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

Kazakhstan

* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-fourth session from 4 to 15 November 2019. The review of Kazakhstan was held at the 7th meeting, on 7 November 2019. The delegation of Kazakhstan was headed by the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Beketayev Marat. At its 14th meeting, held on 12 November 2019, the Working Group adopted the report on Kazakhstan.

2. On 15 January 2019, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Kazakhstan: China, Chile and Iceland.

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 Kazakhstan:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/34/KAZ/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.6/34/KAZ/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/34/KAZ/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Angola, Belgium, Liechtenstein, Germany, Portugal, on behalf of Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and United States of America was transmitted to Kazakhstan through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of Kazakhstan stated that in 2017, major constitutional reforms were adopted, which strengthened its legislative and judicial branches, and made the Government more accountable to the public. The delegation further noted President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev's strategy to build a "Hearing State" ready to listen and respond to constructive criticism.

6. Since the Second UPR, Kazakhstan had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2015), and the Convention on Discrimination in Education (2016).

7. Kazakhstan was committed to zero tolerance towards torture and violence, placing particular emphasis on protection of women and children.

8. The authority of the Commissioner for Human Rights to inspect facilities had been increased. The Commissioner oversaw an Expert Council responsible for investigating alleged human rights violations and monitoring the Government's compliance with existing laws.

9. Since 2010, the prison population had been reduced by 46% and new methods of addressing non-violent criminal offenders had been implemented. Since 2003, Kazakhstan had observed a moratorium on imposition of the death penalty.

10. President Tokayev had established a National Council of Public Trust with representatives from human rights advocacy groups, the Commissioners for Human Rights and Children's Rights and other experts. Kazakhstan guaranteed free pre-school, primary, and secondary education. 93% of children between ages 3 and 6 attended preschool and over 7000 schools -95% of them state-owned-provided secondary education.

11. More than 700,000 citizens had benefitted from the Program for Development of Productive Employment and Mass Entrepreneurship for 2017–2021, obtaining professional skills to enter the workforce. In 2018, the Government expanded the eligibility for Targeted Social Assistance and other benefits, increasing the average basic pension by over 70%.

12. Since 2015, Kazakhstan had adopted numerous fundamental reforms to its justice system aimed at guaranteeing independent and qualified judges; ensuring the rule of law; increasing accessibility of courts; ensuring impartiality and fairness of the court system and bringing Kazakhstan's courts in line with international standards. 90% of civil court claims were filed online. All courts were equipped with audio and video recording systems. Emphasis was put on the efforts to promote mediation as a method of pre-trial resolution of disputes.

13. In 2018, access to legal services, especially to socially vulnerable groups, was expanded by a new law. Standards for law practice and education were raised, barriers to enter the legal profession were decreased.

14. In 2016, the Office of the Commissioner for Children's Rights was established and legislation was improved, establishing juvenile courts.

15. The World Economic Forum had recognized Kazakhstan's progress in achieving equality for women. The prevention of domestic violence against women and children was a national priority.

16. Kazakhstan introduced trilingual education, encouraged multilingualism, and enabled children to learn in their native languages. State policy emphasized preservation and strengthening of inter-confessional harmony and respect.

17. To combat the illegal export, import and trafficking of persons, an interagency commission was established.

18. Thanking for the advanced questions, Kazakhstan noted that the Government took necessary measures, including the adoption of comprehensive action plans, improving legislation and creating institutional framework to address them, as well as cooperating with the UN human rights mechanisms.

19. Kazakhstan emphasized that there was a political will to meet all the challenges and create opportunities for positive and lasting change for the country and its citizens.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

20. During the interactive dialogue, 93 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

21. Togo noted with satisfaction that Kazakhstan continued active collaboration with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, received visits by special procedures mandate holders and ratified a number of conventions.

22. Tunisia welcomed Kazakhstan's cooperation with the Special Procedures mechanism and the Human Rights Council. It also commended the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the reform of the Criminal Code.

23. Turkmenistan welcomed the establishment of the National Council of Public Confidence, appointment of Commissioners for Human Rights and Rights of the Child and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

24. United Arab Emirates commended the human rights reforms undertaken by Kazakhstan to enhance transparency and accountability and the introduction of the Sustainable Development Goals in its national laws and plans.

25. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland noted the actions to reduce prison population and investigate instances of torture. It was concerned about libel charges used to control the media and restrict freedom of expression of journalists.

26. United States of America urged the Government to continue its productive engagement with civil society and encouraged further measures to ensure and protect freedom of peaceful assembly and expression.
27. Uruguay noted Kazakhstan's cooperation with international human rights system and encouraged adoption of measures to guarantee the right to freedom of press, freedom of expression and association.
28. Uzbekistan welcomed Kazakhstan's cooperation with the UN human rights mechanisms and noted the Government's commitment to openness and involvement of the civil society and creation of the National Council of Public Confidence.
29. Turkey appreciated the progress in empowering women and commended the establishment of the National Council of Public Trust. It also noted the President of Kazakhstan's efforts on human rights.
30. Viet Nam commended the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the achievements in gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.
31. Yemen appreciated the adoption of a national plan to implement five institutional reforms relating to the rule of law, economic growth, accountability and transparency of the Government.
32. Afghanistan commended the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the establishment of the Ombudsperson on the right of the child in 2016.
33. Algeria welcomed the measures taken by Kazakhstan to provide access to housing and to ensure universal access to and the improvement of the quality of education.
34. Argentina praised the cooperation with the treaty bodies and the standing invitation to and receiving visits from the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council.
35. Armenia noted with satisfaction the implementation of the national plan to tighten punishments for human trafficking and crimes against humanity as well as initiatives to provide for national minorities to exercise their rights freely.
36. Australia welcomed a zero tolerance approach to torture, but remained concerned by the number of reported incidents indicating that the use of torture remained a systematic issue to be addressed.
37. Austria noted the findings of the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture on the reported cases of criminal prosecution against members of the national preventive mechanism and the deteriorating conditions for freedom of expression.
38. Azerbaijan highlighted the development of inclusive education programs and praised the Government's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals and its interim progress report in this regard.
39. Bahrain praised the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and stressed the importance of continuing reforms prioritizing the rights of minorities and vulnerable groups.
40. Belarus noted with satisfaction the improvements in the living standards and welfare of Kazakhstan's citizens and achievements in the areas of education, health and social assistance.
41. Belgium referred to the recent transition of power and encouraged further progress to increase the protection of human rights in line with the core international human rights treaties.
42. Bhutan highlighted the ratification of human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the revision and adoption of domestic laws as part of the judicial system reform.
43. Brazil encouraged measures to prevent registration requirements from hampering the enjoyment of freedom of religion or belief. It praised the commitment to improve the situation of persons with disabilities in the 2050 National Development Strategy.

44. Brunei Darussalam commended the Government's efforts to promote a healthy environment in particular the Action Plan to Implement the Concept of Transition to a "Green Economy" and microloans to business support and development program.
45. Bulgaria highlighted that Kazakhstan had the highest women's representation in parliaments of Central Asia. It encouraged Kazakhstan to provide the Commissioner on the Rights of the Child with sufficient resources.
46. Canada welcomed initiatives to modernise family courts and the establishment of structures to address torture and curb corruption. It noted the need to address underlying challenges to human rights.
47. Chile acknowledged the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It expressed concern that the Criminal Code include death penalty for 17 types of crimes.
48. Philippines commended the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and recognized the policy frameworks and strategic plans on the rights of children, women and persons with disabilities.
49. Croatia noted the overall improvement of detention conditions. It also requested for clarification on the reported cases of criminal prosecution against members of the National Preventive Mechanism.
50. Cuba commended the review of the legislation as well as the development of policies, institutions and mechanisms for the protection of the rights of children.
51. Czechia commended Kazakhstan for recognition of the need for efficient communication with the public and business.
52. Democratic People's Republic of Korea commended efforts to strengthen the socio-political and judicial systems, and measures to form an integrated society, where all ethnic groups are involved in all areas of life.
53. Denmark was concerned about legal restrictions on the exercise of religion or belief. It encouraged Kazakhstan to continue efforts to promote the rule of law by securing the independence of the judiciary.
54. The delegation of Kazakhstan noted that in 2017, the Law on Modernization of the Procedural Foundations of Law Enforcement was adopted, taking into account the recommendations from the 2nd cycle. Detention period was reduced from 72 to 48 hours; courts were mandated to take sanctions on preventive measures and other investigative actions.
55. Criminal legislation was improved further. The agency whose employee committed torture was prohibited from conducting an investigation. Other efforts included strengthening the role of Independent Public Monitoring Commissions and the National Preventive Mechanism, installation of video surveillance systems, introduction of e-filing of complaints.
56. The recommendation made in the 2nd cycle on clarification of the term "incitement of national, religious and class discord" was under consideration.
57. Legislation was being amended to toughen liability for serious crimes against persons (kidnapping and illegal imprisonment), crimes related to drugs and human trafficking, as well as to decriminalize slander.
58. The abolition of the death penalty required introducing amendments to the Constitution.
59. Freedom of expression was guaranteed by the Constitution, and everyone had the right to freely receive and disseminate information by any means not prohibited by law. The state guaranteed the protection of honor, dignity, health, life and property of journalists. The legislation provided for criminal and administrative liability for obstructing the work of the media and journalists.

60. The General Prosecutor's Office had been vested with the power to temporarily restrict access to the Internet resources which promoted terrorism, extremism, suicide, distribution of pornographic materials, sale of drugs, weapons and etc.
61. The Criminal Code provided liability for the use of violence in 21 crimes, with sentences up to life imprisonment. Under the 2017 changes, any violence regardless of a complaint from the victim, should be considered and offenders are held liable. A law was being developed to toughen liability for domestic violence.
62. The Government had adopted the Action Plan for the Prevention and Combating of Human Trafficking Crimes for 2018–2020. From 2016, 358 victims of trafficking in persons had been identified, 587 persons had been prosecuted.
63. Seventeen Migration Service Centers had been opened, simplifying the legalization process of labor immigrants, by reducing the time for obtaining work permits by individuals from 7 days to 2 hours.
64. The Parliament was considering amendments to documenting newborn children of stateless persons, which would provide them an access to a full package of social services.
65. Measures to strengthen the judicial system, including capacity building and institutional modernization, were also highlighted.
66. The “Concept of Civil Society Development until 2025” was developed to strengthen the civil society and to ensure its active involvement in the decision-making.
67. The Government was developing a new law on peaceful assemblies that would inter alia simplify the current procedures.
68. Citizens, foreigners and stateless persons could practice any religion without registration, and could also freely create religious associations. The requirements of the legislation on the registration of religious associations were in line with international standards and were applied transparently. This was evidenced by the steady growth of religious associations.
69. Djibouti acknowledged progress in the normative and institutional framework, in particular the 2017 constitutional reform, and efforts towards sustainable development through the National Development Strategy 2050.
70. Dominican Republic welcomed steps to strengthen the judicial system through the adoption of legislation to modernise the system and to increase its autonomy.
71. Egypt welcomed legislative and administrative reforms increasing penalty against corruption, human trafficking and violence against children and commended the judicial reforms to protect the rights of citizens.
72. Estonia commended amendments to legislation related to the operation of children's organisations, but expressed concerns about restrictions to freedom of expression, in particular, the Internet law criminalising online activities.
73. Fiji commended the moratorium on death penalty and the development of the 2013–2020 Action Plan, and 2014 Presidential Decree to facilitate transition to a ‘Green Economy.’
74. Finland noted the Government's efforts to facilitate dialogue with civil society and the establishment of the post of Ombudsman for Children's rights. However, it was concerned about discrimination against LGBTI people.
75. France welcomed the reform of the penitentiary system and progress in interaction between authorities and the public. It noted the need to strengthen efforts concerning respect for public liberties and the rule of law.
76. Georgia welcomed the establishment of Commissioners for human rights and children's rights, and the ratification of Conventions on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and on Discrimination in Education.
77. Germany commended efforts in preventing and penalising torture and strengthening civil rights. However, it expressed concerns about restrictions to freedoms of expression and assembly.

78. Holy See noted the importance of the national human rights indicators related to freedom from torture, participation in the government, education, adequate housing, fair trial and violence against women.
79. Iceland welcomed the national report and the steps outlined therein and expressed hope over their continued implementation.
80. India welcomed the 2017 constitutional reforms to redistribute powers among the branches of government and making the Parliament and the Government more directly responsible to citizens.
81. Indonesia appreciated the undertaking to strengthen the independence and efficiency of the justice system and noted efforts to combat trafficking in persons and provide rehabilitation to its victims.
82. Iran expressed appreciation for the work done in the field of social security and the creation of equal opportunities for participation in society for persons with disabilities.
83. Iraq welcomed the reforms undertaken by Kazakhstan, in particular the legal and judicial reforms aimed at strengthening the capacity and independence of the judiciary.
84. Ireland acknowledged efforts to advance human rights domestically but remained concerned over reports of mass arrests, detentions and criminal prosecutions against peaceful protesters, activists, journalists and lawyers.
85. Israel commended Kazakhstan's respect for religious freedom and the rights of minorities and appreciated the appointment of Commissioners for human rights and for the rights of the child.
86. Italy appreciated efforts made since the previous cycle, particularly the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
87. Jordan welcomed the institutional, social and economic reforms leading to the adoption of the 2019 national plan and the legislative measures aimed at combatting human trafficking and crimes against children.
88. Kuwait commended measures taken to improve human rights and fulfil the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in protecting the rights of children, including through improved social and health care.
89. Kyrgyzstan praised efforts in coping with terrorism, the protection of hundreds of women and children returning from conflict zones, and the protection of victims of domestic violence.
90. Lao People's Democratic Republic congratulated Kazakhstan for the measures taken in implementing the recommendations adopted, particularly the progress in the protection of the rights of women and persons with disabilities.
91. Latvia noted measures taken by the Government in the promotion and protection of human rights and encouraged further efforts in fulfilling human rights obligations and commitments.
92. Madagascar commended, among others, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the establishment of an office of the Ombudsman for the rights of children.
93. Malaysia commended the broad consultations involving various stakeholders for its UPR, the roadmap for reproductive health and efforts to reach specific segments of the population through health centres.
94. Maldives welcomed the introduction of indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals into the strategic planning and the permanent mechanism to monitor implementation of the SDGs and its commitment to empower women.
95. Mauritania commended the adoption of the 2050 National Strategy aimed at implementing the national development goals, and of a national plan for the improvement of social and economic rights.

96. Mexico commended the ratification of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the adoption of the Family and Gender Policy 2030 aimed at increasing women's representation in the Government.
97. Mongolia commended the actions to ensure economic and social rights of its citizens, and particularly the introduction of Sustainable Development Goals indicators into its national strategic planning.
98. Montenegro commended the reduction in the number of children in detention but remained concerned about the 2017 constitutional amendments concerning application of international treaties. It noted the importance of complete abolition of death penalty.
99. Morocco noted the Family and Gender Policy, the amendments to the law on social protection of persons with disabilities and progress in protecting children's rights, through amendments to relevant legislation.
100. Myanmar commended great strides in reforms, in particular the progress in protecting women's and girls' rights and achievements in the promotion of gender equality.
101. Nepal welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and amendments to election laws for promoting pluralism and proportional representation as well as commitment to zero-tolerance of torture.
102. Netherlands commended the intention to combat corruption but remained concerned about the LGBTI persons' situation and the lack of progress in ensuring the right to freedom of expression and assembly.
103. The delegation of Kazakhstan noted that steps were taken to bring the national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles by securing the status of the Commissioner for Human Rights in the Constitution. The Commissioner was independent and not accountable to any of the legislative, judicial and executive authorities.
104. Kazakhstan had taken legislative measures to create an effective mechanism of filing complaints in cases of discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation and gender identity.
105. To implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Government approved a National Plan to ensure the rights and improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities until 2025.
106. In May 2018, following a visit by the ILO high-level mission, a Roadmap was adopted on the implementation of the recommendations of ILO Committees on the application of Convention No. 87 on freedom of association.
107. In 2017, the Government approved a new Concept for Migration Policy until 2021 in order to protect the rights of migrants and refugees. Kazakhstan had joined the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.
108. Delegation emphasized Kazakhstan's success in educational reforms noting that in 2017, Kazakhstan ranked 4th among 137 countries in the Global Competitiveness Index for primary education enrolment. Financial support to children from socially vulnerable groups, had been ensured.
109. As part of the health care reforms, Kazakhstan would implement Social Health Insurance System. Additional package of medical services would be provided for insured citizens covering at least 94% of the population.
110. This year, Kazakhstan presented its first Voluntary National Review of SDGs during the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, where it was noted that Kazakhstan ranked 58th among 198 countries in the Human Development Index.
111. Nicaragua thanked Kazakhstan for presenting its National Report and made recommendations.
112. Niger commended the establishment of the National Council of Public Trust, the creation of the National Preventive Mechanism and of a Commission on the Rights of the Child.

113. Nigeria noted measures to combat trafficking in persons and to ensure protection of victims' rights and commended the reform of the judicial system to enhance the administration of justice.
114. Oman took note of the national report and of the laws, strategies and programmes implemented by Kazakhstan with the aim of promoting and protecting human rights.
115. Pakistan appreciated efforts to prevent violence against women and the establishment of crisis centres and domestic violence helplines. It commended the establishment of the National Council of Public Confidence.
116. Paraguay appreciated ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the creation of the National Preventive Mechanism and encouraged strengthening the institutional framework to implement the recommendations.
117. China acknowledged the economic plan to ensure strategic development and the measures taken to combat terrorism and trafficking in persons, and to protect the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities.
118. Poland welcomed ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the establishment of the Ombudsperson on the Rights of the Child, and activities to promote interfaith dialogue.
119. Portugal welcomed the establishment of the Commissioner for Human Rights and the Commissioner for the Rights of the Child and hoped for the strengthening of their mandates and capacity.
120. The Republic of Korea commended the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and welcomed measures to protect children's rights and the zero-tolerance policy with regard to torture.
121. The Republic of Moldova welcomed measures to combat human trafficking, the zero-tolerance policy against torture, and progress in women's participation in politics and public life as well as advancements in universal health coverage.
122. The Russian Federation commended dialogue with civil society, efforts to ensure social and economic well-being of the population and welcomed the free and fair elections in 2019 and the concept of "Hearing Government".
123. Senegal congratulated Kazakhstan for organizing repatriation operations in 2019, appreciated efforts to reduce the number of children in detention and improvements regarding their reintegration and education.
124. Serbia welcomed the implementation of the National Plan with regard to tightening penalties for violence, trafficking in persons and other crimes, in particular crimes against children.
125. Singapore commended establishment of the Institute of the CRC, a Commissioner for the Rights of the Child, enhanced punishments for the sexual and financial exploitation of children and development of training schemes for judges.
126. Slovakia commended Kazakhstan for hosting visits from special procedures mandate holders. It was concerned that the Criminal Code recognized 17 types of crime for which the death penalty could be imposed.
127. Slovenia noted the progress in gender equality in elected institutions. It also noted that violence against women remained acute, especially in rural areas and that legislation decriminalizing domestic violence needed to be improved.
128. Spain noted that Kazakhstan ratified the majority of international human rights treaties and made recommendations.
129. Sri Lanka noted the reforms to its constitution in 2017 and adoption of amendments to the laws on elections. It also noted Kazakhstan's commitment to zero tolerance of torture and violence, especially against women and children.

130. Sudan commended establishment of the National Preventive Mechanism and the Commissioner for Children's Rights, as well as efforts to empower women, especially in health and education sectors.

131. Sweden encouraged further efforts to protect women, LGBTI persons and all persons in vulnerable situations from violence and discrimination as well as the complete abolition of the death penalty.

132. Switzerland commended Kazakhstan for the progress in the penitentiary system. It noted that certain formulations in the Criminal Code increased the risk for arbitrary interpretation.

133. Thailand welcomed the establishment of National Council of Public Trust and ratification of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It commended efforts to combat human trafficking and other crimes.

134. Timor-Leste noted the increasing engagement with the UN human rights mechanisms and welcomed the development of the Family and Gender Policy Concept 2030 and its national plan targeting the elimination of violence, human trafficking.

135. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the introduction of 79.9 percent of the SDG's indicators in the national strategic planning and highlighted the progress in education and employment, especially for persons with disabilities.

136. Honduras welcomed the progress made, in particular the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

137. In conclusion, the delegation of Kazakhstan noted that in 2016, a new Concept of Gender Policy was approved to implement the Sustainable Development Goals, provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and recommendations of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. To reinforce national institutional and human capacity, a three-year agreement was concluded with the UN Women.

138. Kazakhstan noted that it had always been and remained committed to the principles of openness, transparency and impartiality in its promotion and protection of human rights, and would continue to consistently improve the existing legal and institutional mechanisms in this area.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

139. The following recommendations will be examined by Kazakhstan, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-third session of the Human Rights Council.

139.1 Continue its efforts for the ratification of international instruments (Morocco);

139.2 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Uruguay); (Paraguay); (Honduras);

139.3 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Timor-Leste);

139.4 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and continue to promote measures to protect and promote the rights of migrant workers (Sri Lanka);

139.5 Consider acceding to the International Convention of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Kyrgyzstan);

139.6 Consider the ratification of Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Togo); Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Republic of Moldova); Consider acceding the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Mongolia);

139.7 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Slovakia);**

139.8 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, with the aim of abolishing the death penalty (Timor-Leste);**

139.9 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and implement its provisions in national legislation (Ireland);**

139.10 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and eliminate all criminal types for which the death penalty is still foreseen (Spain);**

139.11 **Consider ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Kyrgyzstan);**

139.12 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Madagascar);**

139.13 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Niger);**

139.14 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Honduras);**

139.15 **Accelerate the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Uzbekistan);**

139.16 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Slovakia);**

139.17 **Continue the work regarding the rights of the child and the rights of persons with disabilities by ratifying, without further delay, the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Germany);**

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

139.19 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Austria);**

139.20 **Consider acceding to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court (Croatia);**

139.21 **Accede to and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) (Estonia);**

139.22 **Accede to and fully align national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Latvia);**

139.23 **Establish a national mechanism for reporting, implementation and follow-up to international recommendations on human rights (Paraguay);**

139.24 **Accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Paraguay);**

139.25 **Ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Honduras);**

139.26 **Continue to engage with the UN human rights mechanisms, including the special procedures (Sri Lanka);**

- 139.27 Continue cooperation with the United Nations and other international organisations in the field of human rights (Iraq);
- 139.28 Legally establish the primacy of international human rights legislation over internal regulations (Spain);
- 139.29 Further strengthen national capacities in the promotion and protection of human rights, taking into account the concluding observations of treaty bodies and recommendations of the universal periodic review (Belarus);
- 139.30 Strengthen the mandate of the Children's Ombudsman with a view to efficiently protect children's rights (Niger);
- 139.31 Make the National Human Rights Institution fully compliant with the Paris Principles and provide it with sufficient financial and human resources (Togo);
- 139.32 Expand the mandate of the Ombudsman for Human Rights in accordance with Article 2 of the Paris Principles and guarantee its independence (Armenia);
- 139.33 Bring the Ombudsperson institution into full compliance with the Paris Principles (Croatia);
- 139.34 Take further steps towards ensuring the independence of the Commissioner for Human Rights in accordance with the Paris Principles (Georgia);
- 139.35 Continue efforts to bring the Ombudsperson institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Nepal);
- 139.36 Provide the Human Rights Ombudsman with an appropriate legal and institutional framework in order to align it with the Paris Principles (Uruguay);
- 139.37 Strengthen the capacity of the Office of the Ombudsman in accordance with the Paris Principles, including by providing it with adequate financial and human resources (Republic of Korea);
- 139.38 Continue strengthening the independence of the Ombudsperson institution in order to bring it in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Republic of Moldova);
- 139.39 Strengthen the national institution for promotion and protection of human rights in line with the Paris Principles (Senegal);
- 139.40 Fully comply the working conditions of the Ombudsman with the Paris Principles, including by further strengthening its independence and ensuring adequate financial and human resources (Serbia);
- 139.41 Continue to improve the national human rights mechanism in line with the Paris Principles to effectively implement the commitments made in the area of human rights and the 2030 Development Agenda (Indonesia);
- 139.42 Continue promoting actions to strengthen the office of the Ombudsperson (Dominican Republic);
- 139.43 Continue efforts to strengthen the role of the human rights Ombudsman (Iraq);
- 139.44 Explicitly prohibit any form of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Spain);
- 139.45 Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that includes an explicit prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Australia);
- 139.46 Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation which includes sexual orientation and gender identity as protection grounds (Sweden);

- 139.47 **Adopt comprehensive legislation against discrimination, including that based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Chile);**
- 139.48 **Guarantee an enabling environment for the civil society activities, activist groups and human rights defenders of LGBTI persons (Chile);**
- 139.49 **Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that addresses direct and indirect discrimination and encompasses all the prohibited grounds of discrimination, including sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);**
- 139.50 **Adopt specific legislation to eliminate discrimination in which all prohibited grounds of discrimination are specified, including sexual orientation and gender identity (Mexico);**
- 139.51 **Adopt legislation that expressly guarantees protection of LGBTI persons against discrimination and violence and the full enjoyment of their rights (Uruguay);**
- 139.52 **Amend existing legislation to prohibit discrimination against women and on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Canada);**
- 139.53 **Adopt a comprehensive legislation against discrimination, which includes direct and indirect discrimination and all grounds of discrimination, including gender, disability, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity (Honduras);**
- 139.54 **Amend the article on Violations of the Equality of People and Citizens (article 145) of the Criminal Code to explicitly and separately include “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” as protected characteristics (Belgium);**
- 139.55 **Continue efforts in ensuring a healthy environment for all (Brunei Darussalam);**
- 139.56 **Continue efforts to enhance business support and development programmes that aim to assist employment (Brunei Darussalam);**
- 139.57 **Ensure that women, children and persons with disabilities are meaningfully engaged in the development of legislation, policies and programmes on climate change and disaster risk reduction (Fiji);**
- 139.58 **Ensure that the environment is properly protected and the population informed on the impact of pollutants to the environment and on people’s health (Holy See);**
- 139.59 **Strengthen efforts to address environmental hazards that impact on the health of people, especially children living in environmentally high-risk areas (Maldives);**
- 139.60 **Develop and adopt a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, in consultation with the private sector, civil society, relevant stakeholders, and the UN Working Group on business and human rights (Thailand);**
- 139.61 **Increase efforts to promote a zero-tolerance approach to torture, in particular by conducting timely, transparent and comprehensive investigations into and prosecutions of reported incidences of torture (Australia);**
- 139.62 **Bring domestic legislation that criminalizes torture in line with what is established in Article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);**
- 139.63 **Ensure proper investigation of all allegations of torture and other ill-treatment by an independent mechanism and immediately adopt strict safeguards to ensure that no statement obtained through torture can be used in courts (Czechia);**
- 139.64 **Take robust measures to eradicate torture and ill-treatment of prisoners and to effectively investigate, prosecute and punish such acts (Finland);**

- 139.65 Take further measures to prevent all episodes of torture and other degrading treatments, in particular in prisons (Italy);
- 139.66 Devote all efforts to clarify allegations concerning torture and ill-treatment of detained persons (Poland);
- 139.67 Continue efforts to combat torture and ill-treatment, notably by ensuring that investigations on all allegations of torture and ill-treatment are carried out by an independent body and those responsible are punished (Switzerland);
- 139.68 Deepen efforts to eliminate the death penalty from its national legislation (Argentina);
- 139.69 Abolish the death penalty for all crimes (Austria);
- 139.70 Abolish the capital punishment (Slovakia);
- 139.71 Abolish the death penalty completely (Sweden);
- 139.72 Abolish the death penalty for all crimes, noting that it has abolished the death penalty for ordinary crimes, and accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR (Australia);
- 139.73 Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia); Abolish the death penalty and sign and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR (Portugal); Fully abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Iceland);
- 139.74 While narrowing the application of the death penalty under its law, also consider to completely abolish it (Fiji);
- 139.75 Abolish the death penalty for all crimes, including war crimes, treason, and terrorist acts (France);
- 139.76 Keep the moratorium on the death penalty, while further reducing the list of capital crimes in view of abolishing it (Holy See);
- 139.77 Maintain the moratorium on the death penalty and consider fully abolishing it (Italy);
- 139.78 Make progress in line with the current moratorium on the application of the death penalty, until its complete elimination from the current legal system (Uruguay);
- 139.79 Extend the mandate of the National Preventative Mechanism to cover all places of detention in line with Article 4 of OPCAT and ensure its financial and operational independence (Austria);
- 139.80 Consider establishing an independent National Preventive Mechanism of the prevention of torture (Tunisia);
- 139.81 Ensure the independence and provide resources and a broad mandate to the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture in order to continue its efforts to combat and eliminate torture (Paraguay);
- 139.82 Further strengthen and improve the judicial and law enforcement systems (Turkmenistan);
- 139.83 Protect the independence of the judiciary by bringing regulation relating to the legal profession into accordance with international legal standards (Denmark);
- 139.84 Continue promoting legislative and institutional mechanisms to combat corruption (Egypt);
- 139.85 Ensure the rule of law, particularly the independence of the judiciary, and the right to a fair trial for all persons (France);

139.86 **Reform the judicial system in accordance with international standards related to the administration of justice, to guarantee that judges and lawyers exercise their profession independently (Mexico);**

139.87 **Continue to develop and strengthen the judicial system in order to improve the quality of judicial decisions (Nigeria);**

139.88 **Strengthen transparency and accountability by promoting and protecting the right to freedom of expression, especially by upholding media freedom, protecting NGO activities, and amending criminal and civil codes on criminal slander and libel (Australia);**

139.89 **Strengthen freedom of the press and the right to information by modifying the legislation that criminalizes journalists and the media for defamation, insults and false information and which is an obstacle for their work (Chile);**

139.90 **Bring Article 20(2) of the Constitution of Kazakhstan in line with Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia);**

139.91 **Amend restrictive laws regulating the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly so that they are fully compliant with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in particular the provisions under articles 19 and 21 (Ireland);**

139.92 **Adopt the adequate changes to the legislation that restricts the freedom of media and freedom of expression as well as the freedom of assembly and association in order to bring it in line with international human rights standards (Slovenia);**

139.93 **Ensure the exercise of freedom of expression and opinion by revising the criminal law used against independent media and the law on incitement to hatred used to restrict freedom of expression (France);**

139.94 **Amend Article 174 of the Criminal Code to ensure its compliance with Article 19 of the ICCPR (Austria);**

139.95 **Amend Article 174 of the Criminal Code, on “incitement of social, clan, national, racial or religious discord”, notably through a narrow well-defined interpretation of “discord” to prevent arbitrary prosecutions (Belgium);**

139.96 **Review its legislation that limits freedom of assembly, expression and association including Article 174 of the Criminal Code on “inciting social, national, clan, racial, class or religious discord”, and end all forms of arbitrary detention of people attempting to exercise their right to peaceful assembly (Finland);**

139.97 **Ensure freedom of expression and bring the Law on mass media, including Articles 130 and 174 of the Criminal Code, in line with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and with international human rights obligations and standards (Germany);**

139.98 **Revise, by the next UPR review, the Criminal Code in accordance with Kazakhstan’s obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in particular Articles 130, 274, 400 and 405 (Czechia);**

139.99 **Repeal Article 400 and Article 403 of the Criminal Code to guarantee the right to peaceful assembly and freedom of association for all citizens, including human rights defenders (Germany);**

139.100 **Take necessary measures to fully protect freedom of expression, including by repealing or revising the legal provisions limiting freedom of expression, and by refraining from using its criminal provisions and other regulations as tools to suppress the expression of dissenting opinions (Latvia);**

- 139.101 **Protect space for dissent by amending or abolishing Articles 174 and 274 of the Criminal Code to remove vague concepts, such as incitement of discord, and also decriminalize defamation (United States of America);**
- 139.102 **Repeal and revise the legal provisions that limit the freedom of expression, and refrain from using criminal provisions as tools to suppress the expression of dissenting opinions, including on the Internet and social media (Netherlands);**
- 139.103 **Clarify Article 174 of the Criminal Code in order to prevent arbitrary prosecutions that violate international law (Switzerland);**
- 139.104 **Decriminalize defamation (Estonia);**
- 139.105 **Strengthen efforts to guarantee the rights of freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly (Brazil);**
- 139.106 **Enhance the promotion and protection of the freedom of expression, both on and off line, and take the necessary measures to ensure the respect of freedom of association and assembly (Italy);**
- 139.107 **Strengthen the respect of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of expression (Croatia);**
- 139.108 **Continue to guarantee the freedom of peaceful assembly and of association with a view to strengthen democratic values in Kazakhstan (Indonesia);**
- 139.109 **Amend the Law on Peaceful Assemblies to require a simple notification procedure for the holding of a public gathering (Netherlands);**
- 139.110 **Review the public assembly law to bring it in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Belgium);**
- 139.111 **Repeal the requirement of prior authorisation of peaceful assemblies and adopt a new law on public assembly that is in compliance with international standards (Slovakia);**
- 139.112 **Undertake necessary measures to ensure full enjoyment by individuals of fundamental freedoms, including freedom of peaceful assembly and association (Poland);**
- 139.113 **Ensure effective investigation into acts of intimidation and harassment against lawyers and human right defenders (Austria);**
- 139.114 **Take immediate measures to ensure the effective protection of lawyers, media workers, bloggers and human rights defenders against any form of harassment and immediately and unconditionally release human rights defender Max Bokayev as per the request made by the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (Czechia);**
- 139.115 **Ensure freedom of association and assembly by removing excessive control on the registration and activities of NGOs and trade union, and on the right to demonstrate (France);**
- 139.116 **Revise the 2015 Law on Charity to remove the registration process for NGOs (United States of America);**
- 139.117 **End restrictive reporting requirements for NGOs (United States of America);**
- 139.118 **Continue its efforts on strengthening of civil society and non-governmental sector (Georgia);**
- 139.119 **Continue working to ensure active dialogue with civil society institutions in order to provide for the openness of the work of Government bodies (Uzbekistan);**

- 139.120 **Implement legislation to protect freedom of association and peaceful assembly, and define and criminalise all slavery and slavery-like practices, including domestic servitude, and forced and bonded labour, in line with ILO standards (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 139.121 **Continue its involvement in promotion of interfaith dialogue and upholding respect for freedom of religion or belief (Poland);**
- 139.122 **Revisit the legal framework regulating the exercise of religion or belief, in particular the 2011 Law on Religious Activity and Religious Associations, to ensure the legislation's compatibility with international legal standards (Denmark);**
- 139.123 **Ease registration to religious communities and ensure the full exercise of the freedom of religion or belief in line with international standards (Holy See);**
- 139.124 **Ensure democratic process, especially by holding free, fair and transparent elections (France);**
- 139.125 **Remove existing restrictions on free and democratic elections with a focus on implementing the ODIHR recommendations (Germany);**
- 139.126 **Accept OSCE recommendations on the electoral system in preparation for the next parliamentary elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 139.127 **Foster transparency in the rules applicable to electoral processes, in line with the international commitments of Kazakhstan (Brazil);**
- 139.128 **Continue its efforts to combat trafficking in persons (Tunisia);**
- 139.129 **Define criminal offences in national legislation to ensure the elimination of all contemporary forms of slavery and forced labour practices and to guarantee that all forms of violence against women are criminalized (Brazil);**
- 139.130 **Step up efforts in conducting training on anti-human trafficking for duty-bearers (Philippines);**
- 139.131 **Redouble efforts to effectively tackle the trafficking in persons, inter alia, by easing the measures of registering for all migrants (Holy See);**
- 139.132 **Continue efforts to combat human trafficking and guarantee protection of victims (Jordan);**
- 139.133 **Scale up its efforts in combatting human trafficking, and upholding the rights of its victims (Nigeria);**
- 139.134 **Continue to take measures to support the institution of family and childhood and the creation of an inclusive society (Pakistan);**
- 139.135 **Amend legislation and regulations to ease the formation, registration and operation of independent trade unions and civil society organisations, and to protect peaceful public assembly and labour action (Canada);**
- 139.136 **Intensify efforts to increase working opportunities for young people (Egypt);**
- 139.137 **Allow independent trade unions to flourish by passing and implementing amendments to bring the Law on Trade Unions into compliance with ILO Convention 87 (United States of America);**
- 139.138 **Strengthen the mechanism to attract foreign workers (Niger);**
- 139.139 **Revoke the list of professions prohibited for women and guarantee equal access to all professions to all women and persons of all genders (Honduras);**

- 139.140 Continue its development efforts aimed at improving the educational, health and living conditions of the population in order to further promote and protect human rights (Yemen);
- 139.141 Continue increasing efforts in the field of social, economic and cultural rights in the context of the implementation of relevant long-term state programs, paying particular attention to measures aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (Belarus);
- 139.142 Consolidate the progress made towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals and in the improvement of human development indicators (India);
- 139.143 Continue implementing its national programmes and policies to improve education, health and social security system (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 139.144 Continue consolidating actions that promote the right to social security and formal employment (Dominican Republic);
- 139.145 Focus further on the rights of people to development, which will contribute to the promotion of civil and political, economic, social and cultural rights (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 139.146 Continue its efforts in further enhancing the protection of economic, social and cultural rights of its people (Malaysia);
- 139.147 Continue efforts for the promotion and protection of human rights (Mauritania);
- 139.148 Continue to support business development, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises (Nicaragua);
- 139.149 Continue to support the human development indicators (Oman);
- 139.150 Continue to implement the national development strategy and promote sustainable economic and social development, in order to provide solid foundation for its people to enjoy all human rights (China);
- 139.151 Better protect the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities and continue to promote the development of education and health care (China);
- 139.152 Continue to ensure the effective implementation of social policies and programs, including the improvement of social services and facilities for persons with disabilities and persons with mental health conditions (Thailand);
- 139.153 Continue strengthening the excellent social rights policies to increase the quality of life of its people, particularly the most vulnerable sectors (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 139.154 Continue its efforts to provide equal access to health-care services throughout the country in both urban and rural areas (Afghanistan);
- 139.155 Implement measures to ensure equal access to quality health services throughout the country, both in urban and rural areas (Algeria);
- 139.156 Continue efforts to put in place a universal health coverage extending to all categories of the population, and ensure equal access to quality health services for all in the entirety of the country, both in urban and rural areas (Djibouti);
- 139.157 Continue to implement the strategy on the health care rights of children, especially children with disabilities (Kuwait);
- 139.158 Strengthen efforts to ensure affordable and quality health and social services to improve the overall well-being of children, women and older persons (Malaysia);

- 139.159 Continue the efforts in the area of access to education through the reduction of regional disparities (Algeria);
- 139.160 Provide adequate financial resources to ensure universal access to education, in particular for those living in rural areas (Philippines);
- 139.161 Incorporate comprehensive sexuality education in the school curriculum at all levels of schooling and out of school settings (Iceland);
- 139.162 Ensure access of all citizens to quality education in pre-schools and schools as well as the opportunity to gain new professional skills in the universities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 139.163 Continue efforts to provide education to all citizens (Kuwait);
- 139.164 Ensure inclusive education for all children with disabilities including allocating resources and through additional professional training for teachers (Maldives);
- 139.165 Accelerate the efforts to implement national schemes designed to ensure equal access to education for persons with disabilities (Israel);
- 139.166 Take further steps towards increased protection of rights of children and persons with disabilities (Poland);
- 139.167 Take measures to ensure that children with disabilities can access inclusive and quality education without discrimination (Republic of Moldova);
- 139.168 Ensure that children with sensory disabilities are integrated in the educational system and implement policies enabling children with disabilities to participate in inclusive education (Senegal);
- 139.169 Consider further technical collaboration between its institutions and the relevant UN agencies and third countries to identify and implement good practices, as appropriate, for providing quality early and inclusive education for all children, particularly children with disabilities (Singapore);
- 139.170 Intensify efforts to promote and safeguard the right to education for all (Sudan);
- 139.171 Continue to support its legislative and institutional mechanisms to ensure right to education for all children (Pakistan);
- 139.172 Continue its efforts in promoting gender equality and women and girls' empowerment (Viet Nam);
- 139.173 Increase efforts to ensure women fully enjoy their rights (Bahrain);
- 139.174 Continue its efforts to combat discrimination against women (Tunisia);
- 139.175 Extend implementation of the Gender Equality Strategy 2006–2016, and expand the scope of the Action Plan subsequently adopted on the same issue, with a view to continuing progress towards full equality and empowerment of women (Cuba);
- 139.176 Ensure that sufficient resources and training are allocated to the implementation of the 2016 Concept of Family and Gender Policy in order to make its outcomes sustainable (Singapore);
- 139.177 Continue to provide adequate budget for the implementation of its national policies and programmes, aimed at further promoting gender equality in the country (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 139.178 Continue the policy of eliminating inequality between men and women by taking effective measures aimed at increasing the participation of women in the political and public life, as well as the economic empowerment of women (Djibouti);

- 139.179 Continue taking steps to increase women's representation in the political and public spheres (Egypt);
- 139.180 Keep its momentum for empowering women and girls and take further steps to increase women's representation in public and political life (Myanmar);
- 139.181 Continue efforts towards achieving women's political representation (Nepal);
- 139.182 Maintain the commitment to promote gender equality and take measures to increase women's participation in public and political life (Nicaragua);
- 139.183 Continue efforts to promote gender equality, and to increase women's participation in public and political life (Pakistan);
- 139.184 Further enhance participation of women in decision-making roles in political, economic and social spheres of life (Sri Lanka);
- 139.185 Continue to promote gender equality and enhance women's participation in public life (United Arab Emirates);
- 139.186 Eliminate any form of restriction to women's choice of profession (Iceland);
- 139.187 Strengthen policies to address discriminatory practices limiting women's economic empowerment (Iceland);
- 139.188 Continue to strengthen the legislative framework and policies on gender equality especially in context of women's access to economic, social and cultural rights (India);
- 139.189 Continue efforts to empower women and ensure women's participation in society, especially in all aspects of political life, decision making processes and senior positions (Jordan);
- 139.190 Take the necessary measures to ensure that women have full and effective access to all economic, social and cultural rights, including representation in positions of responsibility and decision-making in both the public and private sectors (Togo);
- 139.191 Continue efforts to increase women's representation in State decisions-making processes (Dominican Republic);
- 139.192 Continue efforts to ensure legal protection against abuse of women, children and the elderly in families (Latvia);
- 139.193 Continue strengthening efforts to combat violence against women and children and ensure that these acts are effectively investigated and those responsible are held accountable (Sudan);
- 139.194 Further strengthen efforts to combat domestic violence (Georgia);
- 139.195 Make necessary amendments to the Criminal Code to ensure that perpetrators of crimes of sexual violence do not enjoy impunity based on so-called 'reconciliation' with the victim (Sweden);
- 139.196 Deepen measures aimed at combating violence against women, in particular by criminalizing any form of domestic violence in order to protect all victims, punish the perpetrators and avoid impunity (Argentina);
- 139.197 Make every possible effort to combat domestic violence and gender stereotypes, in particular sexual violence, through its criminalization and punishment. (Uruguay);
- 139.198 Maintain positive dynamics of combating domestic violence, and ensuring that these incidents are investigated, and perpetrators brought to justice (Azerbaijan);

- 139.199 **Continue efforts in protecting women and children from domestic violence (Bhutan);**
- 139.200 **Further strengthen measures and programmes on combating and preventing violence against women and children (Philippines);**
- 139.201 **Criminalize all forms of violence against women and adopt legislation to combat sexual harassment in the workplace (Iceland);**
- 139.202 **Revise the criminal code to ensure that the definition of rape is in line with international standards (Iceland);**
- 139.203 **Criminalize domestic violence and incorporate the highest international standards to legislation to combat violence against women and girls (Mexico);**
- 139.204 **Adopt legislation that criminalizes all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence (Portugal);**
- 139.205 **Criminalize all forms of violence against women (Republic of Moldova);**
- 139.206 **Adopt a comprehensive law to prevent, combat and punish all forms of violence against women and girls (Spain);**
- 139.207 **Ratify the Istanbul Convention (Spain);**
- 139.208 **Criminalise all forms of violence against women, notably by ratifying the Istanbul Convention, by adopting legislation to fight against sexual harassment and by revising Article 120 of the Criminal Code in order to guarantee its conformity with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Switzerland);**
- 139.209 **Improve systems to curb and prosecute violence against women and vulnerable groups, and revoke prohibitions to fields of employment for women (Canada);**
- 139.210 **Streamline existing legal provisions and procedures related to combatting domestic violence in order to ensure victims achieve justice (Israel);**
- 139.211 **Enhance efforts to fight against all forms of violence against women and strengthen access to justice for victims of gender-based violence (Italy);**
- 139.212 **Continue efforts aimed at tackling the domestic violence (Kyrgyzstan);**
- 139.213 **Continue its efforts to combat discrimination and violence against women, particularly the domestic violence (Morocco);**
- 139.214 **Continue its efforts in combating domestic violence including violence against women and children (Myanmar);**
- 139.215 **Take tougher penalties for sexual violence, domestic violence, human trafficking, drug trafficking and other serious crimes (Myanmar);**
- 139.216 **Enhance its efforts to eliminate violence and discrimination against women and to take concrete steps to promote women's representation in the decision-making process (Republic of Korea);**
- 139.217 **Enhance efforts to eradicate child poverty, in cities and remote areas (Bahrain);**
- 139.218 **Continue efforts to protect and promote the rights of the child in accordance with the principle of the best interests of the child (Tunisia);**
- 139.219 **Continue its commitment to protect the children's rights and interests, including those with disabilities (Turkmenistan);**
- 139.220 **Continue to move forward in providing comprehensive attention to children, adolescents and young people, particularly in the legal, health and**

education spheres, as well as in the areas of information and communication technologies (Cuba);

139.221 Continue its efforts to protect children's rights, particularly against pornography, especially through the Internet (Islamic Republic of Iran);

139.222 Intensify efforts taken to protect the rights of children (Madagascar);

139.223 Implement urgently the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to protect children from sexual violence and early marriage (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

139.224 Strengthen the efforts to protect children from all forms of violence, including sexual violence and child, early and forced marriage (Italy);

139.225 Continue efforts to protect children from all forms of violence and exploitation (Jordan);

139.226 Explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children (Montenegro);

139.227 Provide the necessary support for gifted children of low-income families (Kuwait);

139.228 Continue efforts to promote the rights of children, particularly in the areas of education and health (Oman);

139.229 Take further steps to ensure that the rights of the persons, belonging to national minorities are protected, including their right of self-identification, right to learn their mother tongue, etc. (Bulgaria);

139.230 Continuously carry forward the state policy of ensuring harmonization of interethnic and interreligious relations (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);

139.231 Continue to maintain interethnic harmony and inter-religious understanding (United Arab Emirates);

139.232 Continue to maintain interethnic harmony and inter-religious understanding (Armenia);

139.233 Continue to effectively implement the CRPD (Viet Nam);

139.234 Continue implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and promoting inclusive education (Azerbaijan);

139.235 Continue aligning the national legislation in accordance with its obligations under the CPRD (Oman);

139.236 Continue adopting inclusive measures for promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities (Bhutan);

139.237 Exert additional efforts to fully include persons with disabilities in society, in particular in the areas of education, labour and legal capacity, and to discontinue their institutionalization and involuntary treatment (Bulgaria);

139.238 Improve and implement systems to increase access to education, health and judicial services for children and adults with disabilities, and their families (Canada);

139.239 Intensify the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which it ratified in 2015 (Turkmenistan);

139.240 Continue efforts to increase accessibility for persons with disabilities to enable their full participation in the society in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Indonesia);

139.241 Continue efforts to ensure better access to the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights for children with disabilities (Iraq);

139.242 Continue its efforts to implement the Plan of Measures to Ensure the Rights and Improve the Quality of Life of People with Disabilities (Lao People's Democratic Republic);

139.243 Continue developing its successful policies and comprehensive programs in favor of persons with disabilities (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

139.244 Take practical measures to ensure that failed asylum seekers and all persons who are not formally recognized as refugees, but nonetheless were unable to return to their country due to convincing reasons, were allowed to stay in the country until it was safe for them to return (Afghanistan);

139.245 Ensure full compliance with the principle of non-refoulement (Czechia).

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

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Kazakhstan was headed by Mr. Beketayev Marat, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and composed of the following members:

- Ms. Aitzhanova Zhanar-Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to UNOG and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Mr. Kozhamzharov Kairat-Member of the Parliament (Senate);
- Mr. Smagulov Assylbek-Member of the Parliament (Lower house);
- Ms. Akhmetova Akerke-Vice Minister of Justice;
- Mr. Kenenbayev Yerlik-Deputy Prosecutor General;
- Mr. Zhakupov Rashid-Deputy Minister of Interior Affairs;
- Mr. Tukiye Aslan-Deputy Chief for provision of courts' activity, Supreme Court (administrative office of the Supreme Court);
- Mr. Sarbassov Akmadi-Vice Minister of Labor and Social Protection of Population;
- Mr. Yessin Daniyar-Vice Minister of Information and Social Development;
- Ms. Shaimova Aigul-Vice Minister of National Economy;
- Ms. Zhaxelekova Botagoz-Executive Secretary of the Ministry of Health;
- Mr. Abishev Tastemir-Secretary of the Human Rights Commission, Presidential Administration;
- Ms. Shugaipova Makpal-Deputy Director of the National Institute of Intellectual Property;
- Ms. Dyussekina Meruyert-Chief of Unit of the Department of International Law and Cooperation, Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Baimaganbetov Berik-Deputy Director of the Criminal prosecution sector, General Prosecutor's Office;
- Ms. Karashina Bakhniyaz-Director of Department of State Politics in Mass Media, Ministry of Information and Social Development;
- Mr. Zhekebayev Dulat-Deputy Chair of the Committee for Protection of Child Rights, Ministry of Education and Science;
- Ms. Danenov Aynur-Advisor of the Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Baissuanov Arman-Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to UNOG and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Ms. Kul-Mukhammed Zhazira-First Secretary of the Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan to UNOG and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Mr. Koishibayev Bakbergen-Second secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Baltabekuly Aidos-Deputy director of Consulting Group Bolashak LLP;
- Mr. Urazalin Akzhol-Advisor of the Minister of Justice.