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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Turkmenistan

Addendum

Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review

* The present document was not edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services.



Reply of Turkmenistan to the recommendations of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

1. In the framework of the thirtieth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review held from 7 to 18 May 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland, on 7 May 2018 the delegation of Turkmenistan took part in the presentation of the third report of Turkmenistan.
2. As a result of the dialogue that was held, Turkmenistan accepted 98 recommendations, accepted 90 for further study and rejected 3.
3. On 18 June 2018, the results of the dialogue held as part of the universal periodic review were reviewed at a meeting of the Interdepartmental Commission on Compliance with the International Obligations Undertaken by Turkmenistan in the Field of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law.
4. The recommendations were studied by the corresponding State and public bodies, which presented their proposals for their implementation.
5. Thus, having considered the recommendations, Turkmenistan supports 74 of the recommendations.
6. At the same time, it does not accept 16 recommendations, for the reasons set out below:

116.18 — According to the United Nations definition, “an indigenous people consists of the present descendants of peoples who lived in the current territory of all or part of a country at a time when people of another culture and ethnic origin arrived from another part of the world, subjugated them and put them in a dependent and colonial situation by conquest, colonization or other means”. Since there are no indigenous peoples in Turkmenistan that fit this definition, we consider it inappropriate to ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization;

116.35, 116.36, 116.37, 116.38, 116.39, 116.40 — Owing to contradictions with the prevailing views of civil society;

116.54;

116.59 — Article 58 of the country’s Constitution provides that the defence of Turkmenistan is the sacred duty of each citizen. Male citizens of Turkmenistan are obliged to perform universal military service;

116.60, 116.90 — Article 42 of the country’s Constitution guarantees every person freedom of opinion and expression. No one has the right to prohibit people from freely expressing their views;

116.68, 116.71 — Article 51 of the Media Act establishes liability for restricting freedom of the press;

116.85 — Article 49 of the new version of the Constitution introduced a standard prohibiting forced labour and the worst forms of child labour;

116.86;

116.87 — The Act on Controlling the Spread of Disease caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is not discriminatory, and the measures taken to prevent HIV are not in contradiction with human rights standards.