



# General Assembly

Distr.: Limited  
16 November 2018

Original: English

## UNEDITED VERSION

**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Thirty-first session**  
Geneva, 5–16 November 2018

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

#### **Republic of the Congo**

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

## **Introduction**

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-first session from 5 to 16 November 2018. The review of the Republic of the Congo was held at the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The delegation of the Republic of the Congo was headed by His Excellency Mr. Jean-Claude Gakosso, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Congolese Abroad. At its 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018, the Working Group adopted the report on the Republic of the Congo.

2. On 10 January 2018, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the Republic of the Congo: Côte D'Ivoire, Spain and Ukraine.

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 the Republic of the Congo:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/31/COG/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.6/31/COG/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/31/COG/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Brazil, Liechtenstein, Portugal on behalf of the Group of Friends on national implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was transmitted to the Republic of the Congo through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

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

[To be completed by 23 November 2018]

### **A. Presentation by the State under review**

### **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

5. During the interactive dialogue, 83 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

## **II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

**6. The response of the Republic of the Congo to the following recommendations will be included in the outcome report adopted by the Human Rights Council at its fortieth session:**

**6.1. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Benin, Estonia, France, Portugal, Togo);**

- 6.2. Proceed to the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aimed at abolishing death penalty (Georgia);
- 6.3. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and work to eliminate references to the death penalty in the Criminal Code (Paraguay);
- 6.4. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, bearing in mind that Congo stopped applying the death penalty (Chile);
- 6.5. Speed up the process of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro);
- 6.6. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty consequently to the abolishment of the death penalty in the Constitution (Germany);
- 6.7. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and introduce a bill on the abolition of the death penalty in Congo to the National Assembly and pursue awareness raising activities among the Congolese population (Slovenia);
- 6.8. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading or Punishment (Denmark);
- 6.9. Speed up the process for depositing the instrument of ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatments (Georgia);
- 6.10. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; establish a National Mechanism for the prevention of Torture and improve its system for registering persons deprived of their liberty (Paraguay);
- 6.11. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina, France, Sierra Leone);
- 6.12. Consider the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Tunisia);
- 6.13. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Denmark, Montenegro);
- 6.14. Consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Côte d'Ivoire)/ Consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at the earliest convenience (Ghana);
- 6.15. Ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia);
- 6.16. Consider ratifying the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Rwanda);
- 6.17. Accede to the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its 2000 Protocol on trafficking in persons (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

- 6.18. Consider the possibility of ratifying the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Belarus);
- 6.19. Ratify the Convention 189 of the International Labour Organization, concerning decent work for domestic workers (Benin);
- 6.20. Study the possibility of adhering to Convention 169 of the International Labour Organization on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.21. Expedite their ratification of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Sierra Leone);
- 6.22. Consider ratifying the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Mozambique);
- 6.23. Complete the process of the ratification of international instruments (Egypt);
- 6.24. Accelerate the process of ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol relating to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);
- 6.25. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; the 1954 Convention relating to the Statute of Stateless Persons; ILO 169 Convention on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples; Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children which complements the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and multilateral agreement on regional cooperation of fight against trafficking in persons, especially women and children (Honduras);
- 6.26. Comply with the recommendations of its second UPR and accelerate the ratification process of the recommended conventions (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- 6.27. Consider the extension of a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council, as previously recommended (Latvia);
- 6.28. Strengthen its cooperation with treaty bodies (Niger);
- 6.29. Ensure that national candidates to UN human rights treaty body elections are selected through an open and merit-based process (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.30. Keep mobilizing resources and seek necessary international support to enhance its capacity to protect and promote human rights (Nigeria);
- 6.31. Continue the reform of its national legal framework for ensuring its compliance with the provisions of the international and regional human rights instruments (Afghanistan);

- 6.32. Continue to strengthen its legal and institutional frameworks for the promotion and protection of human rights (Nigeria);
- 6.33. Finalize the reform process of its internal normative framework (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- 6.34. Step-up the efforts of revising and drafting legal codes to strengthen the rule of law and associations (Ethiopia);
- 6.35. Continue measures to strengthen human rights institutions (Cameroon);
- 6.36. Continue to strengthen the existing National Commission for Human Rights (Indonesia);
- 6.37. Provide the Human Rights Commission with sufficient financial resources, autonomy and independence to be able to align with the Paris Principles (Chile);
- 6.38. Strengthen the capacities of the National Human Rights Commission so that it complies with the Paris Principles (Niger);
- 6.39. Allow the National Commission for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms to function effectively (Senegal);
- 6.40. Bring the National Human Rights Commission into conformity with the Paris Principles, provide for a sufficient budget for its operation, guarantee the institutional independence of that body and give it competence to bring cases before the courts (Portugal);
- 6.41. Speed up the reform of the National Human Rights Commission with a view to ensure its good functioning and full independence, in line with the Paris Principles (Djibouti);
- 6.42. Ensure the effective functioning of dialogue forums with civil society, such as the National Human Rights Commission (France);
- 6.43. Take the necessary measures to strengthen the protection component of the new law on the National Human Rights Commission and bring it into compliance with the Paris Principles (Georgia);
- 6.44. Ensure the accreditation of the National Human Rights Commission with A status to the United Nations (Mali);
- 6.45. Harmonize the National Human Rights Commission in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mexico);
- 6.46. Take steps to establish a mechanism for monitoring children's rights with the capacity to receive, investigate and address complaints by children in a child-sensitive manner (Ghana);
- 6.47. Consider the establishment of an independent child rights oversight mechanism, and take additional measures to reduce disparities in access to school and other public goods related to gender or socio-economic, ethnic or regional reasons, paying particular attention to refugee children (Brazil);
- 6.48. Consider establishing a specific human rights mechanism, independent and in full compliance with the Paris Principles, to protect the rights of the child, potentially within the framework of the NHRI (Netherlands);
- 6.49. Establish a specific mechanism for supervising the rights of the child able to receive, investigate and handle complaints in a child-sensitive manner and

to make systematic, adequate and effective efforts to remedy discrimination against children living in rural areas (Portugal);

6.50. Strengthen the national system for the promotion and protection of human rights, including by intensifying efforts to prevent and combat arbitrary detention and torture (Italy);

6.51. Continue to implement measures aimed at strengthening democracy, the rule of law and good governance, with a view to improving the quality of public services and combating corruption more effectively (Angola);

6.52. Strengthen institutional capacities to detect, investigate and prosecute corruption effectively (Botswana);

6.53. Investigate, prosecute and sentence, as appropriate, Congolese staff members who have been or are involved in allegations of abuse and criminality, including sexual exploitation, as part of peacekeeping operations (Haiti);

6.54. Advance the implementation of the Pool pacification agreement, strengthen measures to support the population and facilitate the reintegration of ex-combatants (Spain);

6.55. Continue the implementation of initiatives on human rights awareness-raising, education, and training (Philippines);

6.56. Provide human rights training to law enforcement officials to ensure that police operations are conducted in accordance with human rights standards and international commitments undertaken by Congo (Central Africa Republic);

6.57. Continue providing human rights training for security apparatus and law enforcement officers to better promote and protect human rights (Indonesia);

6.58. Provide human rights training to law enforcement personnel and ensure that police operations are conducted in accordance with human rights principles and standards and international commitments of the country (Portugal);

6.59. Provide the necessary training to judges and strengthen institutional capacities (Jordan);

6.60. Pursue efforts to achieve gender equality (Tunisia);

6.61. Fight against forms of discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation and gender identity (France);

6.62. Criminalize acts of violence and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);

6.63. Strengthen measures to further protect persons with albinism and eliminate all forms of discrimination they face (Sierra Leone);

6.64. Continue to improve the basic infrastructure to fully support the enjoyment of human rights in line with the implementation of the National Development Plan (Indonesia);

6.65. Continue to promote economic, social and cultural rights through the implementation of its National Development Plan (Lao People's Democratic Republic);

- 6.66. Continue to implement the National Development Plan 2018-2022, in order to reduce poverty, promote employment, enhance economic and social development, so as to provide a solid basis for the enjoyment of all human rights by the people (China);
- 6.67. Continue to consolidate its social and human rights policies through the National Development Plan 2018-2022, in order to increase the quality of life of its people, particularly of the most vulnerable sectors of the population (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.68. Continue efforts to implement the National Development Plan 2018-2022 (Sudan);
- 6.69. Establish mechanisms as soon as possible to ensure transparent and accountable management in the extractive industries sector (Haiti);
- 6.70. Revise the Penal Code in order to harmonize it with the provisions of the Constitution abolishing the death penalty (Belgium);
- 6.71. Abolish legally the death penalty, establish a de jure moratorium on its application and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Ukraine);
- 6.72. Amend its Criminal Code to align it with the Constitutional abolition of the death penalty, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);
- 6.73. Abolish the death penalty for all crimes and accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Iceland);
- 6.74. Adopt the necessary laws to enforce the abolition of the death penalty, as well as ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Spain);
- 6.75. Introduce legislation to remove any reference to the death penalty in the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure and ratify as soon as possible the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Right aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Ireland);
- 6.76. Take concrete measures to introduce a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view towards its total abolition (Rwanda);
- 6.77. Take appropriate measures to ensure that all allegations of enforced disappearance, torture, ill-treatment and death in prison are promptly, thoroughly and impartially investigated and that the perpetrators are convicted, while guaranteeing the rights of victims and their families to justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition (Brazil);
- 6.78. Investigate fully the death of 13 juveniles in a police station in Brazzaville in July 2018 and prosecute the responsible persons (Germany);
- 6.79. Take effective measures to ensure that fundamental legal safeguards to protect persons arrested by law enforcement officials are respected (Portugal);
- 6.80. Adopt measures to eradicate human rights violations committed by security forces, especially extrajudicial executions, arbitrary detention and torture (Canada);

- 6.81. Take effective measures to investigate all alleged acts of torture, and ensure that perpetrators are brought to account (Ghana);
- 6.82. Take the necessary steps to ensure that all cases of enforced disappearances and torture are investigated and that those responsible for these human rights violations are brought to justice (Belgium);
- 6.83. Investigate cases of enforced disappearance and punish their perpetrators (Argentina);
- 6.84. Continue efforts to improve human rights conditions in prisons and places of detention through institutional reform and international cooperation (Lebanon);
- 6.85. Continue the implementation of a strategy to reduce prison overcrowding and improve living conditions in prisons (Cameroon);
- 6.86. Continue the efforts begun to reduce prison overcrowding and strengthen the resources available to penitentiary institutions (Senegal);
- 6.87. Redouble efforts to relieve prison pressure and generally improve detention conditions in places of detention (Burundi);
- 6.88. Ensure that the police, the army or the General Direction of Territory Surveillance and the gendarmerie refrain from imprisoning detained longer than the 72-hour limit stipulated in Article 48 of the Criminal Code of Procedure and grant human rights monitors access to detention centers (Germany);
- 6.89. Ensure effective respect to the right to a fair trial, in particular respect to the rights of the defense (France);
- 6.90. Continue strengthening the independence of the Judiciary (Cameroon);
- 6.91. Take action to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of human rights abuses during the conflict with a view to ensuring full accountability (Australia);
- 6.92. Set up an independent commission of justice, truth and reconciliation to shed light on the events that took place in the Pool from April 2016 to December 2017 (Canada);
- 6.93. Adopt concrete measures to ensure access to a fair trial for all within a reasonable time, strengthen the independence of the judiciary and strengthen mechanisms to combat impunity (Canada);
- 6.94. Repeal laws that criminalise adultery and enact comprehensive legislation making domestic violence and all forms of human trafficking illegal (Australia);
- 6.95. Include a definition of torture in the Criminal Code, which fully incorporates Article 1 of the Convention against Torture within this UPR cycle (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.96. Include a concrete definition of torture according to the Convention against Torture in the Criminal Code and take effective measures to ensure the prosecution of all perpetrators of any form of ill treatment (Germany);
- 6.97. Release all remaining prisoners of conscience, investigate reports of abuses by security forces and deaths of persons in detention, and take effective measures to ensure fair trial guarantees for all individuals (United States of America);

- 6.98. Take all necessary measures to promote and protect a safe and enabling environment in which both civil society and human rights defenders can operate free from fear, hindrance and insecurity (Ireland);
- 6.99. Guarantee the exercise of the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, in compliance with international law (Italy);
- 6.100. Continue dialogue with national institutions, civil society, partners and all relevant stakeholders in the field of human rights in order to promote participation (Jordan);
- 6.101. Revise laws regarding freedom of association and peaceful assembly to ensure they are consistent with your international obligations and commitments (United States of America);
- 6.102. Refrain from imposing restrictions on telecommunication networks and restricting access to the Internet, including social networks and e-mail sites, to guarantee the rights to freedom of expression and access to the information (Belgium);
- 6.103. Continue improving the infrastructure communication networks (Cameroon);
- 6.104. Strengthen efforts to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children, including by improving national legislation and law enforcement practices (Belarus);
- 6.105. Continue efforts to combat trafficking in persons, including the examination of the draft law on trafficking in persons (Tunisia);
- 6.106. Enact comprehensive anti-trafficking legislation that criminalizes all forms of trafficking and prescribes sufficiently stringent penalties (United States of America);
- 6.107. Continue the adoption process of the bill against trafficking in persons (Gabon);
- 6.108. Strengthen efforts to combat trafficking in persons (Iraq);
- 6.109. Continue to strengthen national mechanisms, with a focus to eliminate human trafficking (Maldives);
- 6.110. Take all necessary measures to eradicate all forms of slavery and human trafficking (Central Africa Republic);
- 6.111. Continue the adoption process of the draft persons and family code (Gabon);
- 6.112. Pursue to implement the plan for the Promotion of Employment and Poverty Reduction (Sudan);
- 6.113. Continue the necessary measures to reduce poverty (Viet Nam);
- 6.114. Continue the implementation of the poverty reduction strategy and maternal and infant mortality programs (Cameroon);
- 6.115. Continue efforts to reduce poverty, and to improve the health system, to improve indicators such as infant and maternal mortality, and the incidence of communicable diseases (Cuba);
- 6.116. Better fight against extreme poverty and improve the functioning of the basic social services (France);

- 6.117. Strengthen its education and health system, especially in isolated localities (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 6.118. Increase the resources devoted to the health and education sector (Togo);
- 6.119. Continue its efforts to support the health and education sectors, eliminate violence against women and support people with disabilities (Libya);
- 6.120. Continue efforts to establish universal health coverage (Viet Nam);
- 6.121. Continue to develop medical and health services to better safeguard the right to health by the people (China);
- 6.122. Improve its efforts in the public health service, namely for women and children (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.123. Continue efforts aimed at introducing universal health coverage in the country (South Africa);
- 6.124. Step up its efforts to realize the universal health coverage and engage in experience sharing with other countries on prevention of epidemic diseases (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 6.125. Improve health care facilities and follow-up treatment for infected mothers and infants to reduce the number of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis cases (India);
- 6.126. Take further measures to ensure access to treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS (Lesotho);
- 6.127. Improve treatment for HIV/AIDS infected, ensure early diagnosis and the immediate initiation of treatment, particularly for adolescents (Ukraine);
- 6.128. Intensify efforts to combat HIV / AIDS, including through the possible development and implementation of a comprehensive national program (Belarus);
- 6.129. Strengthen its efforts for ensuring access to inclusive education for all children, particularly for vulnerable groups including indigenous and poor children, girls and children with disabilities (Afghanistan);
- 6.130. Continue its efforts to provide equitable and quality education for all children while consolidating the compulsory education system (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 6.131. Explicitly guarantee equitable and inclusive access to education for all and prohibit discrimination in the education sector (Armenia);
- 6.132. Continue its efforts in strengthening the constitutional provisions relating to education and ensure equitable and inclusive access to education for all without discrimination (State of Palestine);
- 6.133. Continue improving the school enrolment rate (Cameroon);
- 6.134. Continue working to improve the education system, in particular to expand access in rural areas and the continuity of girls' studies (Cuba);
- 6.135. Maintain and reinforce all measures aimed to strengthen the right to education for all and promote increased access of girls to primary school (Djibouti);

- 6.136. Continue to revise national legislation to enhancing women's rights (Egypt);
- 6.137. Complete the drafting and adoption of the bill on violence against women (Gabon);
- 6.138. Enact additional legislation aimed at eliminating violence against women (Iraq);
- 6.139. Further strengthen efforts in preventing and combating gender-based violence (Philippines);
- 6.140. Give continuity to the processing of the draft bill to combat violence against women (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.141. Implement all necessary measures to reinforce gender equality, revoking all legislation that contravenes the promotion of women (Angola);
- 6.142. Adopt measures that fully enforce legal provisions for the protection of women and girls, and provide adequate services to victims (Spain);
- 6.143. Continue legislative guarantees to ensure the protection and promotion of the rights of women (Philippines);
- 6.144. Reinforce the equality of men and women by modernizing the divorce law and penalizing rape in marriages (Germany);
- 6.145. Continue its policy to eliminate inequalities among men and women, taking the necessary measures to increase participation of women in the political and public life (Djibouti);
- 6.146. Strengthen the participation of women in political and public life and their representation in decision-making bodies (Ethiopia);
- 6.147. Work on increasing the participation of women in public life and representation in decision-making bodies (Zimbabwe);
- 6.148. Strengthen efforts on the empowerment of women, including their representation in decision-making bodies and enhanced support to rural women (South Africa);
- 6.149. Continue efforts to combat violence against women including the examination of the draft law prohibiting such violence (Tunisia);
- 6.150. Adopt a comprehensive law punishing all forms of violence against women, including marital rape, female genital mutilation and sexual abuse and exploitation of women in prison and in conflict areas (Iceland);
- 6.151. Take the necessary measures to establish a prohibition of female genital mutilation, as well as guarantee adequate and effective protection against all forms of discrimination against women (Argentina);
- 6.152. Adopt a comprehensive law to prosecute all forms of violence against women, including marital rape, female genital mutilation and sexual abuse and exploitation of women in prison and in conflict areas (Ukraine);
- 6.153. Combat gender-based discrimination and violence, including marital rape and female genital mutilation (Estonia);
- 6.154. Adopt and implement a comprehensive law addressing and outlining punishment for all forms of violence against women, including early and forced

marriage, female genital mutilation, marital rape and sexual abuse (Netherlands);

6.155. Quickly adopt the new national codes setting out important provisions on the area of equality among women and men and the fight against torture (France);

6.156. Approve a general law to combat and eliminate all forms of violence against women, including spousal rape and female genital mutilation (Paraguay);

6.157. Continue the fight against all forms of discrimination and violence against women, including marital rape, and female genital mutilation (Algeria);

6.158. Strengthen the implementation of existing measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination and sexual violence against women and girls (Canada);

6.159. Undertake steps to eliminate widespread violence against women and children (Armenia);

6.160. Take steps to eradicate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and children (Italy);

6.161. Continue implementation of policies to encourage the sustainable economic empowerment of women, in particular in rural areas (Bulgaria);

6.162. Continue efforts to improve the education system ensuring qualitative education for all and especially persons with special needs and indigenous people (Lebanon);

6.163. Continue efforts to promote children's rights without discrimination (Tunisia);

6.164. Intensify efforts to eliminate discrimination against children (Iraq);

6.165. Strengthen existing policies designed to promote and protect children's rights (Zimbabwe);

6.166. Take effective measures to protect children from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, investigate all reported cases and prosecute those responsible (Algeria);

6.167. Take additional steps to protect the rights of children, including birth registration, ensure increased access to education and health care services (Belarus);

6.168. Intensify child registration, increase the number of schools and promote education programmes in rural areas that are difficult to reach (United Arab Emirates);

6.169. Redouble efforts to strengthen the birth registration system so that it is universal, efficient, accessible and promotes immediate registration without discrimination due to gender, ethnic or national origin, and disability among others (Mexico);

6.170. Protect vulnerable children from discrimination, especially children with albinism (Botswana);

6.171. Develop a comprehensive national strategy to prevent and address all forms of violence against children (Bulgaria);

- 6.172. **Adopt a national strategy to prevent and combat all forms of violence and exploitation against children, including campaigns to raise awareness of children's rights at all levels of society (Chile);**
- 6.173. **Prevent and address violence against children, including ensure protection of children from corporal punishment in all settings, including in the home (Estonia);**
- 6.174. **Adopt measures to combat violations of children's rights, particularly with regard to street children, who suffer abuse, including sexual abuse, and eliminate all discrimination against them (Spain);**
- 6.175. **Set up a strategy to fight sexual exploitation and violence towards children in particular girls (Madagascar);**
- 6.176. **Take necessary measures to protect children against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment (Madagascar);**
- 6.177. **Formulate long-term universal public policies to guarantee free access for all children to schools and health services, with strategies to prevent the school drop-out of girls throughout the country (Mexico);**
- 6.178. **Develop outreach campaigns, carry out monitoring actions and ensure access to justice so that the law relating to the Protection of Children, which prohibits corporal punishment, is effective in putting an end to all forms of physical, verbal or psychological violence exercised against girls and boys (Uruguay);**
- 6.179. **Adopt specific measures to prevent and combat the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, the early marriage of girls and forced labour throughout the national territory, with special emphasis on the regions of the country where these phenomena prevail (Uruguay);**
- 6.180. **Continue taking adequate measures to reduce poverty and deprivation levels so that children could enjoy an adequate standard of living, particularly with respect to access to safe drinking water and sanitation, housing and education (Serbia);**
- 6.181. **Continue to strengthen its national policies to further promote and protect children's rights and rights of persons with disabilities (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**
- 6.182. **Adopt appropriate assistance programmes with regard to the rehabilitation and social integration of child soldiers (Paraguay);**
- 6.183. **Continue its endeavours to improve the economic, social and cultural rights, particularly on child rights protection (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 6.184. **Take practical measures to encourage the inclusion of children with disabilities in the mainstream education system (Maldives);**
- 6.185. **Continue measures to promote the inclusion of children with disabilities in the mainstream education system and in society (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 6.186. **Redouble its efforts to put in place appropriate support measures for children with disabilities and measures to facilitate access to public buildings for persons with disabilities (Mauritius);**
- 6.187. **Implement programs to raise public awareness on the rights of persons with disabilities, as well as increase financial and material support to specialized Institutions (Angola);**

6.188. **Conduct public awareness campaigns and to take further steps to implement the National Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities (Bulgaria);**

6.189. **Implement the National Plan of Action for Persons with Disabilities of 2009, as soon as possible, with adequate human and financial resources, in order to follow up on recommendations number 112.19 and 112.20 accepted at the end of the second cycle (Haiti);**

6.190. **Finalize the adoption of the draft decrees on the national strategy on indigenous issues (South Africa);**

6.191. **Take further steps to combat discrimination, stereotypes of which indigenous people are victims and promote a climate of respect and tolerance among all (State of Palestine);**

6.192. **Step up efforts in updating the protection framework for refugees and asylum seekers (Lesotho);**

6.193. **Continue its implementation of the Cessation Clause for Rwandan Refugees (Rwanda).**

6.194 **Continue to take measures promoting women's rights and ensuring gender equality (Lebanon).**

7. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

## Annex

*[French Only]*

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of the Republic of the Congo was headed by His Excellency Mr. Jean-Claude Gakosso, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Congolese Abroad and composed of the following members:

- Monsieur Thierry Lezin MOUNGALLA, Ministre de la Communication et des Médias;
- Monsieur Ange Aimé BININGA, Ministre de la Justice, des Droits Humains et de la Promotion des Peuples Autochtones;
- Madame Antoinette DINGA DZONDO, Ministre des Affaires Sociales et de l'Action Humanitaire;
- Madame Inès Nefer Bertille INGANI, Ministre de la Promotion de la Femme et de l'Intégration de la Femme au Développement;
- Monsieur Jean Rodrigues MVOUMA, Sénateur;
- Monsieur Accel NDINGA MAKANDA, Député;
- Monsieur Fernand SABAYE, Député;
- Monsieur Mathurin MFALI, Député;
- Monsieur Cyprien Sylvestre MAMINA, Secrétaire Général du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, de la Coopération et des Congolais de l'Etranger;
- Son Excellence Monsieur Aimé Clovis GUILLOND, Ambassadeur, Représentant Permanent de la République du Congo auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies à Genève et des autres organisations internationales en Suisse;
- Monsieur Juste Désiré MONDELE, Conseiller Spécial du Président de la République, Chef du Département Politique à la Présidence de la République;
- Monsieur Pierre NGAKA, Conseiller Spécial du Premier Ministre;
- Monsieur Magloire Wilfrid OBILI, Conseiller Juridique du Président de la République;
- Monsieur Jean Didier Clovis NGOULOU, Secrétaire Général Adjoint, Chef du Département des Affaires Multilatérales;
- Monsieur Casimir NDOMBA, Directeur de Cabinet du Ministre de la Justice, des Droits Humains et de la Promotion des Peuples Autochtones;
- Monsieur Jules César BOTOKOU EBOKO, Ministre Conseiller à la Mission permanente du Congo à Genève;
- Monsieur Philippe ONGAGNA, Directeur Général des Droits Humains;
- Monsieur Christian Rock MABIALA, Directeur Général des Affaires Sociales, par intérim;
- Monsieur Justin ASSOMOYI, Directeur Général de la Promotion des Peuples Autochtones;

- Madame Virginie Nicole Sheryl NDESSABEKA, Directrice Générale du Centre de Recherche, d'Information et de la Documentation sur la Femme au Ministère de la promotion de la Femme e de l'Intégration de la Femme au Développement;
  - Monsieur Jean Clotaire TOMBY, Inspecteur Général par Intérim des Affaires sociales et de l'Action Humanitaire;
  - Monsieur Alain Michel OTIELI, Conseiller à la Communication et à la Presse du Ministre de la Justice, des Droits Humains et de la Promotion des Peuples Autochtones;
  - Monsieur Hiver Thomas LEMAMY ATSOUTSOULA, Conseiller chargé du suivi des projets du Ministre de la Justice, des Droits Humains et de la Promotion des Peuples Autochtones;
  - Monsieur Ghislain Urbain OFAMALEKOU, Directeur de la Coopération au Ministère de la Communication et des Médias;
  - Monsieur Gérard ONDONGO, Conseiller à la Mission permanente du Congo à Genève;
  - Monsieur MASSAMBA, Attaché au Cabinet du Président de la République;
  - Madame INGANI née Laurence Marie PEYA NGAKOSSO, Chargé de mission au Cabinet de la Ministre de la promotion de la Femme et de l'Intégration de la Femme au Développement;
  - Monsieur Jean Paul NGANONGO, Attaché de Presse du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, de la Coopération et des Congolais de l'Etranger;
  - Monsieur Jean Paul NGONO, Attaché au Cabinet du Ministre de la Communication et des Médias;
  - Monsieur Brice Nazaire ELLENGA HIBARA, Attaché au Cabinet du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, de la Coopération et des Congolais de l'Etranger.
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