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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Saint Kitts and Nevis

* 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-seventh session from 18 January to 8 February 2021. The review of Saint Kitts and Nevis was held at the 4th meeting, on 19 January 2021. The delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis was headed by Kaye Bass, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Aviation. At its 10th meeting, held on 22 January 2021, the Working Group adopted the report on Saint Kitts and Nevis.
2. On 12 January 2021, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Saint Kitts and Nevis: Germany, Pakistan and Uruguay.
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 Saint Kitts and Nevis:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);¹
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);²
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).³
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Canada, Fiji, Germany, Liechtenstein, Panama, Slovenia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay was transmitted to Saint Kitts and Nevis 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 Saint Kitts and Nevis stated that the timely submission and the content of the national report and its participation in the universal periodic review demonstrated its commitment to the review process and to human rights in general.
6. Saint Kitts and Nevis had implemented more than half of the recommendations from the second cycle of the universal periodic review. That was a significant achievement for the smallest country in the western hemisphere and considering the exogenous and economic challenges that it continued to face.
7. Regarding the response by Saint Kitts and Nevis to the single greatest global threat to human rights in recent decades, coronavirus disease (COVID-19), it had succeeded to date in containing the spread of the virus within its borders, recording a relatively low infection rate, 91 per cent recovery with no community spread, and no fatalities.
8. The implementation of a national response mechanism – comprising the establishment of a national emergency coordination committee, the closure of borders to commercial travel, restriction of the physical movement of people within the borders, promotion of the importance of wearing protective gear and a robust public awareness campaign on the need to practise proper handwashing hygiene and to maintain overall physical health – had played a vital role in the country's accomplishments thus far.
9. The measures had called for a new way of life, and their success had demonstrated the true resilience of the people of Saint Kitts and Nevis.

¹ A/HRC/WG.6/37/KNA/1.

² A/HRC/WG.6/37/KNA/2.

³ A/HRC/WG.6/37/KNA/3.

10. The Government had invested \$13 million in medical equipment and supplies to furnish hospitals and health-care institutions. The health authorities had provided substantive training for health personnel and other front-line officers.
11. The delegation credited the population's readiness and much of the success achieved to the early detection, surveillance and preparation for combating the disease.
12. The Government had continued to strengthen efforts to address the high prevalence of non-communicable diseases, especially during the pandemic, when people living with non-communicable diseases were at a higher risk of developing COVID-19 symptoms and were among the most affected by the disease.
13. The need to safeguard the health sector and public health services remained critical. There was a need to develop a science- and evidence-based comprehensive approach to combating COVID-19 that would make optimal use of the limited resources available.
14. The pandemic had illustrated the need to scale up access to essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines and vaccines. In addition to the aforementioned \$13 million, the Government had also invested in the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Facility, a universal partnership between Governments and manufacturers to ensure the accessibility of the COVID-19 vaccines to the most vulnerable, regardless of where they lived. The delegation expressed its deep appreciation to all involved in ensuring equitable access to a safe and affordable vaccine.
15. Witnessing the devastating effect, and based on the projected incalculable toll, of the pandemic on citizens and the economy, the Government had proactively and expeditiously rolled out a \$120-million stimulus package, initially to help cushion the economic and health fallout from that unprecedented phenomenon.
16. The tourism industry – the State's main source of revenue, contributing up to 60 per cent of gross domestic product – had been severely affected, having contracted by 35.4 per cent and resulting in job losses for 11.6 per cent of the labour force.
17. The Government had quickly responded by designing and implementing a comprehensive plan of action to preserve the lives and livelihoods of the citizens affected.
18. Through the Poverty Alleviation Programme, which was in its third year of existence, the Government had been able to provide \$500 per month to thousands of households whose total income fell below \$3,000 per month. The Government had continued to utilize that facility to provide direct support to families adversely affected by the pandemic.
19. So far, the Government had spent a total of \$31 million on the programme and continued to ensure that a strong social safety net was available for all of its citizens.
20. The Government intended that the initiative should become a model in social protection interventions for the Caribbean region.
21. Displaced workers were provided with an income stimulus package of \$1,000 per month for an initial three months and for an additional three months thereafter.
22. Some of the stimulus measures had been extended to June 2021, including the removal of taxes and import duty on hygiene products, some food items, and health products, with a view to buttressing the national health response.
23. The measures had helped to advance the recovery process and, most importantly, had constituted important lifelines for families and businesses.
24. The Government had set up a national hotline, managed by the Department of Gender Affairs, for victims of domestic violence to seek help, particularly during the extended lockdown periods. The hotline was useful for summoning police assistance and for follow-up and referral to appropriate agencies, as necessary.
25. Even as the Government committed resources to fight COVID-19, the threat of climate change and its deleterious effects still loomed large for Saint Kitts and Nevis, as a small island developing State, and would continue to pose a challenge in realizing human rights policies, plans and programmes.

26. Although the State had been spared from major natural disasters such as a hurricane, to which the region was prone annually, the fact of its vulnerability to climate change could not be denied.

27. Saint Kitts and Nevis was on a positive trajectory towards implementing the recommendations from the second review cycle. Even with the onset of COVID-19, it had not been deterred, but rather had remained resolute in its motivation to fulfil its human rights obligations.

28. Saint Kitts and Nevis was dedicated to implementing a structure to address the recommendations from the previous review cycles, and had established a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up in early 2018.

29. In October 2019, Saint Kitts and Nevis had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

30. Saint Kitts and Nevis would continue to cater to the needs of persons living with disabilities and would participate in the multi-partner trust fund of the United Nations Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to advance the implementation of the Convention and create a more inclusive disability agenda.

31. Saint Kitts and Nevis had submitted two reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

32. In September 2020, on the occasion of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, Saint Kitts and Nevis had acceded to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

33. Saint Kitts and Nevis had attained many of its goals amid a universal climate of anxiety, uncertainty and chaos brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Those achievements could be attributed to the State's long-established practice of safeguarding the human rights interest of the populace.

34. Saint Kitts and Nevis had taken deliberate steps to strengthen the prevention, management and control of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections.

35. In 2017, it had been the first country in the subregion of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States to eradicate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis.

36. Efforts had also been concentrated on administering of the vaccine against human papilloma virus, improving the already stellar immunization rate of 97 per cent.

37. The Government was keenly aware that mental health formed an integral part of the national health sector, and in 2018 had opened the Mental Health Treatment Centre to provide greater support to those who needed care and offer respite for the families providing care.

38. The Government had continued to work to achieve a range of goals related to women's autonomy and gender equality through the National Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan, which would ensure that the rights and interests of men and women were at the core of the country's development agenda.

39. A prison programme for women was part of the core initiative on women's empowerment to deliver short-term skills training for female inmates.

40. The Government had launched the 2017–2021 Education Sector Plan to improve equitable access to and participation in education at all levels. The Government was continuing to adapt and find effective and innovative solutions in order to continue to deliver high-quality education to children, including by subsidizing the necessary technological equipment for vulnerable children to ensure their equal access, especially during the pandemic.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

41. During the interactive dialogue, 60 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

42. Maldives was encouraged by the commitment shown by Saint Kitts and Nevis to the agenda for climate change adaptation and mitigation through its development and implementation of the Climate Change Adaption Strategy in 2018, and commended the State for its work in advancing inclusive education for children, including children with autism.
43. The Marshall Islands welcomed the ratification by Saint Kitts and Nevis of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its efforts to improve the lives of persons with disabilities, in particular initiatives to improve the accessibility of public infrastructure, and noted with satisfaction the Climate Change Adaption Strategy.
44. Mauritius commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for the creation of its National Safe Schools Committee and for its effective disaster mitigation and response, and noted the inherent vulnerabilities faced by both Mauritius and Saint Kitts and Nevis, as small islands developing States, in view of climate change.
45. Mexico acknowledged the launch of the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up, and welcomed the recent accession of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Convention against Torture and its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
46. Montenegro acknowledged initiatives to improve the rights of persons with disabilities and their inclusion into society, and encouraged Saint Kitts and Nevis to consider adopting legal provisions to prohibit discrimination against persons living with disabilities or require accessibility of buildings.
47. Morocco welcomed the implementation of the national housing programme to improve the standard of living of citizens of Saint Kitts and Nevis, and the launch of the Social Security COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund.
48. Nepal welcomed the ratification by Saint Kitts and Nevis of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its accession to the Convention against Torture, and encouraged it to promote women's participation in political and public life while also combating gender-based violence.
49. The Netherlands welcomed the launch in 2018 of the National Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan and strongly encouraged Saint Kitts and Nevis to continue working towards gender equality, but expressed concern about stigmatization of and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.
50. Panama welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the strengthening of social protection mechanisms to assist vulnerable groups and the adoption of the protocol to address domestic and sexual violence complaints and response, and highlighted that the Climate Change Adaption Strategy should take full account of the State's human rights obligations.
51. Paraguay welcomed the formation of the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up and the efforts and progress made in the areas of social development, advancement of women and girls, health, education and criminal justice, and expressed concern about the high levels of gang violence and the lack of a refugee protection system in Saint Kitts and Nevis.
52. Peru acknowledged the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
53. The Philippines commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and accession to the Convention against Torture.
54. Portugal welcomed the efforts made to implement the recommendations from the universal periodic review and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
55. The Russian Federation noted with satisfaction the accession of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Convention against Torture and its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

56. Rwanda commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for its efforts in the promotion and protection of human rights, and particularly welcomed the launch of the 2017–2021 Education Sector Plan and the allocation under the housing programme of homes to the most vulnerable.

57. Senegal welcomed the accession of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Convention against Torture, as well as its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

58. Serbia welcomed all the efforts made by the authorities of Saint Kitts and Nevis aimed at fulfilling its commitments under the United Nations human rights mechanisms.

59. Slovenia commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for the 2017–2021 Education Sector Plan and the designation of a child abuse awareness month, and noted the National Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan and the protocol to address domestic and sexual violence complaints and response.

60. Spain welcomed the accession of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Convention against Torture and its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and expressed concern about the prevalence of violence against women in the country and the discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in the legal system.

61. Switzerland congratulated Saint Kitts and Nevis for having acceded to the Convention against Torture and ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and noted with satisfaction that no one had been on death row since 2018 and no executions had been carried out since 2008.

62. Timor-Leste positively noted the efforts made by Saint Kitts and Nevis to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, in particular the measures taken to improve the accessibility of public transport and infrastructure.

63. Trinidad and Tobago commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for its commitment to its human rights obligations despite its limited resources, congratulated it for the development of the Climate Change Adaption Strategy and encouraged it to continue engaging with international partners to benefit from greater technical assistance, with a view to strengthening its efforts to meet its human rights obligations.

64. Ukraine noted with satisfaction the accession of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Convention against Torture and its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and encouraged it to implement them fully.

65. The United Kingdom welcomed the accession of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Convention against Torture, and urged it to ensure that its correctional system met international human rights standards.

66. The United States of America commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for its continued commitment to the promotion of human rights and noted that improvements could still be made for the protection of children, especially those who experienced abuse.

67. Uruguay welcomed the establishment of the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up, encouraged Saint Kitts and Nevis to accept and implement the recommendations received and, to that end, called on the international community to offer cooperation and technical assistance.

68. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the efforts of Saint Kitts and Nevis in implementing the 2017–2021 Education Sector Plan and the Poverty Alleviation Programme, as well as the programmes directed at persons with disabilities and the measures taken to mitigate the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

69. Argentina welcomed the accession of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Convention against Torture and its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

70. Armenia welcomed the ratification by Saint Kitts and Nevis of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the reforms introduced in the areas of juvenile justice,

and encouraged the State to redouble its efforts for the protection of vulnerable groups, especially children.

71. Australia encouraged Saint Kitts and Nevis to take steps to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, expressed deep concern that the death penalty remained part of the legal framework, and encouraged the State to take action to promote and protect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, including through legislative reform and engagement with initiatives such as the United Nations Free and Equal campaign.

72. The Bahamas congratulated Saint Kitts and Nevis on the peaceful conduct of its general elections, commended it for the implementation of policies to promote sustained economic growth, social protection and improved standards of living, and welcomed the establishment of the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up and the implementation of the Gender Sensitization Project and the Climate Change Adaption Strategy.

73. Barbados stated that Saint Kitts and Nevis had made gains in ensuring that national laws, policies and practices promoted the enjoyment of human rights by its population, and that the Government was seeking to implement a national social protection strategy and action plan with a view to establishing the main priorities for the development of a social protection policy and its reform over the following few years and guiding the establishment of a sustainable, comprehensive and integrated social protection plan.

74. Botswana commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and for the governmental efforts made to ensure training, specialized services and accessibility for persons living with disabilities, but expressed concern that discrimination against persons with disabilities continued to be widespread, including with respect to access, mobility and employment.

75. The delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis emphasized that the death penalty had not been imposed for several years and that its use was, in fact, very rare, with only three persons having been executed within the past 35 years and none in more than 12 years.

76. The question of whether to retain or abolish the death penalty should be determined by each State, taking fully into account the sentiments of its own people, the state of crime and criminal policy.

77. For Saint Kitts and Nevis, the death penalty could be imposed for only the most serious crimes and could only be carried out pursuant to a final judgment rendered by a competent court.

78. That was the extent of its application in Saint Kitts and Nevis. The death penalty remained a legal element of its penal code and the Government would continue to ensure that the domestic legislation did not contravene its human rights obligations.

79. The delegation pledged to give due consideration to observations and recommendations expressed during the dialogue on implementing domestic strategies and adopting the necessary legislation.

80. The federal Government had already enacted legislation in relation to those matters, such as the Trafficking in Persons (Prevention) Act and sections 13 and 14 of the Electronic Crimes Act, and that those pieces of legislation helped to further fulfil the objectives of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

81. The importation of indecent or obscene prints, videos or other materials was prohibited under section 84 (1) of the Customs (Control and Management) Act.

82. Under the Child Justice Act of 2013, which replaced the Juvenile Act, a judicial process for children was established that was aligned with the values of the Constitution and international instruments.

83. The legislation addressed not only dealing with crime but also preventing crime.

84. Saint Kitts and Nevis had also instituted several diversion programmes and services designed to help first-time offenders remedy the behaviour that had led to their arrest, thereby avoiding conviction and a criminal record.
85. One such national diversion programme in Saint Kitts and Nevis, the Explorers Youth Club, had originated in 2017 as an initiative of community policing. Eight clubs were already established, with membership of more than 700 young people.
86. Likewise, the Family Matters Programme, which was a prevention programme, had been launched in 2016 with its main focus on the social function of the family.
87. Over the past two years, the Government had recorded a significant reduction in crime and violence, including gang violence, as a result of the substantial investments made in at-risk youth programmes, including the provision of employment opportunities.
88. The Government, in particular the Department of Gender Affairs, had been working assiduously to raise public awareness on sexual harassment in the workplace, focusing on drafting national legislation on the issue modelled on the sexual harassment bill of the Caribbean Community.
89. As the national social protection strategy had expired, the Government had been working on its national social protection policy and action plan, through which it aimed to improve the social protection bill.
90. Migrants enjoyed the freedoms enshrined in the Constitution, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the conventions and other agreements and codes associated with human rights.
91. Saint Kitts and Nevis believed that despite real problems, migration was beneficial both for migrants and host communities in economic and social terms, and it was pleased to support the ground-breaking consensus that had been reached on climate change as a driver of migration, embedded in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.
92. As a small island developing State that was extremely vulnerable to the adverse impact of climate change, Saint Kitts and Nevis advocated the integration of displacement considerations into disaster preparedness strategies and cooperation in that area with regional neighbours.
93. With respect to special procedures of the Human Rights Council, the Government had no objection to extending an invitation to the special procedure mandate holders.
94. Brazil encouraged Saint Kitts and Nevis to consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and commended it for the initiatives taken to combat poverty, provide access to health, promote gender equality and face the challenges related to COVID-19.
95. Canada commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for efforts made to amend the Protection of Employment Act to include prohibition of sexual harassment in the workplace, and further encouraged it to foster opportunities for greater representation of women in elected office.
96. Chile welcomed the ratification by Saint Kitts and Nevis of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its accession to the Convention against Torture, and the implementation of public policies for the reinsertion of former prisoners.
97. Costa Rica acknowledged the important commitment by Saint Kitts and Nevis regarding the implementation of the recommendations from the second review cycle, especially in the establishment of the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up, and made recommendations aimed at reinforcing the action already taken by the Government.
98. Cuba recognized the efforts made and results achieved by Saint Kitts and Nevis in tackling COVID-19, managing chronic non-communicable diseases and reducing mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS, and wished it success for the dialogue and for the implementation of the recommendations accepted.
99. Denmark congratulated the Government for the accession of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Convention against Torture, and highlighted that the Convention against Torture

Initiative stood ready to provide capacity-building and technical support if it was deemed helpful for the implementation of the Convention.

100. Fiji stated that it understood the challenges of climate change and their impact on the implementation of human rights obligations, and commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for the establishment in 2018 of its national mechanism for reporting and follow-up and its accession in 2020 to the Convention against Torture.

101. Finland welcomed the engagement of Saint Kitts and Nevis with the process of the universal periodic review, and made recommendations.

102. France thanked the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis for the presentation of its report, welcomed the progress made by Saint Kitts and Nevis in the human right sphere and called on its authorities to pursue the efforts started, in particular by adopting international instruments.

103. Georgia lauded the Government for the ratification by Saint Kitts and Nevis in 2019 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its accession in 2020 to the Convention Against Torture, two important international instruments; welcomed the steps taken towards their implementation, including by addressing the issue of accessibility in housing and the public transport system; and noted with satisfaction the measures taken to improve the status of women and girls.

104. Germany commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for its effective efforts in protecting the health and lives of its citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic and for having acceded to the Convention Against Torture and ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, but expressed concern at the continued existence of the death penalty and the continued criminalization of consensual sexual activities between persons of the same sex.

105. Ghana commended the Government for the considerable progress made in promoting, protecting and respecting human rights in the country, noted the implementation of the national social protection strategy and action plan and the launch of the 2017–2021 Educational Sector Plan, and asked what actions the Government had planned to implement the Convention against Torture and what further support it needed in that respect.

106. Guyana applauded the progress achieved by Saint Kitts and Nevis in fulfilling human rights obligations, particularly in relation to the promotion and protection of the rights of women and girls and persons with disabilities, and congratulated Saint Kitts and Nevis for its proactive approach to complying with the recommendations from the universal periodic review, including by collaborating with development partners to build capacity and improve human rights protection for its people. As a small island developing State, Saint Kitts and Nevis was particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change and natural disasters, which could have detrimental socioeconomic consequences and erode key gains achieved in the promotion and protection of human rights.

107. Haiti welcomed the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis and saluted the efforts made to improve the living condition of all citizens. It noted the progress made with respect to access to justice for victims of domestic and sexual violence and commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for the preparation of the Climate Change Adaption Strategy.

108. Honduras congratulated Saint Kitts and Nevis for the progress made and results obtained by Saint Kitts and Nevis in the implementation of the recommendations from the second review cycle, in particular its accession to the Convention against Torture and ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

109. Iceland welcomed the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis and its national report, including the steps outlined therein, and expressed hope for their continued implementation.

110. India commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for the measures described in its national report and its proactive response to COVID-19, and noted with appreciation its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and accession to the Convention against Torture.

111. Indonesia commended Saint Kitts and Nevis for its accession to the Convention against Torture and welcomed the progress made in the promotion of human rights since the

second review cycle, including its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

112. The Islamic Republic of Iran, welcoming the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis and thanking it for the national report, expressed concern that Saint Kitts and Nevis was susceptible to the consequences of climate change and was not adequately prepared to address those adverse effects on the lives of its citizens.

113. Ireland welcomed the accession of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Convention against Torture and its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, commended it for the 2018 National Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan, and expressed concern that the death penalty was still provided for under the law.

114. Italy thanked Saint Kitts and Nevis for its commitment to the universal periodic review, commended it for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and accession to the Convention against Torture and welcomed the launch in 2018 of the protocol to address the issue of domestic violence and the national policy to promote gender equality and women's empowerment.

115. Jamaica, welcoming the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis and noting the positive national report presented, congratulated Saint Kitts and Nevis for the establishment in 2018 of the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up and for its ratification in 2019 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

116. Japan welcomed the delegation and expressed appreciation for the positive steps taken to promote and protect the rights of people in vulnerable situations, including the launch of the Poverty Alleviation Programme to provide financial support to low-income households.

117. Kenya congratulated the delegation for the presentation, and applauded Saint Kitts and Nevis for having acceded to the Convention against Torture and ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

118. Latvia, welcoming the delegation and thanking it for the presentation of its national report, noted the measures taken by the Government since the second review cycle and encouraged it to take further efforts in fulfilling its human rights obligations and commitments.

119. Luxembourg thanked the delegation for the presentation and welcomed the progress made during the period under review, particularly the ratification of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

120. Malaysia commended the Government for its commitment to continuing to undertake robust and targeted programmes to promote inclusive socioeconomic growth, noted the launch in November 2018 of the protocol to address domestic and sexual violence complaints and response, and expressed hope that the Government would continue to promote the rights of women.

121. The delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis explained that while corporal punishment was still allowed in schools, its use was dictated under section 49 of the Education Act, which stipulated that corporal punishment could be administered where no other punishment was considered suitable or effective.

122. The Constitution, which was the supreme law of the Federation, provided unequivocally for entitlement to and protection of fundamental rights and freedoms regardless of race, place of origin, birth, political opinions, colour, creed or sex.

123. The Government continued to provide a wide range of sexual and reproductive health-care services, including the Women's Health Improvement Plan, a programme geared towards empowering and educating women on how to effectively manage their health and well-being.

124. The Chronic Disease Self-Management Programme, otherwise known as "Living Healthy", had been introduced, and cervical cancer awareness programmes and free Pap smear testing was available on both islands.

125. Primary health care was delivered through community-based health-care services and the Mental Health Treatment Centre, while secondary health care was delivered by institution-based facilities.

126. Saint Kitts and Nevis had completed the development of its Climate Change Adaption Strategy in 2019, outlining the plan of action for the public and private sectors to achieve the Federation's overarching climate change goals. The National Sustainable Development Coordinating Committee, including representatives from entities within the public and private sectors and academia, had been established. That Committee would provide guidance on potential areas for the development of climate-resilient projects for submission to development partners.

127. Saint Kitts and Nevis had applied to the voluntary fund for participation in the universal periodic review to facilitate a disability assessment and the development of a registry of persons with disabilities, which would include a comprehensive review of existing policies and legislation to identify gaps and solutions in order to strengthen the State's ability to protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities.

128. The Government took seriously its obligations under international law to respect, protect and fulfil human rights, and pledged to take decisive action to facilitate the citizenry's enjoyment of basic human rights.

129. The delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis thanked other delegations for their time, active participation and positive engagement.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

130. **The following recommendations will be examined by Saint Kitts and Nevis, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council:**

130.1 **Fully incorporate the provisions of the Convention of the Rights of the Child into the national legal framework (Slovenia);**

130.2 **Ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Botswana);**

130.3 **Ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Montenegro);**

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

130.5 **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Honduras);**

130.6 **Take further steps towards the ratification of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Georgia);**

130.7 **Continue recent momentum by working on the ratification of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and consider ratifying other core instruments such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Philippines);**

130.8 **Ratify other international human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ukraine);**

130.9 **Ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Costa Rica);**

130.10 **Conduct and complete legislative reviews towards the ratification of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and seek any technical assistance required towards this end (Bahamas);**

130.11 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Panama);**

130.12 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and especially its Second Optional Protocol, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Germany);**

130.13 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, which is still present in the country's Constitution (Spain);**

130.14 **Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Australia);**

130.15 **Fully abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Iceland);**

130.16 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, its Second Optional Protocol, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights to Abolish the Death Penalty (Chile);**

130.17 **Sign and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Honduras);**

130.18 **Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Portugal);**

130.19 **Continue work to implement the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the national legal system (Russian Federation);**

130.20 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Second Optional Protocol, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, as well as the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Denmark);**

130.21 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and align domestic law to the treaties (Iceland);**

130.22 **Consider the possibility of ratifying the following international instruments: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, in accordance with previous recommendations (Argentina);**

130.23 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocols, and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);**

130.24 **Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Senegal);**

- 130.25 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocols and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Finland);**
- 130.26 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Japan) (Switzerland);**
- 130.27 **Ratify the main international human rights treaties that are still pending, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, to advance on Sustainable Development Goals 5, 11, 13 and 16 (Paraguay);**
- 130.28 **Ratify additional international human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);**
- 130.29 **Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Honduras);**
- 130.30 **Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Honduras);**
- 130.31 **Consider accession to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (India);**
- 130.32 **Ratify and implement the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as well as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 130.33 **Accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Ireland);**
- 130.34 **Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Latvia) (Morocco) (Nepal);**
- 130.35 **Take steps to ratify other core international human rights instruments, in particular the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Indonesia);**
- 130.36 **Accede to the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (Timor-Leste);**
- 130.37 **Ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Rwanda);**
- 130.38 **Sign and ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, as recommended during the previous review (Armenia);**
- 130.39 **Improve cooperation with the United Nations human rights bodies and mechanisms with more respect for their recommendations, in particular those related to ratification of the basic United Nations human rights conventions (Serbia);**
- 130.40 **Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 130.41 **Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);**
- 130.42 **Extend a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Ukraine);**

- 130.43 **Extend an open and standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders (Finland);**
- 130.44 **Strengthen the capacity of the Office of the Ombudsman (Serbia);**
- 130.45 **Consider establishing an independent national human rights institution in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Nepal);**
- 130.46 **Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mexico);**
- 130.47 **Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (India);**
- 130.48 **Consider further establishing a national human rights institution corresponding to its particular circumstances (Indonesia);**
- 130.49 **Continue making use of technical assistance provided by OHCHR and the international community to fulfil its human rights obligations (Jamaica);**
- 130.50 **Request technical support from OHCHR to move forward with ratifying the key international human rights instruments to which the country is not yet a party and ensure the full incorporation of the obligations stemming from treaties already in force into its legal system (Uruguay);**
- 130.51 **Seek technical assistance from the relevant United Nations agencies and other partners to meet its human rights obligations and lift the overall standard of human rights observance (Barbados);**
- 130.52 **Ensure that the Department of Gender Affairs takes due account of the issues facing men and boys in the country in their gender equality programmes, including by promoting positive norms of masculinity (Haiti);**
- 130.53 **Adopt all necessary measures to put an end to all forms of discrimination that persist in Saint Kitts and Nevis (Argentina);**
- 130.54 **Pass anti-discrimination legislation in order to prohibit discrimination on grounds of gender identity and sexual orientation (Germany);**
- 130.55 **Consider enacting comprehensive legislation that provides full and effective protection against discrimination in all forms, and that contains a comprehensive list of prohibited grounds for discrimination (Ghana);**
- 130.56 **Enact comprehensive legislation to prohibit discrimination on the grounds of gender identity and sexual orientation (Ireland);**
- 130.57 **Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that will specifically prohibit discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 130.58 **Reinforce its commitment to the principles of equality and non-discrimination, both in legislation as well as in practice, by decriminalizing consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex (Uruguay);**
- 130.59 **Decriminalize consensual same-sex relations and adopt the necessary measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination or violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Mexico);**
- 130.60 **Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation to include prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);**
- 130.61 **Decriminalize consensual same-sex conduct and take concrete legal and policy measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Portugal);**

- 130.62 Decriminalize same-sex consensual relationships and implement additional measures to prevent discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Italy);
- 130.63 Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between persons of the same sex (Spain) (Timor-Leste);
- 130.64 Decriminalize consensual relationships between persons of the same sex and age (Costa Rica);
- 130.65 Decriminalize consensual same-sex sexual relations (Canada);
- 130.66 Decriminalize consensual same-sex sexual activity between adults by repealing sections 56 and 57 of the Offences against the Person Act (United States of America);
- 130.67 Decriminalize same-sex conduct between consenting adults, in particular by repealing sections 56 and 57 of the Offences against the Person Act (Denmark);
- 130.68 Decriminalize same-sex consensual relations in all provisions of legislation, especially sections 56 and 57 of the Offences against the Person Act (Netherlands);
- 130.69 Decriminalize consensual adult same-sex relations by amending sections 56 and 57 of the Offences against the Person Act (Ireland);
- 130.70 Repeal all provisions of law criminalizing sexual activity between consenting adults, including those of the same sex, and take legislative and other measures to protect victims of violence based on their sexual orientation or gender identity (Australia);
- 130.71 Eliminate legal provisions punishing consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and promote a public policy aimed at putting an end to violence and discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Chile);
- 130.72 Decriminalize homosexuality and combat discrimination and obstacles to access to health for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (France);
- 130.73 Decriminalize same-sex consenting relations and work with civil society organizations and international partners to educate the public on non-discrimination and inclusiveness (Luxembourg);
- 130.74 Harmonize national legislation in line with international law and with the Yogyakarta Principles on the Application of International Human Rights Law in relation to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity by decriminalizing consensual sexual relations between adults whose gender expression is not heteronormative (Panama);
- 130.75 Maintain its commitment to developing resilience to natural disasters and climate change (Barbados);
- 130.76 Continue efforts to develop and strengthen the necessary legislative frameworks that address cross-sectoral environmental challenges, including climate change adaptation and mitigation frameworks, and ensure that women, children, persons with disabilities and indigenous and local communities are meaningfully engaged in their implementation (Fiji);
- 130.77 Continue its efforts to safeguard against the effects of climate change and address, within the context of its Climate Change Adaption Strategy, threats posed to its ecosystems and food sources by ocean acidification and salt intrusion caused by carbon emissions and sea level rise (Guyana);
- 130.78 Take concrete and sustainable measures to combat the negative effects of climate change, in particular ocean acidification, in follow-up to the accepted

recommendation from the second cycle of the universal periodic review on this topic (Haiti);

130.79 Make necessary preparations to mitigate the likely negative impacts of climate change on the economic and social rights of the people (Islamic Republic of Iran);

130.80 Discuss modalities to move towards the abolition of the death penalty, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Paraguay);

130.81 Abolish the death penalty (Canada) (Costa Rica) (Rwanda);

130.82 Abolish the death penalty in its legal system (Switzerland);

130.83 Take concrete steps to abolish the death penalty (Fiji);

130.84 Abolish the use of death penalty and, as a first step, immediately establish an official moratorium on executions (Finland);

130.85 Consider imposing a moratorium on the death penalty (Slovenia);

130.86 Abolish or establish a moratorium on the death penalty (Ukraine);

130.87 Establish a legal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its definitive abolition and ensure access to relevant information on the topic in order to promote a transparent and informed debate at the national level (Uruguay);

130.88 Establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its possible abolition (Mexico);

130.89 Establish an immediate moratorium on the death penalty (France);

130.90 Immediately introduce an official moratorium on the death penalty (Germany);

130.91 Consider adopting a de jure moratorium on capital punishment, with a view to the full abolition of the death penalty (Italy);

130.92 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition, and consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Latvia);

130.93 Impose a moratorium on the death penalty and commute death sentences that are still in force (Chile);

130.94 Abolish the death penalty and commute existing death sentences to imprisonment (Panama);

130.95 Address effectively the high incidence of gang-related violence and homicide in the country (Islamic Republic of Iran);

130.96 Ensure that detention conditions are improved, particularly with regard to food, medical care, sanitation and quarantine measures, in order to minimize the risk of the spread of COVID-19, particularly for those at a greater risk (Chile);

130.97 Take concrete measures to significantly reduce overcrowding in the prison system (Canada);

130.98 Strengthen current mechanisms that ensure the accountability of public officials for human rights abuses (Philippines);

130.99 Develop a national strategy or action plan to support implementation of target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which calls for the eradication of forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking by 2030 and was agreed by all United Nations Member States in 2015 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

- 130.100 Provide support, through economic and social policies, to the institution of the family and the preservation of family values (Haiti);
- 130.101 Set the age of consent for marriage at 18 years, without exception (Luxembourg);
- 130.102 Enact the social protection bill of 2018 to formally secure social protection and alleviate poverty in the country (Maldives);
- 130.103 Develop and strengthen action plans and national policies for the alleviation of poverty focusing on the most vulnerable groups and with a human rights perspective, focused on Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 10 (Paraguay);
- 130.104 Continue strengthening its social programmes to combat poverty and social exclusion (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 130.105 Maintain the implementation of the Poverty Alleviation Programme at the national level, with an emphasis on the most vulnerable sectors, in particular for households headed by women and considering the socioeconomic effects of COVID-19 (Cuba);
- 130.106 Continue to implement poverty alleviation programmes to assist low-income households (Malaysia);
- 130.107 Continue strengthening successful policies to increase access to education, health and housing (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 130.108 Prioritize the passage of the social protection bill, the implementation of the national social protection strategy and action plan and the development of the gender policy (Bahamas);
- 130.109 Continue to ensure protection in law and in practice of the rights of the vulnerable groups of the population, in particular women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons (Russian Federation);
- 130.110 Take all necessary measures to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights and the dignity of the older persons, particularly in the current situation of extreme vulnerability that they face in the context of COVID-19 pandemic (Argentina);
- 130.111 Strengthen the existing framework of social protection to combat discrimination and violence against women and children (Barbados);
- 130.112 Actively engage with international partners in bilateral, regional, and multilateral forums to support the national development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (Indonesia);
- 130.113 Continue consolidating protective measures against the COVID-19 pandemic (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 130.114 Ensure free and timely access to appropriate health care for all, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, children and adolescents where the young person has sufficient maturity to provide informed consent (Iceland);
- 130.115 Take steps to reduce the rate of teenage pregnancy, including by removing barriers to safe and confidential access to family planning services and information for those adolescents that have reached the legal age of consent (Bahamas);
- 130.116 Guarantee sexual and reproductive health and rights by allowing unconditional abortion and by addressing gender-based violence more effectively, including criminalizing marital rape (France);
- 130.117 Ensure unhindered access to sexual and reproductive health services and rights, including for adolescents (Germany);

- 130.118 **Assess the development of legislation that would guarantee access to sexual and reproductive health services (Peru);**
- 130.119 **Adopt national legislation to ensure access for all people to sexual and reproductive health services (Luxembourg);**
- 130.120 **Develop national legislation to ensure access to sexual and reproductive health services (Malaysia);**
- 130.121 **Guarantee access to sexual and reproductive health services and information on family planning to all of the population (Mexico);**
- 130.122 **Develop national legislation to ensure access to sexual and reproductive health services and rights for all segments of the population (Montenegro);**
- 130.123 **Continue to strengthen efforts to improve access to health care for all, including access to sexual and reproductive health-care services and information (Fiji);**
- 130.124 **Continue with measures in furtherance of the right to education (India);**
- 130.125 **Recognize explicitly in the Constitution the right to free and quality education and ensure access to the educational system for adolescent mothers (Costa Rica);**
- 130.126 **Enshrine the right to education for all in the national Constitution and in its legislation and guarantee free education for the first 12 years (Luxembourg);**
- 130.127 **Extend the implementation of the Education Sector Plan beyond 2021, paying special attention to inclusive education, as well as the contribution of the education sector in the preparation for and response to disaster situations (Cuba);**
- 130.128 **Strengthen the Health and Family Life Education curriculum to comply with the revised international technical guidance on sexuality education, guarantee its implementation throughout the national school system and provide ongoing professional development for teachers to ensure that they are equipped to teach it (Fiji);**
- 130.129 **Fully integrate comprehensive sexuality education into the Health and Family Life Education curriculum and develop social programmes for out-of-school adolescents and youth (Iceland);**
- 130.130 **Consider the implementation of human rights education and training initiatives (Philippines);**
- 130.131 **Increase the participation of women in political decision-making positions (Rwanda);**
- 130.132 **Ensure greater representation of women in positions of responsibility and in political bodies, in particular in Parliament (Senegal);**
- 130.133 **Take steps to ensure the empowerment of women in the country by ensuring that women are well represented in decision-making positions and in political bodies, particularly in Parliament (Ghana);**
- 130.134 **Increase the number of women in decision-making roles, especially in public and political life (Marshall Islands);**
- 130.135 **Promote women's participation in decision-making processes, as well as that of persons with disabilities and youth (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 130.136 **Move forward with its national gender equality policy for the empowerment of women and girls (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

- 130.137 **Intensify ongoing action towards the completion of a national gender policy (Jamaica);**
- 130.138 **Complete the implementation of the national gender policy to facilitate gender equity and empowerment (Kenya);**
- 130.139 **Implement proactive and vigilant measures to protect the rights of women and children (Canada);**
- 130.140 **Take all the legal, administrative and institutional measures to eliminate domestic violence, particularly against women and girls, and to bring perpetrators to justice (Ukraine);**
- 130.141 **Establish a crisis hotline to assist victims of domestic violence, report domestic violence to law enforcement, and improve protections from domestic violence, including emotional abuse (United States of America);**
- 130.142 **Implement legislative frameworks to address domestic and sexual violence against women and girls and take further steps through education and social protection measures, such as training of law enforcement personnel and judicial officers, sensitizing the media and educating the public (Australia);**
- 130.143 **Continue to strengthen measures, institutional frameworks and legislation to prevent and combat violence against women and children, particularly to protect women and girls from abuse (Brazil);**
- 130.144 **Continue its efforts against gender-based violence (Georgia);**
- 130.145 **Continue strengthening measures to address domestic violence (Indonesia);**
- 130.146 **Seriously combat domestic violence against women and children in the country, especially in communities with high unemployment rates and high rates of juvenile delinquency (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 130.147 **Strengthen measures to reduce domestic and gender-based violence, including against women and girls (Jamaica);**
- 130.148 **Take further measures to promote and protect women's rights, including prevention of gender-based violence (Japan);**
- 130.149 **Continue to implement the legal and administrative mechanisms in place to adequately protect women and girls from all forms of violence and to provide access to just and effective remedies (Kenya);**
- 130.150 **Take further measures to prevent violence and discrimination against women and criminalize marital rape (Italy);**
- 130.151 **Adopt the necessary legislative measures to criminalize marital rape and to prohibit corporal punishment of minors (Spain);**
- 130.152 **Criminalize marital rape (Latvia);**
- 130.153 **Amend the criminal law provisions regarding rape to include a specific provision on marital rape (Netherlands);**
- 130.154 **Establish a strategy to combat gang violence and specifically keep children in school and prevent them from joining gangs (Marshall Islands);**
- 130.155 **Strengthen laws to combat sexual abuse against children and gender-based violence (Mauritius);**
- 130.156 **Continue efforts to prevent and combat child abuse, including sexual abuse, including by criminalizing corporal punishment, and give full implementation to the Child Justice Act (Italy);**
- 130.157 **Continue to create policies and allocate resources to improve the enjoyment by children of their human rights, particularly the right to education and the right to health (Barbados);**

130.158 **Continue efforts aimed at drawing up a national policy on persons with disabilities (Peru);**

130.159 **Implement programmes that guarantee, in practice, universal accessibility for people with disabilities (Spain);**

130.160 **Develop and adopt legislation that prohibits discrimination against persons living with disabilities (Marshall Islands);**

130.161 **Pass a law explicitly prohibiting discrimination against all persons with disabilities (United States of America);**

130.162 **Take measures to prevent discrimination against persons living with disabilities, to promote their integration, and prioritize them in social protection policies (Botswana);**

130.163 **Take steps to establish a national system for the protection of refugees and develop a refugee status determination procedure (Peru);**

130.164 **Create and implement regulations and policies related to the determination of refugee status and the protection of refugees (Brazil);**

130.165 **Adopt national refugee legislation, policies and administrative procedures so that the country fully complies with its obligations under the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Luxembourg).**

131. **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 Saint Kitts and Nevis was headed by Ms. Kaye Bass, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Aviation and composed of the following members:

- Mrs. Janelle Lewis-Tafari – Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Community Development, Gender Affairs and Social Services;
 - Ms. Asha DeSuza – Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the United Nations;
 - Mr. Sheldon Henry – Foreign Service Officer;
 - Ms. Natasha Burt – Foreign Service Officer;
 - Mr. Steven Goldstein – Honorary Consul of Saint Kitts and Nevis in Geneva.
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