preferential attention to victims of trafficking who are in situations of greater vulnerability (Philippines);

24.227 Continue its efforts to combat trafficking in persons, including by consolidating joint coordination among relevant institutions, and paying due attention to victims, especially women and children (Qatar);

24.228 Implement a “zero tolerance” policy against trafficking and sexual exploitation of children (Senegal);

24.229 Continue efforts to increase public awareness about trafficking in persons (Turkey);

24.230 Criminalise all forms of human trafficking in line with the Palermo Protocols, and address reportedly coercive elements of Cuban labour practices and foreign medical missions (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

24.231 Strengthen actions to increase the perception of risk in the population and increase its participation in the alert and complaint against trafficking in persons (Viet Nam);

24.232 Consider setting the same age limit for girls and boys in exceptional cases of marriage below the age of eighteen (Jamaica);

24.233 Continue its efforts aimed at an effective equality of opportunities in the access to work (Cabo Verde);

24.234 Pursue the strengthening and improvement of the national legal framework governing labour law (Morocco);

24.235 Ensure equal opportunities for women in the labour market including by adopting provisions on the principle of equal pay for work of equal value (Iceland);

24.236 Continue strengthening the development of legislation to protect labour and social rights (Eritrea);

24.237 Increase knowledge of workers in different sectors of the economy of their labor and social security rights, and the mechanisms, ways and resources to strengthen them (Lao People’s Democratic Republic);

24.238 Include in the labour code the prohibition of sexual harassment and criminalize domestic violence and femicide (Paraguay);

- 24.239 Continue to accept all necessary measures to protect workers' rights in non-public sector in the light of ongoing economic reforms in the country (Russian Federation);
- 24.240 Expand jobs in the non-state sector, as an alternative to employment, taking into account the new organizational forms and services that have been established (State of Palestine);
- 24.241 Further enhance the implementation of all ILO Conventions to which Cuba is a state party (Thailand);
- 24.242 Continue efforts to combat discrimination against women and create equal opportunity in the context of employment (Tunisia);
- 24.243 Improve means of protecting people in situations of vulnerability or at risk of not accessing their right to food (Algeria);
- 24.244 Pursue its efforts and achievements to broaden the application of Information and Communication Technologies to activities in various sectors of economic and social life (Benin);
- 24.245 Intensify the development of initiatives linked to health and social welfare of older persons (Guinea);
- 24.246 Maintain efforts to guarantee the full protection to elderly people (Congo);
- 24.247 Continue improving benefits and protection guaranteed by the social security system and continue providing assistance to older persons, in order to ensure a better quality of life (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 24.248 Consolidate programs that benefit elderlies (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 24.249 Improve and strengthen the national network of institutions to benefit and protect elderly persons (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 24.250 Continue strengthening programs granting lands in usufruct to young people as part of the strategies aimed at agricultural development and maintain as a priority the care for young inhabitants in rural areas (Nicaragua);
- 24.251 Continue efforts in the realization of economic, social and cultural rights (South Africa);
- 24.252 Continue to work towards the full realization of the right to food by implementing the National Plan for the Prevention and Control of anaemia, especially among children (Thailand);
- 24.253 Continue its efforts to create environments that facilitate the mobility of older persons (Timor-Leste);
- 24.254 Redouble its efforts to preserve and improve progress in the areas of health, education and the fight against discrimination and social inequalities (Togo);
- 24.255 Strengthen specialized training programmes for health and social work personnel, which is responsible for serving older persons (Viet Nam);
- 24.256 Continue to implement the "Operacion Milagro" program for the treatment of ophthalmological diseases (El Salvador);
- 24.257 Improve access to health care services and social benefits for all persons (Trinidad and Tobago);
- 24.258 Redouble efforts to guarantee access to sexual education and reproductive health (Honduras);

- 24.259 **Take measures to ensure that mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis remains eradicated in Cuba (Jamaica);**
- 24.260 **Intensify its approach to curtailing teen pregnancies by making greater use of Cuba's comprehensive expertise in health and youth development (Jamaica);**
- 24.261 **Maintain and continue to develop the implementation of policies for the access of the population to quality medical services (Kazakhstan);**
- 24.262 **Improve the health sector especially through the training of health personnel, promoting awareness on HIV and AIDS and the rights of those suffering from this disease (Kenya);**
- 24.263 **Continue to consolidate the quality of the health-care system (Lesotho);**
- 24.264 **Continue ensuring free and universal access to public health (Maldives);**
- 24.265 **Continue studying and addressing the negative impact of the consumption of illicit drugs on health and the quality of life of people (Saudi Arabia);**
- 24.266 **Endeavour to build sufficient nursing homes, day care centres and geriatric hospitals in time to cater to Cuba's ageing population in future (Singapore);**
- 24.267 **Strengthen medical and social services at the community level, including collaborating with relevant community actors, to allow older persons to age-in place (Singapore);**
- 24.268 **Increase access to and use of effective and high quality contraceptive methods to improve the quality of sexual and reproductive health services (Equatorial Guinea);**
- 24.269 **Promote human rights education on all levels, especially within law enforcement (Austria);**
- 24.270 **Increase the content related to gender equality and human rights in master's studies and courses for public officials and law enforcement authorities (Guinea);**
- 24.271 **Continue ensuring universal and free access to quality education for all at different levels of education (Brunei Darussalam);**
- 24.272 **Continue improving the national system of artistic education at all levels (Brunei Darussalam);**
- 24.273 **Continue making progress in raising the quality and rigor of the teaching-learning process (Burundi);**
- 24.274 **Continue to give priority to the promotion, protection and realization of the right to education for all (China);**
- 24.275 **Continue strengthening the training and qualification of teaching personnel (Congo);**
- 24.276 **Continue to make progress in improving the quality and rigor of the teaching and learning process (Djibouti);**
- 24.277 **Continue promoting the "Yo si puedo" and "Yo si puedo seguir" literacy programs as a contribution to the efforts to combat illiteracy (El Salvador);**
- 24.278 **Continue to implement policies aimed at fostering a greater culture of respect, tolerance, non-violence and non-discrimination in the education sector (Indonesia);**

- 24.279 Strengthen technical professional education system as quality educational alternative for the development of the country (Eritrea);
- 24.280 Continue taking efforts to ensure equal opportunity to education for women and girls (Iraq);
- 24.281 Strengthen the link between universities and research institutions with productive centers, as a contribution of education and science to the development of the country (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 24.282 Continue to promote the use of ICT penetration at all levels of education and skills developments from the early age (Myanmar);
- 24.283 Continue efforts aimed at improving the structural framework and the quality of services of cultural institutions (Oman);
- 24.284 Continue to strengthen the special education system and its institutions throughout the country to ensure quality education for children, adolescents and the youth with disabilities (Pakistan);
- 24.285 Continue evaluating and adopting measures to increase the number of children, adolescents and youth with disabilities in the different levels of education of the national education system (Timor-Leste);
- 24.286 Further strengthen schools and educational programs in remote and inaccessible areas (United Arab Emirates);
- 24.287 Continue to improve, update and expand the scope of human rights training for civil servants and the general public (Zambia);
- 24.288 Continue with the efforts to promote equality between men and women (Ghana);
- 24.289 Continue making progress in the empowerment of women in all sectors (Ghana);
- 24.290 Continue to implement a gender perspective in its national policies aimed at achieving equality for women (Zimbabwe);
- 24.291 Improve the measures taken to reduce gender stereotypes in relation to the roles and responsibilities of women in the family and society (Afghanistan);
- 24.292 Consider including in its national legislation a law on violence against women that criminalizes it in all its forms (Argentina);
- 24.293 Intensify efforts to empower women politically and economically (Bahrain);
- 24.294 Pursue its efforts to promote the status of women and gender equality (Benin);
- 24.295 Endeavour to promote racial harmony through improvement of equality for women of African descent (Botswana);
- 24.296 Take further measures to improve the access of elderly women, rural women and women with disabilities to health-care services, social benefits and public participation (Bulgaria);
- 24.297 Continue and increase the current efforts and awareness raising actions to combat traditional and cultural attitudes to combat any perceived discrimination against women (Guyana);
- 24.298 Adopt a comprehensive strategy on combating discrimination against women (Cyprus);
- 24.299 Take special temporary measures to speed up the process of establishing real equality for women, in particular women of African descent,

elderly women, women with disabilities and rural women (Democratic Republic of the Congo);

24.300 Continue awareness raising campaigns to combat patriarchal and gender stereotypes (Dominican Republic);

24.301 Adopt a comprehensive strategy to modify or eliminate patriarchal attitudes and stereotypes that discriminate against women (Honduras);

24.302 Continue efforts to combat all forms of violence against persons, including domestic violence (Libya);

24.303 Review the national legal framework to include violence against women as a crime in all its forms, as well as develop a plan of action for the prevention of all forms of violence against women, assistance and protection of victims, as well as the sensitization of the population and public officials (Mexico);

24.304 Continue efforts to combat gender-based and domestic violence (Nepal);

24.305 Strengthen measures to combat violence against women and domestic violence, including through enhancing existing legislation to better ensure accountability for victims (Rwanda);

24.306 Establish a national mechanism to regularly monitor the impact of social and economic policies on disadvantaged groups of women such as women of African descent, elderly women, rural women and women with disabilities (Serbia);

24.307 Step up efforts to prevent violence against women (Georgia);

24.308 Continue to improve the legal and governmental mechanisms in the field of promotion and protection of women's rights and enhance their participation in all development fields (Syrian Arab Republic);

24.309 Increase the efforts that have been made to combat violence against women, and strengthen mechanisms of prevention, protection and attention to the phenomenon of violence against women (Timor-Leste);

24.310 Continue to implement measures to eliminate gender stereotypes in the national idiosyncrasy (Turkey);

24.311 Continue to encourage and promote greater access for women to a leadership position in all sectors of society (Viet Nam);

24.312 Take the necessary steps to highlight the activities of young people in the different sectors of society and their contribution to the country's development efforts (Algeria);

24.313 Continue adopting the necessary measures to promote the best interest of the child (Dominican Republic);

24.314 Continue efforts to promote the rights of children and the elderly (Morocco);

24.315 Ensure that the national legislation is in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Madagascar);

24.316 Pursue ongoing efforts to raise awareness of the provisions of the Convention on the Right of the Child (Mauritania);

24.317 Revise current legislation in order to explicitly prohibit a corporal punishment of children in all settings, including at home (Montenegro);

24.318 Continue applying and improving the cooperation project "Disseminating the rights of children and adolescents", particularly at local level (Nicaragua);

- 24.319 Finalize the process of elaboration and adoption of national plan for children for the period 2015-2030 (Gabon);
- 24.320 Continue to implement the national plan of action for children, adolescents and the family with regular monitoring (Sri Lanka);
- 24.321 Continue giving particular attention to the protection of the rights of the child (Turkey);
- 24.322 Guarantee the protection of girls, boys and adolescents against all forms of economic and sexual exploitation (Turkmenistan);
- 24.323 Continue the preventive assistance related to drug consumption in the field of education of children and youth (Turkmenistan);
- 24.324 Continue harmonizing national laws, including the criminal justice, with the provisions established in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Protocols (Uruguay);
- 24.325 Continue to support the participation of Cuban Paralympic athletes in national, regional and world sports events (Algeria);
- 24.326 Take further steps to protect the rights of persons with special needs (Bahrain);
- 24.327 Assess and improve, when necessary, the legal framework on the rights of persons with disabilities and to promote their participation in national development (Belarus);
- 24.328 Continue to support the work, activities and programmes of Cuban organisations of persons with disabilities (Guinea);
- 24.329 Strengthen measures to improve accessibility of people with disabilities to buildings and other public spaces (Burkina Faso);
- 24.330 Continue the efforts to expand the access of persons with disabilities to literature in accessible formats, according to the different types of disabilities (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 24.331 Continue improving comprehensive protection and social welfare programs benefitting persons with disabilities and their families, including in the field of education (Ecuador);
- 24.332 Continue providing protection and social welfare to the mothers of children with severe disabilities, so that they can dedicate attention and care to their children as a remunerated activity which accumulates working time for their social security (Ecuador);
- 24.333 Prioritize public policies, aimed at meeting the special needs of persons with disabilities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 24.334 Continue efforts to implement actions to strengthen the access of persons with disabilities to ICT (Tunisia);
- 24.335 Continue its efforts to ensure that persons with disabilities enjoy equal access to employment (Yemen);
- 24.336 Continue applying immigration policy reforms that have equally benefited Cuban emigrants and Cubans travelling abroad (Namibia);
- 24.337 Maintain the current fair and dignified treatment of refugees and asylum-seekers in the country (Namibia);
- 24.338 Continue to work with bilateral and multilateral partners for better protection of the rights of migrants (Philippines);
- 24.339 Continue taking further measures aimed at reducing cases of statelessness (Namibia).

25. 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

[English Only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Cuba was headed by H.E. Mr. Bruno Eduardo Rodriguez Parrilla, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Oscar Manuel Silvera Martinez, Vice-President of the Popular Supreme Court;
- H.E. Mr. Eldys Baratute Benavides, Member of the Cuban Parliament, President in Guantanamo of the “Asociacion Hermanos Saiz”, Ministry of Culture;
- H.E. Mr. Pedro Luis Pedroso Cuesta, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland;
- H.E. Mr. Rodolfo Reyes Rodriguez, Director General of the Multilateral Affairs and International Law Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- H.E. Mrs. Alba Soto Pimentel, Director, Europe and Canada Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- H.E. Mrs. Barbara Elena Montalvo Alvarez, Chief of Cabinet, Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Rafael Angel Soler Lopez, Chief of the Citizen Services Division, Attorney’s General Office;
- Mr. Luis Emilio Cadaval San Martin, Official, Ministry of Interior;
- Mrs. Olga Lidia Perez Diaz, Director of Notary’s offices, Ministry of Justice;
- Mrs. Miriam Lau Valdes, Director for International Relations and Communication, Ministry of Labour and Social Security;
- Mr. Jorge Juan Delgado Bustillo, First Deputy Director, Central Medical Cooperation Unit, Ministry of Public Health;
- Mr. Juan Antonio Quintanilla Roman, Chief of the Social and Humanitarian Affairs Department, Multilateral Affairs and International Law Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mrs. Claudia Perez Alvarez, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland;
- Mr. Pablo Berti Oliva, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland;
- Mrs. Ena Domech More, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland;
- Mr. Alejandro Gonzalez Behmaras, Adviser, Multilateral Affairs and International Law Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mrs. Heidi Laura Villuendas Ortega, Adviser, Press, Communication and Information Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mrs. Belkis Romeu Alvarez, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland.