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Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Office of the United Nations High  
Commissioner for Human Rights

Sweden's national mid-term report

*Universal Periodic Review of the United Nations Human Rights Council*

This report presents an overview of measures taken to date by the Swedish Government in order to comply with the recommendations Sweden received and accepted as part of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) conducted by the UN Human Rights Council in 2015. The report reflects the situation as of 2018-03-15.

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Sweden was one of 14 states reviewed in the 21st Universal Periodic Review conducted by the UN Human Rights Council in 2015. In this process Sweden accepted 157 recommendations and noted 71. In 2019 Sweden will present its report to the Human Rights Council on how the Government and its agencies have proceeded to address the recommendations.

There is no formal requirement to inform or notify the Council or the member states in mid-term on the path of the reform work; however, some states choose to present a voluntary mid-term report to give an up-date on the progress made with the recommendations. The work and review have been conducted in dialogue with civil society. By presenting this report, the Swedish Government also provides information to government agencies, civil society and other stakeholders about the progress made as well as about the continued efforts needed to increase respect for human rights in Sweden.

The UPR is a broad review that covers all of Sweden's central international human rights commitments. Compliance with the recommendations

accepted by Sweden is of high priority for the Government. Therefore, this report also provides a general status report regarding concrete work under way to ensure full respect for Sweden's commitments to human rights.

We have chosen to present the measures undertaken to fulfil the 157 recommendations accepted by Sweden in ten different fields. These fields have been chosen on the basis that they cover the great majority of recommendations accepted. As is customary, Sweden will provide a comprehensive report at the end of the UPR-cycle. In the final report, all measures taken by the Government in response to the recommendations will be presented. In that context, comments will also be made on the recommendations that were not accepted by Sweden.

The report should, however, not be viewed as an exhaustive description of the Government's work in the field of human rights.

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Since 2006, Universal Periodic Reviews have been conducted according to a cycle that means that each country is reviewed on a regular basis.

Unlike the customary convention reviews by UN treaty bodies, the UPR is conducted not by apolitical experts but by other states as equal peers. All issues with a bearing on human rights can be raised during the review.

The review of Sweden, which was the second of its kind, took place in January 2015. Sweden received 228 recommendations (see Human Rights Council Reports A/HRC/15/11 and A/HRC/29/13/Add.1). Many recommendations overlapped, hence the clustering in this midterm report.

The recommendations are not binding, but the Government attaches great weight to following and implementing those that have been accepted. This is done through reform work involving several ministries and agencies.

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## **1. Developing work against discrimination**

### **1.1 Recommendations Sweden has received**

Sweden received a number of recommendations regarding discrimination, including that Sweden should develop its work against discrimination by broadening the mandate of the Equality Ombudsman (*Diskrimineringsombudsmannen, DO*), strengthening the relevant legislation and taking other action against discrimination. Sweden accepted the recommendations.

In March 2016 Sweden received similar recommendations as part of the review of compliance with the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

### **1.2 Action of importance for compliance with the recommendations**

On 1 January 2015 the Discrimination Act (2008:567) was amended to include inadequate accessibility as a new form of discrimination, (*Bristande tillgänglighet som en form av diskriminering*, Govt Bill 2013/14:198, Committee report 2013/14:AU8, Parliamentary communication 2013/14:367).

As of 1 May 2018, the Discrimination Act will be strengthened regarding protection against inadequate accessibility. The Act will include smaller businesses with fewer than 10 employees in the area of access to and supply of goods and services and remove the exemption that exists today (Govt Bill 2016/17:220).

As of 1 January 2017 the Discrimination Act has been amended regarding the rules on active measures. A general framework for active measures intended to promote equal rights and opportunities (*Ett övergripande ramverk för aktiva åtgärder i syfte att främja lika rättigheter och möjligheter*, Govt Bill 2015/16:135) was introduced. The changes also include extending work on active measures in working life and in the field of education to all grounds of discrimination in the Discrimination Act.

In January 2014 the Government appointed the inquiry, “Better possibilities of countering discrimination” (*Bättre möjligheter att motverka diskriminering*, terms of reference 2014:10), to propose how work to address discrimination can be organised and made more effective. The purpose of the inquiry was to present proposals to ensure that people exposed to discrimination are in a good position to claim their rights. The inquiry’s goal has been to create a system in which stakeholders at different levels take active measures to combat discrimination: a system in which different stakeholders can complement and support each other in their action to combat discrimination and in providing support and assistance to victims of discrimination. One of the inquiry’s proposals is that the anti-discrimination offices, which are non-profit civil society organisations, should continue to receive state grants and that their main objective should be to offer support to individuals. Furthermore, the county administrative boards should be responsible for combating discrimination through various promotion actions which would include knowledge transfer, support, education and training for strategic stakeholders in the country. The inquiry also proposes the establishment of an anti-discrimination board to provide a simple, inexpensive and quick procedure for the examination of discrimination disputes. The inquiry on better possibilities to combat discrimination submitted its report “Better protection against discrimination” (*Bättre skydd mot diskriminering*, Swedish Government Official Report [SOU] 2016:87) in December 2016. A consultation is being held on the proposals.

## **2. Reinforced work to combat racism and hate crime**

### **2.1 Recommendations Sweden has received**

Sweden received a number of recommendations regarding work to combat racism, including a recommendation to adopt a national plan to combat hate crime, racism and xenophobia. Sweden accepted the recommendations.

In March 2016 Sweden was given similar recommendations as part of the review of compliance with the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). On that occasion Sweden was given recommendations about holding information campaigns intended to foster respect for human rights and to counter negative stereotyping portrayal of ethnic or religious minorities.

## 2.2 Action of importance for compliance with the recommendations

On the 24 November 2016 the Government adopted a national plan to combat racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime. In the national plan, "A comprehensive approach to combat racism and hate crime – National plan to combat racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime" (*Samlat grepp mot rasism och hatbrott – Nationell plan mot rasism, liknande former av fientlighet och hatbrott*) the Government states that Sweden is to be a country free of racism and hate crime. With its national plan, the Government is taking a comprehensive approach to the important work on these issues carried out by a number of agencies, regional and local actors and civil society organisations. The plan is a tool in preventing and combating racism and polarisation in society and creating conditions for a cohesive Sweden characterised by solidarity. The plan gives actors better conditions to work together; initiatives can be followed up and work can be developed on a holistic basis.

The overarching goal of the national plan is strategic, effective and coherent work against racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime in Sweden. The plan will serve as a foundation and a focus of work against racism and hate crime in particularly important strategic areas. This will chiefly be attained by shaping a coordination and monitoring structure and through preventive and counteracting initiatives build a foundation for long-term strategic work.

The Government identifies five strategic areas as being crucial to attaining the plan's objective. The strategic areas are:

- more knowledge, education and research
- improved coordination and monitoring
- civil society: greater support and more in-depth dialogue
- stepping up preventive work online
- a more active legal system.

### **3. Ensuring effective protection of the national minorities**

#### **3.1 Recommendations Sweden has received**

Sweden received a number of recommendations regarding its national minorities, including that Sweden should ensure effective protection for members of the national minorities and consider further measures to promote their rights. The recommendations also considered that Sweden should take specific measures to protect and promote the economic, social and cultural rights of Roma. Sweden accepted the recommendations.

In March 2016 Sweden was given similar recommendations as part of the review of compliance with the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

Measures and recommendations concerning indigenous rights will be described in section 4 below.

#### **3.2 Action of importance for compliance with the recommendations**

In the Budget Bill for 2016 (*Budgetpropositionen 2016*, Govt Bill 2015/16:1, expenditure area 1, section 10.5) the Government announced a review of the Act on National Minorities and Minority Languages (2009:724) and clarifications of certain other measures announced as part of the Government Bill “*From recognition to empowerment – the Government’s strategy for the national minorities*” (*Från erkännande till egenmakt – regeringens strategi för de nationella minoriteterna*, Govt Bill 2008/09:158).

As part of this work the Government appointed the Inquiry on a Strengthened Minority Policy (*Utredningen om en stärkt minoritetspolitik*, Ku 2016:02). The remit of this inquiry was to conduct a review and analysis of the Act on National Minorities and Minority Languages (2009:724) and related matters (terms of reference 2016:73). On the basis of that review, Sweden’s international undertakings regarding human rights and the Government’s strategy for the national minorities the inquiry was to propose measures to ensure Sweden’s compliance with the rights of the national minorities.

The Inquiry presented a report in June 2017, “Next step? Proposals for a stronger minorities policy”. (*Nästa steg? Förslag för en stärkt minoritetspolitik*, SOU 2017:60). The report presents findings related to a number of areas, including several proposed changes to the Act on National Minorities and Minority Languages (2009:724), the Education Act (2010:800) and the remit of administrative authorities. A consultation has been held on the report, and the Government has presented a bill on a strengthened minority policy to the Riksdag (the Swedish Parliament) on 27 March 2018.

The County Administrative Board of Stockholm (*Länsstyrelsen i Stockholms län*) and the Sami Parliament (*Sametinget*) has conducted a review of the Government grants to municipalities in the administrative areas for Sami, Finnish and Meänkieli. The question of what measures will be taken as a result of the review is being considered within the Government Offices at the same time as the report of the Inquiry on a Strengthened Minority Policy.

That inquiry presented a second report “Next step? Part 2. Proposals for a stronger minorities policy”. (*Nästa steg? Del 2. Förslag för en stärkt minoritetspolitik*, SOU 2017:88) in November 2017, in which the inquiry presents further findings. These included possible changes to Sweden’s ratification levels of the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages. The report is now under consultation and will be considered by the Government.

The Government intends to continue work on promoting knowledge of the national minorities through central government coordination and monitoring of the minority policy commission and through commissions to agencies with sectoral responsibilities.

In Sweden, sectoral legislation lays down specific rights for the national minorities in the field of education, including the right to mother tongue tuition in Chapters 10–13, 15 and 18 of the Education Act (2010:800) and the possibility of bilingual teaching (Chapter 9, Sections 12–13 of the Education Ordinance). Pupils in Sami school, spanning years 1–6, are granted specific rights (Chapter 13 of the Education Act). To ensure improved access to education in the national minority languages the Government intends to review the potential needs in the context of mother tongue education and bilingual tuition. The Government of Sweden pays

great attention to the issue of language education for the national minorities and, in December 2017, appointed an inquiry, “Better possibilities for pupils to develop their national minority language” (*Förbättrade möjligheter för elever att utveckla sitt nationella minoritetsspråk*, U 2016:07), on enhanced opportunities for pupils to develop their national minority language. The remit of the inquiry was to look into the specifics of the situation of the minority languages, taking into account the recent criticism made by the Council of Europe’s supervisory bodies concerning the minority languages in education and underlining the importance of measures to protect and revitalise the languages. The Inquiry presented its findings in the report, ”Better possibilities for pupils to develop their national minority language” (*Förbättrade möjligheter för elever att utveckla sitt nationella minoritetsspråk*, SOU 2017:91), in November 2017. A consultation on the report is open until April 2018, and the Government plans to present a bill to the Riksdag in spring 2019.

In order to ensure a long-term perspective in the work of agencies and municipalities on Roma inclusion, the Government has allocated SEK 58 million for this purpose in 2016–2019. The Government is considering the proposals submitted by the Commission against Antiziganism to the Government in its final report, “Concerted action to combat antiziganism”, in June 2016 (*Kraftsamling mot antiziganism*, SOU 2016:44). In line with a proposal of the Commission an inquiry (Ku2017/01479/DISK) is currently investigating the possibilities to establish a national centre for Roma issues.

## **4. A deeper dialogue with the Sami Parliament**

### **4.1 Recommendations Sweden has received**

Sweden received a number of recommendations regarding the rights of the Sami people. Some of the recommendations and measures concerning the Sami people have been described in the section on minorities. The present section will focus on the measures taken by the Government to ensure the indigenous rights of the Sami people. The import of the recommendations was that Sweden should conduct a deeper dialogue with the Sami Parliament and strengthen Sami self-determination. Recommendations were also made to take measures to give the Sami, when affected, the possibility of being consulted in matters concerning land and water management and specific business activities. Sweden was also asked to consider a ratification of the

Convention concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (ILO 169). Sweden accepted the recommendations.

In March 2016 Sweden was given similar recommendations as part of the review of compliance with the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Recommendations included contributing actively to the adoption of a Nordic Sami convention, ensuring that the Sami Parliament has adequate resources to effectively discharge its mandate and reviewing existing legislation that can affect the rights of the Sami people and its interests.

#### 4.2 Action of importance for compliance with the recommendations

The Budget Bill for 2018 (*Budgetpropositionen 2018*, Govt. Bill 2017/18:1, expenditure area 1, section 5.5) states that the special status of the Sami as Sweden's indigenous people will be respected, which requires ensuring compliance with their rights. The preservation of the Sami languages and Sami traditional knowledge forms the basis of Sami identity and is to be safeguarded. One important step to strengthen Sami self-determination and influence is to continue work on introducing a formalised consultation procedure, i.e. how consultation with Sami representatives is to take place. The Government is increasing the appropriation to the Sami Parliament by 11 million SEK in 2018 and 16 million SEK in 2019 to allow for the introduction of a consultation procedure, as well as to enable the Sami Parliament to participate in community planning and to respond to the assigned responsibilities of the Parliament today. This is in order to ensure Sami influence and participation in decision making processes concerning Sami conditions.

The negotiations on a Nordic Sami Convention were completed in January 2017 after five years. The Convention is intended to strengthen and clarify the rights of the Sami people to preserve and develop their language, culture, livelihoods and community life. The matters dealt with by the Convention include the right to self-determination and the issue of consultation with representatives of the Sami people. According to Article 42 the Convention shall be submitted for approval by the Sami Parliaments of all three countries prior to ratification. Hence, a process of approval is now taking place.

In accordance with Sweden's notification in its Universal Periodic Review in 2015, the Government will work towards ratification of ILO Convention 169. However, ratifying ILO Convention 169 is ultimately a matter for the Riksdag to decide on.

## **5. Reducing the pay gap between women and men and combating men's violence against women**

### **5.1 Recommendations Sweden has received**

Sweden has received a number of recommendations regarding gender equality, including that Sweden should take concrete measures to combat the pay gap between women and men and continue preventive work to prevent violence against women. Sweden accepted the recommendations.

In March 2016, Sweden was given similar recommendations as part of the review of compliance with the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

### **5.2 Action of importance for compliance with the recommendations**

As mentioned in section 1, the Discrimination Act was amended from 1 January 2017 regarding the rules on active measures. The general framework for these active measures intended to promote equal rights and opportunities was introduced. One of the amendments made entails carrying out pay surveys for equal pay each year instead of every third year as has been the case up to now. As regards the forms for documenting this work, the Act requires written documentation. The requirement for written documentation of pay surveys has been amended to cover companies with at least 10 employees instead of 25 as was previously the case.

The Government is working strategically to approach the objective of economic equality and intends to compile and present an action plan for equal pay. Work on this plan has begun within the Government Offices.

The social partners have the main responsibility for wage formation, but central government has an overall macroeconomic responsibility. Pay gaps can be reduced by making parental leave and leave to care for a sick child more equal. In order to increase equality regarding unpaid household and

care work and in the labour market, the rules have been amended to reserve an additional month of parental benefit for each parent, through a government bill entitled “A more equal parental insurance” (*En mer jämställd föräldrapenning*, Govt Bill 2014/15:124, Committee report 2015/16:SfU5, Parliamentary communication 2015/16:31). This means that the number of days of parental benefit that are reserved for a parent and cannot be transferred to the other parent has been increased from 60 to 90 days. The new rules entered into force on 1 January 2016.

In 2016 the Government commissioned an inquiry to review parental leave insurance. Its aims included identifying problems and proposing measures to make parental leave insurance contribute to a more equal distribution of parental benefit days, gender equality in the labour market and equal parenthood while also continuing to contribute to good conditions for children to grow up in. The inquiry chair is also to propose measures showing how parental leave insurance can be adapted to the modern labour market and create conditions for a good balance between family life and working life. In addition, the inquiry chair is to propose measures showing how parental leave insurance can be designed to work well for all family constellations. The investigation was submitted to the Government on 18 December 2017 (SOU 2017:101).

In addition, the Government has commissioned the Swedish Public Employment Service (*Arbetsförmedlingen*) to work for a less gender-segregated labour market and has clarified the gender equality commissions given to other agencies that can influence educational and vocational choices, such as the National Agency for Education (*Statens skolverk*). The Government is also investing special funds in research on working life for 2016–2018 on issues including the work environment and sectors dominated by women and women’s work-related ill health.

In 2017 the Government presented a national strategy to prevent and combat men’s violence against women (*En nationell strategi för att förebygga och bekämpa mäns våld mot kvinnor*, Govt comm. 2016/17:10). The strategy contains measures that strengthen protection for and support to women subjected to violence, measures to combat violence in same-sex relationships and measures that counteract destructive masculinity and perceptions of honour. The strategy also emphasises the participation and responsibility of men in stopping the violence.

The Government is using its long-term strategy and targeted action plan to lay the foundation for increasingly goal-oriented and coordinated action on men's violence against women. Developing measures to prevent violence is particularly important. These measures must reach all groups in society and be developed in a variety of arenas. The national strategy, which entered into force on 1 January 2017, is included in the Government's gender equality policy communication to the Riksdag, "Power, goals and agency – a feminist policy for a gender equal future" (*Makt, mål och myndighet - feministisk politik för en jämställd framtid*, Govt comm. 2016/17:10) and spans a ten-year period. As a part of the implementation of the strategy, the Government is allocating SEK 600 million to an action plan containing new measures for 2017–2020, in addition to SEK 300 million in development funding to municipalities and county councils. In addition, SEK 200 million has been allocated for 2018–2019 to further strengthen work to prevent and combat honour-related violence. Moreover, the role of the county administrative boards as regional coordinators has been clarified. The gender equality agency established by the Government in 2018 will have a specialist mission to support the Government in coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women at the operative level.

In September 2017, Sweden submitted its first report on the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.

## **6. Improved accessibility for persons with disabilities**

### **6.1 Recommendations Sweden has received**

Sweden received recommendations regarding persons with disabilities. The main import of them was that measures should be taken to improve the situation of these persons with respect to accessibility and participation. The importance of being able to obtain employment was stressed, for instance. Sweden accepted the recommendations.

### **6.2 Action of importance for compliance with the recommendations**

In November 2017 the Riksdag decided on the Government Bill "National goal and direction of the disability policy" (Nationellt mål och inriktning för

funktionshinderpolitiken, Govt Bill 2016/17:188). The proposal contains a new national goal for Sweden's disability policy, based on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. To achieve the national goal, the implementation of the disability policy is proposed to focus on the principle of universal design, existing gaps in accessibility, individual support for empowerment and prevention of discrimination. The bill also contains measures that are in line with goals and subgoals in the Agenda 2030 and takes into account the recommendations from the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Many unemployed people have some form of disability resulting in reduced work capacity. It is important to make use of their skills and proficiencies. The Government is therefore taking a number of measures to make it easier for people with disabilities to obtain employment. One example that can be mentioned is the possibility of obtaining a pay subsidy in order to increase the chances for persons with reduced work capacity to get a job, an initiative worth SEK 300 million for 2016. This will make it possible for more people to get jobs at Samhall AB, which is a state-owned company with a mandate to create work that furthers the development of people with a disability that causes reduced working capacity. Work is being done in the Government Offices to review pay subsidies for persons with disabilities so as to strengthen their possibilities of finding work. There is a need to clarify the regulatory framework and reinforce action with a clear focus on the possibilities for all individuals to develop their work capacity.

The Government has commissioned a number of government agencies to accept people with disabilities that result in reduced work capacity on work placements in 2016–2018.

## **7. Securing the rights of persons deprived of their liberty**

### **7.1 Recommendations Sweden has received**

Sweden received recommendations regarding persons deprived of their liberty. The import of them was that Sweden should ensure that these persons are given access to basic legal safeguards according to international standards. Sweden accepted the recommendations.

Sweden was given similar recommendations as part of the review of compliance with the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in March 2016, as well as at the review of compliance with the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in November 2014. Sweden was urged to ensure that the use of pretrial detention and restrictions is consistent with the Conventions, in part by introducing time limits for pretrial detention and restrictions and taking steps to reduce isolation, particularly for young detainees.

## 7.2 Action of importance for compliance with the recommendations

In Government Bill 2015/16:187 Implementation of the EU Directive on the Right to access a lawyer in criminal and European warrant arrest proceedings (*Genomförande av EU:s försvarardirektiv*) the Government has presented proposals intended to strengthen the basic legal safeguards for persons deprived of their liberty. The proposals mean, for example, that suspects deprived of their liberty will have the right on arrest to meet and talk in private with the lawyer representing them. The suspect will also have an unconditional right to have their public defence counsel, or a private counsel meeting equivalent requirements, present when questioned during the preliminary investigation.

On 1 July 2015 the Government appointed an inquiry to present proposals intended to reduce the use of pretrial detention and restrictions. The inquiry report “Fewer in pretrial detention and less isolation” (*Färre i häkte och minskad isolering*, SOU 2016:52) was presented in August 2016. The inquiry’s proposals included new alternatives to pretrial detention, the limitation of detention periods, greater examination of restrictions by the courts, a statutory right to human contact and special rules for children deprived of their liberty. The proposals are currently being processed in the Government Offices.

On 21 December 2017 the Government commissioned the Swedish Prison and Probation Service, the Swedish Prosecution Authority and the Swedish National Board of Institutional Care to propose measures to ensure a better situation for children being held in pretrial detention.

## **8. National Human Rights Institution**

### **8.1 Recommendations Sweden has received**

Sweden received several recommendations on establishing an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris principles. Sweden accepted the recommendations.

Sweden has received similar recommendations from the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) as well as the Human Rights Committee (CCPR), both of which conducted reviews of Sweden in 2016.

### **8.2 Action of importance for compliance with the recommendations**

In October 2016 the Government presented a Strategy for national efforts with human rights (*Regeringens strategi för det nationella arbetet med mänskliga rättigheter*, Govt Comm. 2016/17:29) to the Riksdag.

In the strategy the Government concludes that an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris principles ought to be established in Sweden. The Government is further of the view that such an institution ought to be under the authority of the Riksdag and that it is therefore up to the Riksdag to consider the establishment of such an institution. The Riksdag was, however, of the view that a human rights institution for various reasons should not be established under the Parliament. In December 2017 the Riksdag therefore referred the question back to the Government urging the Government to appoint without delay an inquiry on the question of a national human rights institution. (Parliamentary communication 2017/18:98).

In early 2018 the Government appointed an inquiry to assist the Ministry of Culture in drafting proposals concerning the establishment of the institution. The remit of the inquiry includes analysing the establishment concerning function and authority, as well as its organisation and guarantees for its independence. Drafted proposals will be presented to the Government later in 2018.

## 9. Rights of the child

### 9.1 Recommendations Sweden has received

Sweden received several recommendations regarding the rights of the child. Sweden accepted the majority of the recommendations, for example the many recommendations asking for incorporation of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) into national legislation. The recommendations that requested Sweden to consider a ratification of the third optional protocol on a communications procedure were also accepted.

### 9.2 Action of importance for compliance with the recommendations

In March 2018, the Swedish Government adopted the bill “Incorporation of the UN Convention on the rights of the child” regarding incorporation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) into Swedish domestic law. Incorporation of the CRC entails a clearer obligation on legal practitioners to consider the rights of the child in deliberations and assessments part of decision-making processes concerning children as well as generally interpret Swedish domestic law in relation to the CRC.

*(Inkorporering av FN:s konvention om barnets rättigheter, Govt Bill 2017/18:186)*

The Government considers that Sweden’s commitments under the CRC must be clarified and ensured at all levels in public sector activities and that a child rights-based approach must permeate all activities concerning children and adolescents. Incorporation also means that the child’s role as a legal entity with specific rights of their own is clarified and, therefore, can be expected to contribute to greater focus on the child in situations concerning the child. In the Government’s view, incorporation of the CRC will give better visibility to the rights of the child and is a way of creating a foundation for a more child rights-based approach in all public-sector activities, in which these rights are seen from a holistic perspective.

In order for the CRC to have an impact, continued transformation of its provisions into Swedish domestic law is necessary, alongside incorporation. In addition, a combination of various measures is needed, such as guidance, education and coordination between various actors at different levels in society. The Government also presents the measures under way to increase knowledge about the CRC among children and adolescents, and in

municipalities, county councils and government agencies through an education initiative.

All measures presented by the Government in this bill: a domestic act on incorporating the CRC; the guidance document; the education initiative; and continued systematic transformation work, should be considered as measures to ensure impact of the Convention in practice and interpretation of Swedish domestic law.

## **10. Trafficking in human beings**

### **10.1 Recommendations Sweden has received**

Sweden received recommendations regarding efforts to combat trafficking in human beings. Some of the recommendations related explicitly to child sex tourism. Sweden accepted most of the recommendations.

### **10.2 Action of importance for compliance with the recommendations**

Combatting trafficking in persons is given high priority by the Swedish government. Since ratifying United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and its Protocols, Sweden has taken several measures to strengthen its laws and the capacity of our institutions to combat these hideous crimes. The Government has also initiated and financed several educational efforts for both the public and civil servants in order to raise awareness about and knowledge on how to fight trafficking in persons. Since the criminal provision for trafficking in human beings was introduced in the Swedish Criminal Code in 2002, the legislation has been amended on two separate occasions to further strengthen both the protection of victims and the possibilities to prosecute the perpetrators. In October 2016 an inquiry presented a report regarding the possibilities to further strengthen the criminal protection against trafficking in human beings and other exploitation of vulnerable persons (*Ett starkt straffrättsligt skydd mot människohandel och annat utnyttjande av utsatta personer*, SOU 2016:70). The inquiry made several legislative proposals and its report was then referred for consideration to relevant bodies. In March 2018 the Government submitted a governmental bill to the Riksdag, in which the Government proposes several amendments to, *inter alia*, the criminal provision for trafficking in human beings. The overall aim of these proposals

is to further strengthen criminal law protection against human trafficking and increase the number of convictions for such offences in Sweden. The amendments in the governmental bill are proposed to enter into force 1 July 2018.

In 2016 the Swedish Government appointed an ambassador at large for combating trafficking in human beings. The task of the ambassador is to strengthen Swedish international cooperation against trafficking in human beings, at both bilateral and multilateral level. In 2016 the Government also presented a new action plan against trafficking in human beings and sexual exploitation with a specific focus on protecting children (*Handlingsplan 2016–2018 till skydd för barn mot människohandel, exploatering och sexuella övergrepp*, Govt comm. 2015/16:192). The action plan, which covers the period 2016 to 2018 and contains 23 different actions, includes both actions to eliminate abuse, exploitation, human trafficking and all forms of violence or torture against children and actions to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in public and private space, including human trafficking, sexual exploitation and other type of exploitation.

To mention one of the actions, the Government has invited travel agencies and other companies in the travel industry to a dialogue regarding cooperation to end child sex tourism. All 23 actions aim to strengthen the protection of children from human trafficking and sexual exploitation, as well as to prevent crime and create conditions for the effective prosecution of offenders. The action plan is also part of the Government's contribution to achieving the sustainable development goals of the 2030 Agenda. The Government is following up on the action plan continuously, which reflects the ambition of the Government to keep these issues high on the international agenda. In February 2018 the Government decided to adopt a national action plan on preventing and combatting prostitution and all forms of human trafficking as well as contributing to better protection and assistance for victims. The aim of the action plan is to contribute to a more effective, strategic and targeted work against prostitution and trafficking in human beings.

## 11. Appendix

RS	Recommendation	
Albania	Initiate the process to incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child into national legislation and continue the formulation of a third plan of action for human rights	Accepted
Albania	Continue efforts to further reduce the pay gap between women and men	Accepted
Albania	Undertake a deeper dialogue with representatives of the Sami Parliament and increase efforts to give additional responsibilities to this Parliament to strengthen the self-determination of the Sami people	Accepted
Algeria	Take the necessary measures to reduce the gender wage gap	Accepted
Algeria	Take necessary legislative, political and awareness-raising measures to fight effectively against hate speech and crimes committed on the grounds of religious hatred, in particular Islamophobia	Accepted
Algeria	Continue to fight against racism and acts of violence and discrimination against persons of African descent	Accepted
Angola	Adopt measures to incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child into national legislation	Accepted
Angola	Fight against discrimination in society more effectively	Accepted
Argentina	Adopt the judicial and administrative measures necessary to make effective the investigations before tribunals and sanctions for declarations of incitement to racial hatred and other acts of discrimination against minorities	Accepted

Argentina	Ratify ICPPED	Noted
Argentina	Take concrete measures to ensure that the guarantees of non-refoulement can be given to any person under the control of the Swedish authorities while considered a refugee by a third country, including for this purpose and if necessary, the adoption of legislative measures	Noted
Armenia	Further develop policies and measures to promote the rights of the national minorities	Accepted
Armenia	Continue the efforts directed towards the promotion of the right to education	Accepted
Australia	Define and criminalize torture in its domestic law, consistent with article 1 and article 4 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	Noted
Austria	Take additional steps, beyond the adoption of legislation, to prevent racially motivated hate speech, hate crimes and discrimination	Accepted
Austria	Continue developing measures in order to ensure that affected Sami communities can participate actively in consultations on issues related to land rights, water and resources	Accepted
Austria	Extend to all parts of the country the training given to the police, prosecutors and judges to effectively investigate, prosecute and punish hate crimes	Accepted
Azerbaijan	Investigate, prosecute and punish all hate crimes against visible minorities, including Muslims, Afro-Swedes, Roma and Jews	Accepted
Azerbaijan	Take all appropriate measures to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity	Accepted

Azerbaijan	Take effective measures to combat hate speech in the media and on the internet, including by prosecuting the perpetrators, where appropriate, regardless of their official status	Accepted
Azerbaijan	Take appropriate steps in order to prevent, identify and address situations of risk of suicide in persons with disabilities	Accepted
Azerbaijan	Declare illegal and prohibit organizations promoting and inciting racial hatred, in line with the international norms	Noted
Bahrain	Combat hate speech, in particular in the media and on the internet, and punish perpetrators	Accepted
Bahrain	Take all necessary measures to implement the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, particularly to combat the sale, exploitation, and prostitution of children	Accepted
Bahrain	Broaden the mandate of the Ombudsman for Equality to ensure better follow-up on cases of discrimination	Accepted
Bangladesh	Continue to maintain its level, framework and channel of official development assistance	Accepted
Bangladesh	Amend legislation, in line with Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommendations, to provide for the possibility of adopting special measures to promote equal opportunities, and address structural discrimination and inequality faced by immigrants, and minority groups, including Afro-Swedes and Muslims	Accepted
Belgium	Consider ratification of the third protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, thereby establishing a procedure for the presentation of communications	Accepted

Belgium	Promote a holistic perspective on the rights of the child in its international development assistance policy, in line with articles 4 and 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child	Accepted
Benin	Establish an independent national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Benin	Accelerate the process of ratification of ICRMW	Noted
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Be proactive in its measures to prevent discrimination against immigrant, refugee and minority women who continue to suffer from multiple forms of discrimination, and to combat violence against them	Accepted
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Take further measures to prevent discrimination on the basis of ethnicity	Accepted
Botswana	Take legislative and other measures to address discrimination, racial hatred and incitement, and investigate reported cases	Accepted
Botswana	Take additional measures to promote tolerance and respect for diversity	Accepted
Brazil	Consider ratifying ILO Convention No. 169	Accepted
Brazil	Strengthen efforts to prevent, investigate effectively, prosecute and punish all hate crimes, as well as acts of racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	Accepted
Canada	Take measures to improve enforcement of existing laws prohibiting discrimination, including against the Roma	Accepted
Canada	Take steps to prevent and respond to incidents of violence and intimidation against members of minority religious groups, including through education and	Accepted

	awareness campaigns and effective interventions by law enforcement officials	
Canada	Continue its efforts to ensure that perpetrators of hate crimes are brought to justice and proper redress is given to victims, including by adopting measures to better track all reported hate crimes throughout the justice system	Accepted
Chile	Further progress on measures to prevent and punish all forms of racial discrimination	Accepted
China	Step up efforts to effectively deal with discrimination, violence and hate speech against migrants	Accepted
Comoros	Do everything in its power to continue to live up to its well-deserved reputation, particularly by working actively to combat xenophobic, racist, anti-Semitic and Islamophobic acts which are tending to increase in the country	Accepted
Costa Rica	Continue efforts to combat discrimination and promote greater social integration of immigrants, and indigenous and minority groups	Accepted
Costa Rica	Ratify ICPPED	Noted
Cote d'Ivoire	Step up measures to combat discriminatory acts and hate speech against certain minority groups, emphasizing prevention and follow-up	Accepted
Croatia	Enhance efforts - including within the "Strategy to Strengthen the Rights of the Child in Sweden" - to prevent and eliminate discrimination against children belonging to ethnic minorities, child members of immigrant families and child refugees and asylum seekers	Accepted
Croatia	Continue taking efficient measures with a view to eliminating differences in salaries and other terms of	Accepted

	employment between men and women who perform work that is regarded as equal or equivalent	
Cuba	Apply stronger measures to combat discrimination, xenophobia and incitement to hatred	Accepted
Cuba	More actively confront the crimes against national minorities	Accepted
Cuba	Take concrete steps to ensure that access to evidence is guaranteed to anyone under any regime of detention	Noted
Czechia	Strengthen its legal framework and explicitly criminalize torture under the Penal Code in accordance with article 1 of CAT	Noted
Czechia	Further strengthen the Parliamentary Ombudsman as a national preventive mechanism in accordance with OP-CAT	Noted
Czechia	Adopt measures against ethnic profiling and prevent any collection of personal data on the basis of ethnic origin without the prior consent of those concerned	Noted
Denmark	Ratify ILO Convention No. 169 on indigenous and tribal peoples	Noted
Denmark	Establish a fully independent human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Ecuador	Take measures to limit the time of pretrial detention or the equivalent situation of deprivation of liberty without charges and for investigation purposes, in accordance with general comment No. 8 of the Human Rights Committee	Noted
Ecuador	Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their	Noted

	Families, considering the equal and universal character should prevail for all international human rights instruments	
Ecuador	Speed up the international legal cooperation mechanisms in the judicial bodies and the Prosecutor Office, to ensure due process, specifically in cases where the person concerned is protected by an asylum decision or refugee status	Noted
Egypt	Raise the age of entry into marriage to 18 years in accordance with the definition of the child under the Convention on the Rights of the Child	Accepted
Egypt	Adopt a definition of torture in line with article 1 of the Convention against Torture	Noted
Egypt	Ensure accountability for hate speech including in political discourse, prohibiting organizations promoting and inciting racial hatred, in line with article 4 (b) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and ratify ICRMW	Noted
Egypt	Provide protection for the family unit as the natural and fundamental unit of society	Noted
Estonia	Take necessary measures to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity	Accepted
Estonia	Decriminalize defamation	Noted
Finland	Give due attention to the issue of human rights education in the current work on the third action plan on human rights by, inter alia, compiling a report on the situation regarding human rights education in Sweden	Accepted
Finland	Continue to give due attention to the situation of minorities, in particular to the situations regarding discrimination based on multiple grounds. Sweden should continue to take necessary measures to ensure full	Accepted

	and effective implementation of its legislation on national minorities	
France	Take measures to ensure the full incorporation of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Swedish legislation	Accepted
France	Consider creating a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles	Accepted
France	Consider the establishment of quotas to ensure a gender-balanced representation in business administrative councils	Accepted
France	Take measures to improve the follow-up to complaints of hate crimes	Accepted
France	Ratify as soon as possible the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED) and incorporate it in the national legislation as well as recognizing the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances	Noted
Gabon	Strengthen measures to combat all forms of discrimination	Accepted
Gabon	Create an independent national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Germany	Sign and ratify the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child	Noted
Germany	Further effectively investigate, prosecute and punish all hate crimes and establish an authority where complaints in this regard can be addressed	Noted

Ghana	Continue its meritorious efforts to prosecute violent hate crimes, including racist and xenophobic crimes	Accepted
Ghana	Adopt a definition of torture under Swedish law that conforms to the definition under the Convention against Torture	Noted
Ghana	Establish a national independent human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Ghana	Restore the term "race" as a ground of discrimination in accordance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)	Noted
Greece	Intensify efforts in fighting the root causes of violence against women by paying special attention to addressing alcohol and drug abuse	Noted
Greece	Amend its legislation to declare illegal and prohibit organisations promoting and inciting racial hatred, in line with article 4 (b) of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	Noted
Guatemala	Consider ratifying ILO Convention No. 169	Accepted
Guatemala	Consider ratifying ICRMW	Noted
Honduras	Ratify ILO Convention No. 169	Noted
Honduras	Ratify ICRMW	Noted
Hungary	Look into the possibility of prioritizing the rights of the child directly, as a stand-alone issue, not just as a horizontal consideration in its human rights policies	Accepted

Hungary	Consider ways to ensure the meaningful involvement of the Roma community in the implementation of the strategy and to focus more on efforts to change negative attitudes in Swedish society towards the Roma	Accepted
Hungary	Strengthen the judicial follow-up of hate crimes and hate speech, leaving no room for impunity	Accepted
Iceland	Work effectively on incorporating the the Convention on the Rights of the Child into Swedish laws	Accepted
Iceland	Continue strengthening efforts to combat racism, intolerance and hate crimes	Accepted
India	Enhance efforts to curb hate crimes against certain religious communities, ethnic groups and other minorities, including indigenous people	Accepted
India	Strengthen the measures to combat violence against women as well as support the victims and survivors of such violence	Accepted
India	Implement speedily the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommendations	Accepted
India	Establish early a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Indonesia	Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, as previously recommended	Accepted
Indonesia	Continue strengthening efforts to combat racism, xenophobia and religious intolerance in law and practice	Accepted
Indonesia	Consider ratifying ICRMW	Noted

Iran	Take all necessary measures to ensure greater effectiveness of legislation on hate crimes	Accepted
Iran	Adopt vigorous measures to combat all forms of discrimination against persons with an immigrant background	Accepted
Iran	Take measures to improve the situation of persons belonging to the Roma and other minorities	Accepted
Iran	Take appropriate measures to support the cultures of persons belonging to national minorities	Accepted
Iran	Ensure effective protection of Muslim minorities, including their places of worship	Accepted
Iran	Fully incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its optional protocols in Swedish legislation so as to end child prostitution, child pornography and trafficking of children for sexual purposes	Noted
Iran	Implement a ban on racist organizations and activities	Noted
Ireland	Consider establishing a national human rights institution, in conformity with the Paris Principles, with a broad mandate, as soon as possible	Accepted
Ireland	Consider the introduction of a complaint mechanism for children at the domestic level, as well as signature and ratification of the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure	Accepted
Israel	Ensure all children are guaranteed fundamental rights during the judicial process	Accepted

Israel	Continue implementing measures and funding programmes to combat anti-Semitism	Accepted
Israel	Take urgent action to introduce an explicit statutory ban on solitary confinement for children in remand prisons and police cells	Noted
Israel	Introduce a limit for the time a child can be held in detention, pretrial	Noted
Italy	Take appropriate measures to implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, including through education and awareness-raising campaigns	Accepted
Italy	Implement the 2014 recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to ensure that all medical treatments are provided with free and informed consent and that no one is confined against his will in medical facilities on the basis of actual or perceived disability	Accepted
Kuwait	Strengthen the necessary measures to enhance tolerance and dialogue among civilizations	Accepted
Kuwait	Take additional crucial measures to fight hate speech and prosecute and punish perpetrators of hate crimes	Accepted
Lebanon	Continue to play an active role in international forums to fight racism and paedophilia	Accepted
Lebanon	Consolidate laws and regulations to fight all forms of discrimination, racism and xenophobia	Accepted
Lebanon	Continue the implementation of policies pertaining to national minorities such as the Sami and the Roma with a view to improving their living conditions	Accepted

Libya	Strengthen measures to promote tolerance and dialogue between civilizations and take categorical measures to fight hate speech and to penalize the perpetrators of such speech	Accepted
Lithuania	Raise the level of public awareness in relation to child sex tourism, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child	Accepted
Lithuania	Withdraw its declaration on article 2 (c) in order to give full effect to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography in addressing all forms of child pornography	Noted
Macedonia	Continue ensuring the implementation of measures in order to fully eliminate discrimination, racism and xenophobia against minorities, refugees, asylum seekers and migrants	Accepted
Malaysia	Take more effective measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against minority groups in the country, in particular prejudice against Muslims	Accepted
Malaysia	Redouble its efforts in fostering national unity and harmony, including by intensifying dialogues promoting deeper understanding among societies of different ethnic and faith, addressing the negative portrayal in the media of members of the Muslim community and criminalizing hate speech and all forms of incitement to hatred and violence	Noted
Mexico	Develop programmes to raise awareness about domestic and gender violence	Accepted
Mexico	Intensify efforts for the early establishment of a national independent human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles	Accepted

Mexico	Remove all ethnic profiling in the working methods of the police and other officials responsible for law enforcement	Noted
Moldova	Consider developing a third action plan on human rights and continue sharing its experience with regard to systematic human rights implementation	Accepted
Montenegro	Take the necessary measures to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity	Accepted
Montenegro	Ratify the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure	Noted
Morocco	Continue efforts to promote respect of cultural, religious and linguistic diversity	Accepted
Morocco	Take further measures to improve the situation of persons with disabilities in terms of participation and accessibility	Accepted
Namibia	Consider establishing an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Namibia	Further enhance efforts to combat discrimination, including racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerances	Accepted
Netherlands	Remain proactive in combating discrimination against Sami and Roma and in protecting their economic, social and cultural rights, in consultation with the communities concerned	Accepted
Netherlands	Keep monitoring the application of the 2008 Surveillance Act to prevent interference with the right to privacy and to implement reforms to comply with its obligations under EU law as set out in the International Principles on the Application of Human Rights to Communications Surveillance	Noted

Nicaragua	Consider ratifying ILO Convention No. 169	Accepted
Nicaragua	Provide without discrimination the proper guarantees of effective judicial protection for detainees, in accordance with the principles and international obligations	Accepted
Nicaragua	Establish a national institution in accordance with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Norway	Continue to work towards ratification of ILO Convention No. 169 and thereby secure the Sami people's rights	Accepted
Pakistan	Take immediate steps to adopt and implement policies and measures to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, Islamophobia and related intolerances	Accepted
Pakistan	Take steps for eliminating religious and racial discrimination	Accepted
Pakistan	Take concrete measures to end harassment, verbal threats, sabotage, arson attacks and vandalism faced by the Muslim population and provide access to justice to Roma people and Afro-Swedes and ensure their social inclusion	Accepted
Pakistan	Ratify OP-ICESCR	Noted
Pakistan	Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with Paris Principles	Accepted
Pakistan	Take steps for eliminating religious and racial profiling faced by minorities including Muslims, Roma people and Afro-Swedes and prosecute perpetrators of xenophobic crimes	Noted

Pakistan	Take immediate steps to restore race as a ground of discrimination in compliance with ICERD, and the European Union Racial Equality Directive	Noted
Pakistan	Immediately ban anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim political discourse propagated by some political parties including Sweden Democrats	Noted
Palestine	Continue to take measures to narrow the gender wage gap and enhance the equal opportunities of work between men and women	Accepted
Palestine	Continue taking the necessary measures to strengthen the efforts aiming to combat discrimination and hatred of foreigners	Accepted
Philippines	Consider ratifying other international human rights conventions, including ILO Convention No. 189	Accepted
Philippines	Continue its programmes to combat violence against women, including addressing the values and attitudes that contribute to the perpetration of violence	Accepted
Philippines	Consider ratifying other international human rights conventions, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW)	Noted
Poland	Promote equal opportunities and enhance strategies against discrimination faced by immigrants and minority groups, both ethnic and religious	Accepted
Portugal	Consider developing Human Rights Indicators as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies	Accepted
Portugal	Consider establishing an interministerial committee responsible for the implementation of its international human rights obligations	Accepted

Portugal	Ratify ICPPED	Noted
Portugal	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR)	Noted
Portugal	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (OP-CRC-IC)	Noted
Portugal	Take all necessary measures to have an independent national human rights institution with "A" status, in accordance with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Qatar	Take measures to incorporate the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into Swedish law	Accepted
Qatar	Take further measures to boost children's, adolescents' and young people's knowledge of the issue of xenophobia and similar forms of intolerance	Accepted
Romania	Continue consolidating the Equality Ombudsman's mandate in combating discrimination	Accepted
Romania	Step up efforts aimed at combating trafficking in human beings	Accepted
Romania	Intensify action against child sex tourism	Accepted
Russian Federation	Guarantee effective protection, in law and practice, of the rights of national and religious minorities, firstly Muslims, Jews as well as the Sami	Accepted
Russian Federation	Adopt a national plan on combating crimes of hatred, racism, and xenophobia	Accepted

Russian Federation	Take measures to rapidly end the unlawful use of force by the police	Noted
Russian Federation	Strengthen legislation on the protection of the public from unauthorized actions by the police	Noted
Russian Federation	Conduct impartial, public and thorough investigation of cases of possible involvement of Sweden in the unlawful detention, transportation, interrogation and torture by officers of the CIA of the USA of suspects of terrorism	Noted
Rwanda	Consider ratifying ICRMW	Noted
Senegal	Ensure equal treatment of all workers carrying out the same tasks	Accepted
Senegal	Promote tolerance and further protect minorities and vulnerable groups	Accepted
Senegal	Punish severely the perpetrators of paedophile tourism and sensitize the population to the negative effects of sex tourism	Accepted
Senegal	Take all appropriate measures in order to prevent the transfer of unaccompanied minors to Sweden and provide those who are already in the country with the necessary humanitarian support	Noted
Serbia	Consider additional measures for improving the socioeconomic conditions of the Swedish Roma population	Accepted
Sierra Leone	Intensify efforts to prosecute cases of hate crimes, either on the basis of race or religious belief	Accepted
Sierra Leone	Establish an independent national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles	Accepted

Sierra Leone	Ratify ICRMW	Noted
Slovakia	Ensure that all persons deprived of their liberty are afforded all the fundamental legal safeguards in accordance with international standards	Accepted
Slovakia	Abolish the use of solitary confinement for minors in the juvenile justice system	Noted
Slovenia	Enhance measures to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity	Accepted
Slovenia	Eliminate the gender pay gap	Noted
Slovenia	Review surveillance legislation with a view to effectively protecting the right to privacy	Noted
South Africa	Consider heeding the call of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles	Accepted
South Africa	Take concrete actions to end the increasing gender gap in the area of employment and pay, thus ensuring equal remuneration for men and women	Accepted
South Africa	Adopt special measures to promote equal opportunities, address structural discrimination and enhance strategies against inequality and discrimination faced by migrants, foreign-born citizens, indigenous peoples as well as minority groups, including Afro-Swedes and Muslims	Accepted
Spain	Strengthen measures to promote access by persons with disabilities to employment in the public sector	Accepted
Spain	Proceed to ratify ICPPED, signed in 2007	Noted

Spain	Ratify OP-ICESCR	Noted
Spain	Ratify OP-CRC-IC	Noted
Spain	Incorporate the crime of torture as a specific criminal offence under the Penal Code	Noted
Sri Lanka	Explore ways and means of strengthening the ongoing efforts to combat all forms of discrimination to improve the scope of protection against discrimination at all levels in society	Accepted
Sri Lanka	Take concrete action to reduce the gender gap in decision-making positions and ensure equal remuneration for men and women for work of equal value	Accepted
Sri Lanka	Expedite the ongoing measures for combating child sex tourism	Accepted
Sudan	Continue its efforts to raise public awareness and to include human rights education in the school curricula	Accepted
Sudan	Redouble its efforts to eliminate any remaining forms of discrimination and xenophobia	Accepted
Sudan	Implement the Government's disability policy 2011-2016	Accepted
Sudan	Establish an independent national human rights institution	Accepted
Thailand	Strengthen its investigations of sex crimes committed overseas by Swedish nationals and ensure that those who have travelled abroad to purchase sexual services, especially from children, can be prosecuted in Sweden	Noted

Thailand	Take the necessary steps to curb racist propaganda, including on the internet	Noted
Timor-Leste	Continue to consult, and expand its dialogue with, civil society organizations working in the area of human rights protection, particularly in combating racial discrimination	Accepted
Timor-Leste	Ratify ICRMW	Noted
Togo	Continue consultations initiated for the creation of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Togo	Ensure that, in practice, undocumented children can benefit from health care and education	Accepted
Togo	Take measures to prohibit in practice anti-immigration speech and racist propaganda	Noted
Trinidad and Tobago	Pursue strategies and policies to prevent discrimination, in all spheres of public life, against its indigenous people and other minority groups such as Afro-Swedes and Muslims	Accepted
Trinidad and Tobago	Take effective measures to ensure the right of a person to enjoy freedom of religion and religious belief	Accepted
Trinidad and Tobago	Take action to improve opportunities for persons with disabilities to obtain gainful employment	Accepted
Tunisia	Ratify ICPPED	Noted
Tunisia	Ratify OP-ICESCR	Noted

Tunisia	Accelerate the process of establishing a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Turkey	Effectively investigate, prosecute and punish all hate crimes and take effective measures to combat hate speech in the media and on the internet, including by prosecuting the perpetrators regardless of their official status	Accepted
Turkey	Ratify ICRMW	Noted
Ukraine	Consider establishing a national human rights institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles	Accepted
Ukraine	Continue efforts aimed at ensuring protection of the rights of persons with intellectual and psychological disabilities who require a high level of support, including through allocation of the necessary financial resources	Accepted
United Kingdom	Prioritize family member tracing when dealing with asylum-seeking unaccompanied children and ensure all relevant processes are in the child's best interests	Accepted
United Kingdom	Introduce alternative measures to pretrial detention for minors wherever possible, develop clear rules for the treatment of minors in police custody, and monitor their effective implementation in practice	Noted
United States	Enhance measures to reduce societal discrimination and incidents of violence against members of ethnic and religious minorities	Accepted
United States	Strengthen efforts to prosecute human trafficking and increase understanding of human trafficking among the judiciary	Accepted
Uruguay	Carry out judicial procedures in accordance with the norms that protect individual rights, particularly the right to effective judicial protection and due process	Accepted

Uruguay	Ratify ICPPED, signed in February 2007	Noted
Uruguay	Sign and ratify ICRMW	Noted
Uzbekistan	Consider ratification of the ILO convention on indigenous peoples	Accepted
Uzbekistan	Consider ratification of ILO convention on decent work for domestic workers	Accepted
Uzbekistan	Take effective measures to combat hate speech on racial and religious grounds in the media and on the internet, and to bring to justice the perpetrators of hate speech	Accepted
Uzbekistan	Remove reservations to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ICESCR, and the Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children and child pornography in order to ensure full implementation of these key international instruments	Noted
Uzbekistan	Amend legislation to prohibit the activities of organizations which promote and incite racial and religious hatred	Noted