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Agenda item 1
Organizational and procedural matters


Report of the Human Rights Council on its thirty-fourth session

Vice-President and Rapporteur: Mouayed **Saleh** (Iraq)

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Part One

Resolutions, decisions and President's statement adopted by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-fourth session

I. Resolutions

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
34/1	Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka	23 March 2017
34/2	Promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity	23 March 2017
34/3	Mandate of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights	23 March 2017
34/4	Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights	23 March 2017
34/5	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders	23 March 2017
34/6	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues	23 March 2017
34/7	The right to privacy in the digital age	23 March 2017
34/8	Effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of all human rights	23 March 2017
34/9	Adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living and the right to non-discrimination in this context	23 March 2017
34/10	Freedom of religion or belief	23 March 2017
34/11	The negative impact of the non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin to the countries of origin on the enjoyment of human rights, and the importance of improving international cooperation	23 March 2017
34/12	The right to food	23 March 2017
34/13	Human rights and unilateral coercive measures	24 March 2017
34/14	Right to work	24 March 2017
34/15	Birth registration and the right of everyone to recognition everywhere as a person before the law	24 March 2017
34/16	Rights of the child: protection of the rights of the child in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	24 March 2017
34/17	Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights	24 March 2017
34/18	Freedom of opinion and expression: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression	24 March 2017
34/19	Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment: mandate of the Special Rapporteur	24 March 2017

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
34/20	Human rights and the environment	24 March 2017
34/21	Human rights of migrants: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants	24 March 2017
34/22	Situation of human rights in Myanmar	24 March 2017
34/23	Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran	24 March 2017
34/24	Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	24 March 2017
34/25	Situation of human rights in South Sudan	24 March 2017
34/26	The human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic	24 March 2017
34/27	Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan	24 March 2017
34/28	Ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem	24 March 2017
34/29	Right of the Palestinian people to self-determination	24 March 2017
34/30	Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem	24 March 2017
34/31	Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan	24 March 2017
34/32	Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief	24 March 2017
34/33	Establishment of a forum on people of African descent	24 March 2017
34/34	Mandate of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action	24 March 2017
34/35	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	24 March 2017
34/36	Elaboration of complementary standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	24 March 2017
34/37	Cooperation with Georgia	24 March 2017
34/38	Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Libya	24 March 2017
34/39	Technical assistance and capacity-building for Mali in the field of human rights	24 March 2017
34/40	Promoting the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the Work of the Human Rights Council	24 March 2017
34/41	Human rights, democracy and the rule of law	24 March 2017

II. Decisions

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
34/101	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Togo	16 March 2017
34/102	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Syrian Arab Republic	16 March 2017
34/103	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	16 March 2017
34/104	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Iceland	16 March 2017
34/105	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Zimbabwe	16 March 2017
34/106	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Lithuania	16 March 2017
34/107	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Uganda	16 March 2017
34/108	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Timor-Leste	16 March 2017
34/109	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Republic of Moldova	16 March 2017
34/110	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Haiti	17 March 2017
34/111	Outcome of the universal periodic review: South Sudan	17 March 2017

III. President's statement

<i>President's statement</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
PRST/34/1	Situation of human rights in Haiti	24 March 2017

Part Two

Summary of proceedings

I. Organizational and procedural matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Human Rights Council held its thirty-fourth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 27 February to 24 March 2017. The President of the Human Rights Council opened the session.
2. At the 1st meeting, on 27 February 2017, the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Federal Councillor and Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, Didier Burkhalter, addressed the Human Rights Council in plenary session.
3. At the 22nd meeting, on 8 March 2017, the Human Rights Council observed International Women's Day. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico (on behalf of Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Mali, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay) made a statement.
4. In accordance with rule 8 (b) of the rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council, as contained in part VII of the annex to Council resolution 5/1, the organizational meeting on the thirty-fourth session was held on 13 February 2017.
5. The thirty-fourth session consisted of 59 meetings over 20 days (see para. 24).

B. Attendance

6. The session was attended by representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States of the Council, observers for non-Member States of the United Nations and other observers, and observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations, intergovernmental organizations and other entities, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations (see annex I).

C. High-level segment

7. At its 1st to 2nd, and 4th to 7th meetings, from 27 February to 1 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held a high-level segment, during which 106 dignitaries addressed the Council in plenary session, including 2 heads of State, 1 vice-president, 6 deputy prime ministers, 55 ministers, 34 other dignitaries and 8 representatives of observer organizations.
8. The following dignitaries addressed the Human Rights Council during the high-level segment, in the order in which they spoke:

(a) At the 1st meeting, on 27 February 2017: President of the State of Palestine, Mahmoud Abbas; President of the Presidency Council of the Government of National Accord of Libya, Faiez Mustafa Serraj; First Vice-President of South Sudan, Taban Deng Gai; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia, Davor Ivo Stier; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal, Augusto Santos Silva; Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia, Miroslav Lajčák; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Paraguay, Eladio Loizaga; Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador, Hugo Martínez Bonilla; Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, Perfecto R. Yasay Jr.; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Jordan, Ayman Safadi; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia, Khemaies Jhinaoui; Minister for

International Development and the Pacific of Australia, Concetta Fierravanti-Wells; Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);

(b) At the 2nd meeting, on the same day: Minister for Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg, Jean Asselborn; Minister for Human Rights of Brazil, Luíslinda Dias de Valois Santos; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Anders Samuelsen; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, Ibrahim al-Jaafari; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Senegal, Mankeur Ndiaye; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Colombia, María Angela Holguín; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nigeria, Geoffrey Onyeama; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Liechtenstein, Aurelia Frick; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Maldives, Mohamed Asim; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Bert Koenders; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, Gudlaugur Thordarson; Minister for Justice, Culture and Local Government of Malta, Owen Bonnici; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia, Mikheil Janelidze; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, Yun Byung-se; State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar, Soltan bin Saad al-Muraikhi; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, Virasakdi Futrakul;

(c) At the 4th meeting, on 28 February 2017: Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Kairat Abdrakhmanov; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain, Alfonso Dastis; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Latvia, Edgars Rinkēvičs; Minister for Justice and Human Rights of Angola, Rui Jorge Carneiro Manguera; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Albania, Ditmir Bushati; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium, Didier Reynders; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka, Mangala Samaraweera; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lithuania, Linas Antanas Linkevičius; Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria, Michael Linhart; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Algeria, Ramtane Lamamra; Minister for International Affairs and Co-operation of Botswana, Pelonomi Venson-Moitoi; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Igor Crnadak; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Congo, Jean-Claude Gakosso; Minister and President of the Human Rights Commission of Saudi Arabia, Bandar bin Mohammed Alaiban; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam, Ha Kim Ngoc; Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama, María Luisa Navarro; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain, Abdulla Faisal al-Doseri; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, Carlos Raúl Morales Moscoso; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Slovenia, Karl Erjavec;

(d) At the 5th meeting, on the same day: Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, Péter Szijjártó; Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Delcy Rodríguez Gómez; Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Alok Sharma; Vice-Minister for Human Rights of Chile, Lorena Fries Monleón; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, Mahmud Mammad-Guliyev; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Argentina, Pedro Raúl Villagra Delgado; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, Tsend Munkh-Orgil; President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Peter Maurer; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Pavlo Klimkin; Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates, Anwar Mohamad Gargash; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, Alexandros N. Zenon; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, Manuel González Sáenz; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Czechia, Lubomír Zaorálek; Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid of Germany, Bärbel Kofler; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Gennady Gatilov; Third Deputy Prime Minister for Human Rights of Equatorial Guinea, Alfonso Nsue Mokuy;

(e) At the 6th meeting, on the same day: Minister for Foreign Affairs of Côte d'Ivoire, Marcel Amon-Tanoh; Minister for Justice of Morocco, Mustafa Ramid; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cameroon, Lejeune Mbella; Deputy Minister for International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa, Luwellyn Landers; Director of the National Human Rights Centre of Uzbekistan, Akmal Saidov; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, Benedetto della Vedova; Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay, José Luis Cancela; Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar, Kyaw Tin; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece, Ioannis Amanatidis; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal, Prakash Sharan Mahat; State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Norway, Marit Berger Røsland; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Poland, Joanna Wronecka; Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Motome Takisawa; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Guadalupe

Palomeque; Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Seyed Abbas Araghchi; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belarus, Valentin Rybakov; Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Patricia Scotland; Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, Thornbjørn Jagland;

(f) At the 7th meeting, on 1 March 2017: Minister for Foreign Affairs of Montenegro, Srdjan Darmanović; Federal Minister for Law and Justice of Pakistan, Zahid Hamid; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Armenia, Ashot Hovakimian; Minister for Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs of Mozambique, Isaque Chande; Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Romania, George Ciamba; Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs of Serbia, Katarina Lalić Smajević; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, Margot Wallström; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State of the United States of America, Erin Barclay; State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, Hirut Zemene Kassa; Special Representative for Human Rights of the European Union, Stavros Lambrinidis; Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Yousef A. al-Othaimeen; Commissioner for Human Rights and Humanitarian Action of Mauritania, Cheikh Tourad Ould Abdel Malick; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba, Abelardo Moreno Fernández; Minister for Justice and Community Services of Vanuatu, Ronald Kay Warsal; Minister of State for European Affairs at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Development of France, Harlem Désir; Assistant High Commissioner for Protection at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); Minister for Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Marie Ange Mushobekwa; Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey, Kaan Esener; Director General of the Mechanism for Protection of Human Rights Defenders of Honduras, Nora Urbina; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Sameh Hassan Shoukry; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria, Lubomir Ivanov; Minister for Justice in charge of Human Rights of Chad, M. Ahmat Mahamat Hassane.

9. At the 8th meeting, on 1 March 2017, the representatives of Albania, Azerbaijan, Burundi, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Serbia and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

10. At the same meeting, the representatives of Albania, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Serbia statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

High-level panel discussion on human rights mainstreaming

11. At its 3rd meeting, on 27 February 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 16/21, a high-level panel discussion to interact with heads of United Nations agencies within their respective mandates on specific human rights themes, with the objective of promoting the mainstreaming of human rights throughout the United Nations system, with a focus on the contribution of human rights to peacebuilding through the enhancement of dialogue and international cooperation for the promotion of human rights.

12. The President of the General Assembly and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made opening statements for the panel. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights moderated the discussion.

13. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Administrator of UNDP and Chair of the United Nations Development Group; Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support; Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone, Yvette Stevens; member of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, Jean Ziegler; President of Fonds pour les femmes congolaises and Founder and Board Chair of Solidarité féminine pour la paix et le développement intégral, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Julienne Lusenge. The Human Rights Council divided the panel discussion into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

14. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), China (also on behalf of the Group of African States), El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Liechtenstein¹ (also on behalf of Austria, Slovenia and Switzerland), South Africa, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola, Greece, Guatemala, Uruguay, Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Friends World Committee for Consultation, United Nations Watch.

15. During the discussion for the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Egypt (also on behalf of Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, the Philippines, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe), Nigeria, Norway¹ (also on behalf of Colombia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Jordan, Mexico and New Zealand), Pakistan¹ (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Switzerland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Russian Federation, Thailand;

(c) Observer for an international organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Indian Council of South America, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik.

16. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

D. General segment

17. At the 8th meeting, on 1 March 2017, a general segment was held, during which the following addressed the Human Rights Council:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), China (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Alignment Countries, the Russian Federation and South Sudan), Ecuador, India;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bahamas, Benin, Estonia, Fiji, Israel, Malaysia, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf;

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(e) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(f) Invited members of civil society: Danuta Przywara, Fatima al-Aani, Mozn Hassan (by video message), Rosette B. Adera.

¹ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

E. Organization of work

18. At the 1st meeting, on 27 February 2017, the President referred to the introduction of a web-based online system for the inscription of the lists of speakers for all general debates, and individual and clustered interactive dialogues at the thirty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council. He also referred to the modalities and schedule of the online inscription, which had been launched on 23 February 2017.

19. At the 3rd meeting, on the same day, the President outlined the speaking time limits for the panel discussions, which would be two minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and other observers.

20. Also at the same meeting, the President outlined, pursuant to the practice introduced at the twenty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council, the speaking time limits for the clustered interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders under agenda item 3. The total duration of each clustered interactive dialogue would not exceed four hours. Each special procedure mandate holder in a cluster would introduce his or her reports within 15 minutes and respond to questions and make concluding remarks within 15 minutes. As soon as the preliminary lists of speakers would be available following the electronic registration, the secretariat would calculate the estimated time needed to complete the clustered interactive dialogue with the mandate holders. Should the total duration of a given interactive dialogue be estimated to last less than four hours, the speaking time limits would be five minutes for States members and three minutes for observer States and other observers. However, if it would be estimated to be more than four hours, the speaking time limits would be reduced to three minutes for States members and two minutes for observer States and other observers. Should this measure be deemed insufficient to ensure that the total duration not exceed four hours, the speaking time limit would be further reduced, with a minimum of 1 minute and 30 seconds per speaker.

21. At 30th meeting, on 10 March 2017, the President outlined the speaking time limits for the general debates, which would be reduced to 2 minutes and 30 seconds for States members of the Human Rights Council and 1 minute and 30 seconds for observer States and other observers.

22. At the 31st meeting, on 13 March 2017, the President outlined the speaking time limits for individual interactive dialogues on agenda item 4, with special procedure mandate holders, which would be two minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and other observers.

23. At the 40th meeting, on 16 March 2017, the President outlined the speaking time limits for the consideration of the outcomes of the universal periodic review under agenda item 6, which would be 20 minutes for the State concerned to present its views; where appropriate, 2 minutes for the national human rights institution with A status of the State concerned; up to 20 minutes for States members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and United Nations agencies to express their views on the outcome of the review, with varying speaking times according to the number of speakers in accordance with the speaking time limits set out in the appendix to the annex to Council resolution 16/21, and up to 20 minutes for stakeholders to make general comments on the outcome of the review.

F. Meetings and documentation

24. The Human Rights Council held 60 fully serviced meetings during its thirty-fourth session.

25. The list of the resolutions, decisions and President's statement adopted by the Human Rights Council is contained in part one of the present report.

G. Visits

26. At the 11th meeting, on 2 March 2017, the Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, Miguel Ruiz Cabañas Izquierdo, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

27. At the 32nd meeting, on 13 March 2017, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, Guillaume Long, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

H. Election of members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

28. At the 59th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the Human Rights Council elected, pursuant to its resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, one expert for the vacant seat of a member of the Advisory Committee from Eastern European States. The Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/HRC/34/76) containing the nomination of the candidate for election, in accordance with Council decision 6/102, and the biographical data of the candidate.

29. The candidate was as follows:

<i>Nominating State</i>	<i>Expert nominated</i>
Eastern European States	
Romania	Ion Diaconu

30. The number of candidates for the regional group corresponded to the number of seats available in this group. The practice of holding a secret ballot, pursuant to paragraph 70 of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, was dispensed with and Ion Diaconu was elected as a member of the Advisory Committee by consensus (see annex IV).

I. Selection and appointment of mandate holders

31. At the 59th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the President of the Human Rights Council presented the list of candidates to be appointed for the three vacancies for special procedure mandate holders.

32. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council appointed seven special procedure mandate holders in accordance with Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21 and its decision 6/102 (see annex V).

J. Adoption of the report on the session

33. At the 59th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representatives of Australia, Canada, Czechia, France, Iceland (also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Liechtenstein, Norway, New Zealand and Switzerland), Liechtenstein and the Russian Federation made statements on the adopted resolutions.

34. At the same meeting, the Vice-President and Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council made a statement on the draft report of the Council on its thirty-fourth session.

35. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted ad referendum the draft report (A/HRC/34/2) and entrusted the Rapporteur with its finalization.

36. At the same meeting, the following made statements on the session:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil and Paraguay;

(b) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Amnesty International, the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation and Human Rights Watch).

37. Also at the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council made a closing statement.

II. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

A. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

38. At the 22nd meeting, on 8 March 2017, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement on his annual report (A/HRC/34/3, A/HRC/34/3/Add.1, A/HRC/34/3/Add.2 and Corr.1, A/HRC/34/3/Add.3, and A/HRC/34/3/Add.4 and Corr.1).

39. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 25th and 26th meetings, on 9 March 2017, the following made statements and asked the High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bahrain¹ (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, China, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam), El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Georgia, Germany, Hungary, India, Iraq (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg¹ (also on behalf of the Netherlands), Morocco¹ (also on behalf of Bahrain, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, the Sudan and the United Arab Emirates), Namibia¹ (also on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Ecuador, Mozambique, Nicaragua, South Africa, Timor-Leste, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe), Netherlands (also on behalf of the European Union, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay), Nigeria, Pakistan¹ (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal (also on behalf of Angola, the Bahamas, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Georgia, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, Seychelles, Slovenia, Sweden, Timor-Leste and Tunisia), Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia (also on behalf of the Group of African States), United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Bahrain, Belarus, Benin, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, France, Greece, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Zimbabwe;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(e) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, Americans for Democracy and

Human Rights in Bahrain, American Association of Jurists, Association Dunenyó, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples (also on behalf of Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, the African Development Association, Association Dunenyó, "Coup de pousse" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud and Organisation internationale pour le développement intégral de la femme), CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Human Rights Watch, International Humanist and Ethical Union.

40. At the 26th meeting, on 9 March 2017, the High Commissioner answered questions, made comments and made his concluding remarks.

41. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Burundi, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Gabon, India, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

42. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

B. Reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

43. At the 26th meeting, on 9 March 2017, the Deputy High Commissioner presented thematic reports prepared by the High Commissioner, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Secretary-General under agenda items 2 and 3.

44. At the 29th and 30th meetings, on 10 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on thematic reports under agenda items 2 and 3, presented by the Deputy High Commissioner (see chap. III, sect. F).

45. At the 46th meeting, on 20 March 2017, the High Commissioner presented reports prepared by the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General under agenda items 2 and 7, followed by a general debate (see chap. VII, sect. C).

46. At the 48th meeting, on 20 March 2017, the Chief of the Anti-Racial Discrimination Section of OHCHR presented the report of the High Commissioner under agenda items 2 and 9, followed by a general debate (see chap. IX, sect. B).

47. At the 51st meeting, on 21 March 2017, the Deputy High Commissioner presented the report of the High Commissioner under agenda items 2 and 10, followed by a general debate (see chap. X, sect. F).

48. At the 54th meeting, on 22 March 2017, the High Commissioner presented his report on the progress made in the implementation of Human Rights Council resolution 30/1, on promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka, under agenda item 2 (A/HRC/34/20).

49. At the same meeting, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka made a statement on behalf of the State concerned.

50. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, Belgium, China, Ghana, Japan, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Ireland, Maldives, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Spain, Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers (also on behalf of Franciscans International), Franciscans International, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, Minority Rights Group, Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, Tourner la page.

51. At the same meeting, the High Commissioner answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

52. At the 54th meeting, on 22 March 2017, the Deputy High Commissioner introduced country-specific reports submitted by the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner under agenda item 2 (A/HRC/34/3/Add.1–3, A/HRC/34/15 and A/HRC/34/77).

53. At the same meeting, the representatives of Colombia, Cyprus, Guatemala, Honduras and Iran (Islamic Republic of) made statements as the States concerned.

54. During the ensuing general debate, at the 54th meeting, on 22 March 2017, and at the 55th meeting, on 23 March, the following made statements and asked the Deputy High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Germany, Malta¹ (on behalf of the European Union), Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Greece, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Turkey;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: ANAJA – l'Éternel a répondu, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Centre Europe-tiers monde, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, Colombian Commission of Jurists, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Corporación para la Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos – Reiniciar, Covenant House (also on behalf of Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers), Defence for Children International, Franciscans International, Freedom Now, Indian Council of South America, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Catholic Child Bureau, International Educational Development, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Service for Human Rights, ODHACO, Bureau international des droits humains – action Colombie (also on behalf of the Lutheran World Federation), Peace Brigades International Switzerland, Plan International, Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund, Tourner la page, United Nations Watch, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Organisation against Torture.

55. At the 54th meeting, on 22 March 2017, the representatives of the Philippines and the Russian Federation made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

56. At the 55th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representatives of Iraq and Maldives made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

57. At the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner presented a report prepared by the High Commissioner under agenda items 2 and 10 (see chap. X, sect. F).

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka

58. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representative of the United States of America introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.1, sponsored by Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and co-sponsored by Australia, Canada, Germany, Israel, Japan, Norway and Sri Lanka. Subsequently, Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

59. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a general comment on the draft resolution.

60. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Sri Lanka made a statement as the State concerned.

61. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

62. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/1).

III. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

A. Panel discussions

High-level panel discussion on the question of the death penalty

63. At the 9th meeting, on 1 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 30/5, a high-level panel discussion on the question of the death penalty, with a focus on the death penalty and the prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

64. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Minister of State for European Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development of France, Harlem Désir, made opening statements for the panel. Professor of social history at the University of the West Indies, Verene A. Shepherd, moderated the discussion for the panel.

65. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: former President of Tunisia, Moncef Marzouki; Chair of the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, Kagwiria Mbogori; representative of Thailand to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, Seree Nonthasoot; Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Nils Melzer. The Human Rights Council divided the panel discussion into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

66. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Botswana, Brazil (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, India, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine and Uruguay), Croatia (on behalf of Austria and Slovenia), Finland² (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden), Mexico² (also on behalf of Belgium, Benin, Costa Rica, France, Mongolia, the Republic of Moldova and Switzerland), Paraguay, Portugal (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Singapore² (on behalf of the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Brunei Darussalam, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Chile, Montenegro;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Civil Liberties Union, Amnesty International, Center for Global Nonkilling.

67. At the end of the first speaking slot, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

68. During the discussion for the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

² Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Egypt, India, Kenya, Portugal, Switzerland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Argentina, Colombia, Fiji, Greece, Italy, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Spain, Holy See;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Ensemble contre la peine de mort, Friends World Committee for Consultation, International Bar Association, International Federation of ACAT (on behalf of the Community of Sant'Egidio, Ensemble contre la peine de mort, the International Federation for Human Rights Leagues and Penal Reform International).

69. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Panel discussion on climate change and the rights of the child

70. At its 10th meeting, on 2 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 32/33, a panel discussion on the adverse impact of climate change on the relationship between climate change and the full and effective enjoyment of the rights of the child, lessons learned and good practices.

71. The Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR made an opening statement for the panel. The Deputy Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Maria Teresa T. Almojuela, moderated the discussion for the panel.

72. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam, Ha Kim Ngoc; Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Shameem Ahsan; Director of the UNICEF Geneva Liaison Office; member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Kirsten Sandberg; Founder of the Green Hope Foundation, Kehkashan Basu. The Human Rights Council divided the panel discussion into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

73. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Canada² (on behalf of States members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie), Costa Rica² (also on behalf of Algeria, Andorra, Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Chile, Germany, Guatemala, Fiji, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Kiribati, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, Maldives, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, the Netherlands, Palau, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Romania, Samoa, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay), El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan² (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Slovenia, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Argentina, France, Spain;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco.

74. At the end of the first speaking slot, the panellists answered questions and made their comments.

75. During the ensuing panel discussion for the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, India, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Australia, Benin, Chile, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Malaysia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Myanmar, Sierra Leone, Tonga;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue (also on behalf of Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik), International-Lawyers.Org, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (also on behalf of the Geneva International Centre for Justice).

76. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Annual interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities

77. At its 13th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 31/6, its annual interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities in the form of a panel discussion. The focus of the discussion was on article 5 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on equality and non-discrimination and the policies and practices developed under its guidance.

78. The Director of the Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division of OHCHR made an opening statement for the panel.

79. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Secretary of State for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities of Portugal, Ana Sofia Antunes; Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, Catalina Devandas Aguilar; member of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Danlami Umaru Basharu; member of the African Disability Forum, Géronime Tokpo; disability rights expert, Judith Heumann. The Human Rights Council divided the panel discussion into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

80. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Colombia² (also on behalf of Belgium, Croatia and Ecuador), Ecuador, El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ethiopia, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), New Zealand² (also on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Hungary, Indonesia, Jordan, Mexico, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Spain, Sweden, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay), Pakistan² (on behalf of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation), Philippines (on behalf of ASEAN), Portugal (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States);

(b) Representative of an observer State: Mexico;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Australian Human Rights Commission (by video message);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association Miraisme International, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue.

81. At the end of the first speaking slot, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

82. During the discussion for the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), El Salvador, Georgia, Mongolia, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Chile, Estonia, Greece, Pakistan;

(c) Observer for a national human rights institution: Equality and Human Rights Commission (by video message);

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, China NGO Network for International Exchanges.

83. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Annual full-day meeting on the rights of the child

84. At its 16th meeting, on 6 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 31/7, its annual full-day meeting on the rights of the child. The meeting focused on how the fulfilment of the rights of the child could contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the importance of integrating a child rights-based approach into all aspects of its implementation, follow-up and review, and identifying good practices and challenges in this respect. The meeting was divided into two panel discussions. The first panel discussion was held at the 16th meeting and the second panel discussion was held at the 18th meeting, on the same day.

85. The first panel discussion was held at the 16th meeting, on 6 March 2017. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel. The Human Rights Council then watched a visual brief presented by UNICEF, entitled “Children’s rights and the Sustainable Development Goals”. The Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Ricardo González Arenas, moderated the discussion for the panel.

86. During the first panel discussion, the following panellists made statements: Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Benyam Dawit Mezmur; Director of the UNICEF Geneva Liaison Office; President of Child Rights Connect and Director of Programmes and Global Advocacy at Hope and Homes for Children, Delia Pop; Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio. The Human Rights Council divided the first panel discussion into two speaking slots, both held at the 16th meeting.

87. During the first speaking slot of the first panel discussion, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil, El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Pakistan² (on behalf of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation), Singapore² (on behalf of ASEAN), Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Greece, Iceland (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden), Malaysia;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Centre indépendant de recherches et d’initiatives pour le dialogue, Child Rights Connect.

88. At the end of the first speaking slot of the first panel discussion, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

89. During the second speaking slot of the first panel discussion, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Croatia, Qatar, Republic of Korea;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Estonia, Haiti, Israel, Libya, Mexico, Montenegro, Namibia, Spain;

(c) Observer for a national human rights institution: Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Center for Reproductive Rights, Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights.

90. At the end of the second speaking slot of the first panel discussion, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

91. The second panel discussion was held at the 18th meeting, on the same day. The Head of the Permanent Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Peter Sørensen, moderated the discussion for the panel.

92. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: member of Defensoría de Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes de la Provincia de Santa Fe of Argentina, Rodolfo Succar; Assistant Director General for Family, Women's and Children's Health at the World Health Organization (WHO), Flavia Bustreo; Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Marta Santos Pais; Citizen Voice and Action Coordinator of World Vision Mali, Marie-Chantal Coulibaly. The Human Rights Council divided the second panel discussion into two speaking slots, both held at the 18th meeting.

93. During the first speaking slot of the second panel discussion, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Brazil (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), El Salvador, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, South Africa, Switzerland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bahrain, Sierra Leone;

(c) Observer for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Scottish Human Rights Commission;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Jssor Youth Organization, Plan International.

94. At the end of the first speaking slot of the second panel discussion, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

95. During the second speaking slot of the second panel discussion, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Slovenia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bulgaria, Honduras, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Russian Federation;

(c) Observer for a national human rights institution: Conseil national des droits de l'homme du Maroc;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, World Environment and Resources Council.

96. At the same meeting, the panellists of the second panel discussion answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Panel discussion on good practices and key challenges relevant to access to medicines as one of the fundamental elements of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

97. At its 24th meeting, on 8 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 32/15, a panel discussion on the good practices and key challenges relevant to access to medicines as one of the fundamental elements of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

98. The Deputy High Commissioner made an opening statement for the panel. The Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Maria Nazareth Farani Azevêdo, moderated the discussion for the panel.

99. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: former President of Switzerland and Chair of the Global Commission on Drug Policy and Co-Chair of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on Access to Medicines, Ruth Dreifuss; former Justice of the High Court of Australia and member of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on Access to Medicines, Michael Kirby; Assistant Director General of Health Systems and Innovation at WHO, Marie-Paule Kieny; Director of the Intellectual Property Division at the World Trade Organization, Antony Taubman; Head of Global Health of the Global Issues Sector at the World Intellectual Property Organization, Thomas Bombelles; Special Advisor on Trade and Intellectual Property at the South Centre, Carlos Correa; Director of the Division on Investment and Enterprise at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. The Human Rights Council divided the panel discussion into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

100. During the first speaking slot of the panel discussion, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil (on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries), Cuba, El Salvador (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Indonesia (on behalf of Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Senegal, South Africa and Thailand), Pakistan² (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Portugal, Qatar, Togo, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States);

(b) Representative of an observer State: Mexico;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Caritas Internationalis (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, the International Catholic Child Bureau, the Catholic Medical Mission Board, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, the Community of Sant'Egidio, the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, Edmund Rice International, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, the International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus and Association Points-Cœur), Conectas Direitos Humanos (also on behalf of the Working Group on Intellectual Property), Swedish Association for Sexuality Education.

101. At the end of the first speaking slot, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

102. During the discussion for the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil, Republic of Korea, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Fiji, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sudan;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Association of Jurists, Iraqi Development Organization, Réseau international des droits humains.

103. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Panel discussion on preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights

104. At its 27th meeting, on 9 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 33/18, a panel discussion on preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights, including in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

105. The Deputy High Commissioner made an opening statement for the panel. The Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Beatriz Londoño Soto, moderated the discussion for the panel.

106. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund; Co-Chair of the Independent Accountability Panel, Carmen Barroso; Member of Parliament of Nepal, Arzu Rana Deuba; Assistant Director General of Family, Women's and Children's Health at WHO, Flavia Bustreo. The Human Rights Council divided the panel discussion into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

107. During the first speaking slot of the panel discussion, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil, Indonesia, Portugal, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Sweden³ (also on behalf of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway), Uruguay³ (also on behalf of Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Israel, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Colombia (also on behalf of Argentina and Uruguay), Sudan, Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development, Amnesty International, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of Association Points-Cœur, Caritas Internationalis, the Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers, Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, the International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, New Humanity and the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations).

108. During the second speaking slot of the panel discussion, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Ecuador, El Salvador, India, Mongolia, Switzerland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Chile, Fiji, Israel, New Zealand;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alliance Defending Freedom, Plan International, Swedish Association for Sexuality Education.

109. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

B. Enhanced interactive dialogue on the human rights of migrants

110. At its 28th and 29th meetings, on 10 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 32/14, an enhanced interactive dialogue on the human rights of migrants in the context of large movement.

111. The Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR made an opening statement for the enhanced interactive dialogue on behalf of the High Commissioner.

³ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

112. At the 28th meeting, the following made statements: Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Jorge Lomónaco; Director General of the International Organization for Migration, William Lacy Swing; Director of the Conditions of Work and Equality Department at the International Labour Organization, Manuela Tomei; the Director of the Division of International Protection at UNHCR; Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Marta Santos Pais; Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, Marie Claude Landry; representative of the Global Coalition on Migration, Monami Maulik.

113. During the ensuing discussion, at the 28th and 29th meetings, the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Netherlands, Pakistan³ (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Portugal, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Greece, Honduras, Italy, Libya, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union;

(e) Observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association Dunenyo, Association for the Prevention of Torture (also on behalf of the International Detention Coalition), Centro Regional de Derechos Humanos y Justicia de Género (also on behalf of Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales and Conectas Direitos Humanos), International Catholic Migration Commission (also on behalf of Association Points-Cœur, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Caritas Internationalis, Edmund Rice International, the International Catholic Child Bureau, the International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and the Scalabrini International Migration Network), International Commission of Jurists, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, Save the Children International (also on behalf of the Friends World Committee for Consultation, the International Detention Coalition, the International Service for Human Rights and Terre des hommes fédération internationale).

114. At the 29th meeting, the presenters answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

C. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders

Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights

115. At the 8th meeting, on 1 March 2017, the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky, presented his reports (A/HRC/34/57 and Add.1).

116. At the 11th meeting, on 2 March 2017, the representative of the European Union made a statement as the organization concerned.

117. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Pakistan³ (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), South Africa, Tunisia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Greece, Libya, Morocco, Sierra Leone, Sudan;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, Human Rights Advocates, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Save the Children International (also on behalf of Defence for Children International, EuroChild and the Geneva Infant Feeding Association).

118. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context

119. At the 7th meeting, on 1 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, Leilani Farha, presented her reports (A/HRC/34/51 and Add.1–2).

120. At the 11th meeting, on 2 March 2017, the representatives of India and Portugal made statements as the States concerned.

121. At the same meeting, the Ombudsman of Portugal (Provedor de Justiça) made a statement.

122. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador (also on behalf of the Community of Latin America and Caribbean States), Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan³ (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Benin, Finland, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Sierra Leone, Spain;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alsalam Foundation (also on behalf of Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain and the Bahrain Institute for Rights and Democracy), Caritas Internationalis, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Habitat International Coalition, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik.

123. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders

124. At the 12th meeting, on 2 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Michel Forst, presented his reports (A/HRC/34/52 and Add.1–3).

125. At the same meeting, the representatives of Azerbaijan and Hungary made statements as the States concerned.

126. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 12th meeting, on 2 March 2017, and at the 14th meeting, on 3 March, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Botswana, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Latvia,

Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Canada, Colombia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Honduras, Italy, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Liechtenstein, Maldives, Morocco, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine, Uruguay, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for national human rights institutions: Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alsalam Foundation, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Human Rights House Foundation, Indian Council of South America, International Service for Human Rights, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Peace Brigades International Switzerland.

127. At the 12th meeting, on 2 March 2017, and at the 14th meeting, on 3 March, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

128. At the 12th meeting, on 2 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Nils Melzer, presented his reports (A/HRC/34/54 and Add.1–4).

129. At the same meeting, the representatives of Mauritania and Sri Lanka made statements as the States concerned.

130. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 12th meeting, on 2 March 2017, and at the 14th meeting, on 3 March, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Portugal, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Ireland, Italy, Maldives, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Turkey, Ukraine, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alsalam Foundation, Association for the Prevention of Torture, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Conectas Direitos Humanos, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Human Rights House Foundation, Indian Council of South America, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, World Organization against Torture.

131. At the 12th meeting, on 2 March 2017, and at the 14th meeting, on 3 March, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

132. At the 12th meeting, the representatives of Azerbaijan and Israel made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

133. At the 15th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the representatives of Brazil and the Russian Federation made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

134. At the 14th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, Ben Emmerson, presented his report (A/HRC/34/61).

135. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 14th meeting, on 3 March 2017, and at the 17th meeting, on 6 March, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Georgia, Iraq, Kenya, Netherlands, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union, Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Civil Liberties Union, Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Iraqi Development Organization, Prahar.

136. At the 14th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

137. At the 15th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the representatives of Iran (Islamic Republic of) and the State of Palestine made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

138. At the 17th meeting, on 6 March 2017, the representative of China made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights

139. At the 14th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Karima Bennouna, presented her reports (A/HRC/34/56 and Add.1).

140. At the same meeting, the representative of Cyprus made a statement as the State concerned.

141. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 14th meeting, on 3 March 2017, and at the 17th meeting, on 6 March, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Tunisia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Estonia, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Libya, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Peru, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union, Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development (also on behalf of the Sexual Rights Initiative), African

Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Allied Rainbow Communities International (also on behalf of the International Lesbian and Gay Association), Association for Women's Rights in Development (also on behalf of the Center for Inquiry and the International Humanist and Ethical Union), China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture, Espace Afrique International, European Union of Public Relations, Freemuse: the World Forum on Music and Censorship (also on behalf of the Center for Inquiry), International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of the Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition), Iraqi Development Organization.

142. At the 14th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur answered questions.

143. At the 15th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the representatives of Cyprus, Greece and Turkey made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

144. At the same meeting, the representative of Turkey made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

145. At the 17th meeting, on 6 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, Ahmed Shaheed, read concluding remarks on behalf of Karima Bennouna.

146. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Greece and Turkey made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

147. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus and Turkey made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

148. At the 15th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, Catalina Devandas Aguilar, presented her reports (A/HRC/34/58 and Add.1–2).

149. At the same meeting, the representative of Zambia made a statement as the State concerned.

150. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 15th meeting, on 3 March 2017, and at the 17th meeting, on 6 March, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, China, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Germany, Iraq, Japan, Nigeria, Pakistan⁴ (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Burundi, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Eritrea, Finland, France, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Libya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenegro, New Zealand, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Spain, Holy See;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, Council of Europe;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development (also on behalf of the Sexual Rights Initiative), Alliance Defending Freedom, Alsalam Foundation, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Colombian Commission of Jurists, International Association for Democracy in Africa, Liberation, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik.

151. At the 15th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur answered questions.

⁴ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism

152. At the 15th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism, Ikponwosa Ero, presented her reports (A/HRC/34/59 and Add.1–2).

153. At the same meeting, the representatives of Malawi and Mozambique made statements as the States concerned.

154. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 15th meeting, on 3 March 2017, and at the 17th meeting, on 6 March, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Belgium, Brazil, China, Cuba, Egypt, Japan, Nigeria, Pakistan⁴ (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Portugal, South Africa, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Burundi, Djibouti, Fiji, France, Israel, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Swaziland;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Espace Afrique International, International Bar Association, Lutheran World Federation, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

155. At the 15th meeting, on 3 March 2017, the Independent Expert answered questions.

Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence

156. At the 19th meeting, on 7 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, Pablo de Greiff, presented his reports (A/HRC/34/62 and Add.1).

157. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement as the State concerned.

158. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission made a statement.

159. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 19th and 20th meetings, on 7 March 2017, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Ecuador, Egypt, Latvia, Pakistan⁴ (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay, Portugal, Switzerland, Togo, United States of America, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Colombia, France, Ireland, Maldives, Morocco, Peru, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Uruguay;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian Legal Resource Centre, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Franciscans International (also on behalf of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd), Women's Human Rights International Association, World Environment and Resources Council.

160. At the 19th and 20th meetings, on 7 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

161. At the 19th meeting, on 7 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, Ahmed Shaheed, presented his reports (A/HRC/34/50 and Add.1).

162. At the same meeting, the representative of Denmark made a statement as the State concerned.

163. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Danish Institute for Human Rights made a statement.

164. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 19th and 20th meetings, on 7 March 2017, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, China, Croatia, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Latvia, Netherlands, Pakistan⁴ (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Portugal, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Canada, Cyprus, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Libya, Morocco, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine, Viet Nam, Sudan, Holy See, State of Palestine;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, International Development Law Organization;

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-Khoei Foundation, Alliance Defending Freedom, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Association Miraisme International, Center for Inquiry, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, International Humanist and Ethical Union, Jubilee Campaign, VIVAT International.

165. At the 19th and 20th meetings, on 7 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Special rapporteur on the right to privacy

166. At the 21st meeting, on 7 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy, Joseph Cannataci, presented his report (A/HRC/34/60).

167. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 22nd meeting, on 8 March 2017, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil (also on behalf of Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico and Switzerland), China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Indonesia, Iraq, Latvia, Paraguay, Portugal, Tunisia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Iran (Islamic Republic of), Russian Federation;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Civil Liberties Union, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Association for Progressive Communications, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, European Union of Public Relations, Human Rights Advocates, Human Rights Watch, Privacy International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik.

Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

168. At the 21st meeting, on 7 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, presented her reports (A/HRC/31/58 and Add.1).

169. At the 22nd meeting, on 8 March 2017, the representative of Georgia made a statement as the State concerned.

170. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Pakistan⁴ (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Tunisia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus, Israel, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Spain;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: Office of the Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of Alliance Defending Freedom, Association Points-Cœur, the Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, the European Centre for Law and Justice, the International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the International Catholic Child Bureau, Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale and the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations), Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, Human Rights Advocates, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association.

171. At the 22nd meeting, on 8 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment

172. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, John Knox, presented his reports (A/HRC/34/49 and Add.1).

173. At the same meeting, the representative of Madagascar made a statement as the State concerned.

174. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 23rd meeting, on 8 March 2017, and at the 26th meeting, on 9 March, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan⁴ (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Paraguay, Philippines, Slovenia, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Costa Rica, Djibouti, France, Gabon, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Holy See;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: Economic Commission for Europe;

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, International Development Law Organization, International Union for Conservation of Nature;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Caritas Internationalis (also on behalf of the Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul), Center for International Environmental Law (also on behalf of Earthjustice), Centre Europe-tiers monde, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Iraqi Development Organization,.

175. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 March 2017, and at the 26th meeting, on 9 March, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the right to food

176. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Hilal Elver, presented her reports (A/HRC/34/48 and Add.1–2).

177. At the same meeting, the representatives of Paraguay and Poland made statements as the States concerned.

178. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 23rd meeting, on 8 March 2016, and at the 26th meeting, on 9 March, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Egypt, El Salvador (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan⁴ (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Djibouti, France, Gabon, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Sudan, Turkey, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Scottish Human Rights Commission;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asian Legal Resource Centre, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Center for International Environmental Law (also on behalf of Earthjustice), FIAN International, Friends World Committee for Consultation, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, Liberation, Prahara, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Barua Organization.

179. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 March 2016, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

D. Interactive dialogues with special representatives of the Secretary-General

Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children

180. At the 20th meeting, on 7 March 2017, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Marta Santos Pais, presented her report (A/HRC/34/45).

181. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 20th and 21st meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Representative questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador (also on behalf of the Community of Latin America and Caribbean States), Ghana, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia,

South Africa, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia (also on behalf of the Group of African States), United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Czechia, Djibouti, France, Honduras, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Libya, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Montenegro, Norway, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Thailand;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union, Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Africa culture internationale, Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples, "Coup de pouce" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud, International Commission of Jurists, Iraqi Development Organization, Palestinian Return Centre, Réseau international des droits humains, United Schools International.

182. At the 20th and 21st meetings, the Special Representative answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

183. At the 20th meeting, on 7 March 2017, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Leila Zerrougui, presented her report (A/HRC/34/44).

184. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 20th and 21st meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Representative questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina⁴ (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Qatar, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay), Belgium (also on behalf of Uruguay), Botswana, Brazil, Croatia, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin America and Caribbean States), Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Nigeria, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia (also on behalf of the Group of African States), United States of America, Uruguay⁴ (also on behalf of Canada, Colombia, France, New Zealand, Slovakia, Spain and Switzerland), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Colombia, Czechia, Djibouti, Estonia, France, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Libya, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Myanmar, Norway, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alulbayt Foundation, Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Child Rights Connect, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples, "Coup de pouce" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud, Defence for Children International (also on behalf of the Core Group of the NGO Panel for the Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty), Il Cenacolo,

International Commission of Jurists, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, Iraqi Development Organization, Palestinian Return Centre, United Schools International.

185. At the 20th and 21st meetings, on the same day, the Special Representative answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

186. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 March 2017, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

187. At the same meeting, the representatives of Armenia and Azerbaijan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

Special Rapporteur on minority issues

188. At the 38th meeting, on 15 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Rita Izsák, presented her reports (A/HRC/34/53 and Add.1-4).

189. At the same meeting, the representatives of Iraq, the Republic of Moldova and Sri Lanka made statements as the States concerned.

190. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 38th and 39th meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Ethiopia, Georgia, Iraq, Latvia, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Slovenia, Switzerland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Benin, Hungary, Mexico, Romania, Russian Federation, Ukraine;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: European Union, Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Japanese Workers Committee for Human Rights, Minority Rights Group, Tourner la page, World Environment and Resources Council, World Jewish Congress.

191. At the 38th and 39th meetings, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

E. Open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights

192. At the 26th meeting, on 9 March 2017, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 26/9, the Chair-Rapporteur of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights, with the mandate of elaborating an international legally binding instrument, María Fernanda Espinosa, presented the report, by video message, on the working group's second session, held from 24 to 28 October 2016, and dedicated to conducting constructive deliberations on the content, scope, nature and form of the future international instrument (A/HRC/34/47).

F. General debate on agenda item 3

193. At its 29th and 30th meetings, on 10 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on thematic reports under agenda items 2 and 3, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, France⁴ (also on behalf of Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Colombia,

Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Finland, France, Gabon, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Togo and Uruguay), India (also on behalf of Afghanistan, Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam), Indonesia, Malta⁴ (on behalf of the European Union), Morocco⁴ (also on behalf of Chile, Denmark, Ghana and Indonesia), Netherlands (also on behalf of Algeria, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Peru, Mongolia, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay), Nigeria, Pakistan⁴ (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Armenia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Fiji, Finland, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Thailand, Holy See, State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;

(d) Observer for non-governmental organizations: Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters, Al-Hakim Foundation, Alliance Creative Community Project, Alliance Defending Freedom, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, ANAJA – l'Éternel a répondu, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association of World Citizens, Association pour les victimes du monde, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of the American Association of Jurists, Association Points-Cœur, Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale, the Foundation for GAIA, the International Association of Peace Messenger Cities, the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, Make Mothers Matter, New Humanity, Nonviolent Peaceforce, ONG Hope International, Pax Christi International, the Planetary Association for Clean Energy, the Scalabrini International Migration Network, the Teresian Association, the United Network of Young Peacebuilders and the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations), Canners International Permanent Committee, Center for Global Nonkilling, Center for Inquiry, Centre Europe-tiers monde, Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, Chant du guépard dans le désert, Child Foundation, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Corporate Accountability International, "Coup de pousse" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud, European Centre for Law and Justice, European Union of Jewish Students, European Union of Public Relations, FIAN International, France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Franciscans International (also on behalf of the Colombian Commission of Jurists, the International Commission of Jurists and the International Federation for Human Rights Leagues), Friends of the Earth International, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Graduate Women International, Hazrat Javad-al-Aemeh Cultural Charity Institute, Human Rights Advocates, Indian Council of South America, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Institute for Policy Studies, Institute for Women's Studies and Research, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Commission of Jurists, International Drug Policy Consortium, International Educational Development, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Humanist and Ethical Union,

International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Muslim Women's Union, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education (also on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center, Association Points-Cœur, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, the Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, the David M Kennedy Center for International Studies, the Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education/Equitas centre international d'éducation aux droits humains, the Foundation for GAIA, the Global Eco-Village Network, Graduate Women International, the Institute for Development and Human Rights, the International Association for Religious Freedom, the International Catholic Child Bureau, the International Council of Women, the International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, Lazarus Union, ONG Hope International, the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem, the Planetary Association for Clean Energy, Soka Gakkai International, Soroptimist International and the Teresian Association), International Service for Human Rights, Iraqi Development Organization, Islamic Women's Institute of Iran, Japanese Workers Committee for Human Rights, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Kiyana Karaj Group, Liberal International, Liberation, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life Education Fund, Observatoire mauritanien des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie, Organisation internationale pour le développement intégral de la femme, Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Peivande Gole Narges Organization, Prahar, Presse emblème campagne, Prevention Association of Social Harms, Public Services International, Reporters sans frontières international, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Society for Threatened Peoples, Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of the Environment, Soka Gakkai International, Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, Women's Human Rights International Association, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (also on behalf of Centro Regional de Derechos Humanos y Justicia de Género), World Barua Organization, World Evangelical Alliance, World Jewish Congress.

194. At the 30th meeting, the representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

G. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity

195. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.2, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Algeria, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Angola, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, China, the Congo, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

196. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

197. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/2).

Mandate of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights

198. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.3, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Algeria, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Cabo Verde, China, Egypt, Greece, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

199. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a general comment on the draft resolution.

200. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

201. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

202. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Albania, Belgium, Brazil, Croatia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

203. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 31 votes to 16, with no abstentions (resolution 34/3).

Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights

204. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representative of Portugal introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.4/Rev.1, sponsored by Portugal and co-sponsored by Angola, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Thailand, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Algeria, Armenia, Brazil, China, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, France, Georgia, Haiti, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Timor-Leste joined the sponsors.

205. At the same meeting, the representatives of South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America made general comments on the draft resolution.

206. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/4).

Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders

207. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representative of Norway introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.5, sponsored by Norway and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and the State of Palestine. Subsequently, Angola, Benin, Brazil, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Czechia, Djibouti, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Israel, Lithuania, Maldives, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Togo and Zambia joined the sponsors.

208. At the same meeting, the representative of Norway orally revised the draft resolution.

209. Also at the same meeting, the President announced that amendment A/HRC/34/L.46 to the draft resolution as orally revised had been withdrawn.

210. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendments A/HRC/34/L.42, A/HRC/34/L.43, A/HRC/34/L.44 and A/HRC/34/L.45 to the draft resolution as orally revised. The representative of China introduced amendment A/HRC/34/L.51.

211. Amendment A/HRC/34/L.42 was sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Belarus, China, Egypt and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors. Amendment A/HRC/34/L.43 was sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Belarus, China and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors. Amendment A/HRC/34/L.44 was sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Belarus, China, Egypt and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors. Amendment A/HRC/34/L.45 was sponsored by the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Belarus, China, Egypt and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors. Amendment A/HRC/34/L.51 was sponsored by China, Cuba, Pakistan and the Russian Federation.

212. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of the Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement on the proposed amendments to the draft resolution as orally revised.

213. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Egypt and the Republic of Korea made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised and on the proposed amendments.

214. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

215. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council took action on amendments A/HRC/34/L.42, A/HRC/34/L.43, A/HRC/34/L.44, A/HRC/34/L.45 and A/HRC/34/L.51.

216. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Albania and Germany made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/34/L.42.

217. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/34/L.42. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iraq, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Slovenia, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Congo, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, South Africa

218. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/34/L.42 by 28 votes to 15, with 4 abstentions.

219. At the same meeting, the representatives of Hungary and Switzerland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/34/L.43.

220. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/34/L.43. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, Congo, Kenya, Philippines, Rwanda, South Africa

221. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/34/L.43 by 29 votes to 12, with 6 abstentions.

222. At the same meeting, the representatives of Hungary and Latvia made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/34/L.44.

223. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/34/L.44. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Egypt, India, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Iraq, Japan, Latvia, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Slovenia, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, South Africa

224. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/34/L.44 by 29 votes to 11, with 6 abstentions.

225. At the same meeting, the representatives of Albania, Paraguay and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/34/L.45.

226. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/34/L.45. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Egypt, India, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Latvia, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Slovenia, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, South Africa

227. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/34/L.45 by 29 votes to 11, with 6 abstentions.

228. At the same meeting, the representatives of Belgium and Latvia made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/34/L.51.

229. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/34/L.51. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, El Salvador, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Latvia, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Slovenia, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Congo, Philippines, South Africa, Togo

230. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/34/L.51 by 27 votes to 16, with 4 abstentions.

231. At the same meeting, the representatives of China and South Africa made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised. In its statement, the representative of China disassociated the member State from the consensus on the resolution.

232. The Human Rights Council adopted draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.5 as orally revised without a vote (resolution 34/5).

Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues

233. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representative of Austria, also on behalf of Senegal and Slovenia, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.6, sponsored by Austria, Senegal and Slovenia, and co-sponsored by Armenia, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and the United States of America. Subsequently, Angola, Chile, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Guatemala, Israel, Lithuania, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors.

234. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

235. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/6).

The right to privacy in the digital age

236. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representatives of Brazil and Germany introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.7/Rev.1, sponsored by Brazil and Germany, and co-sponsored by Albania, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, the Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia and Ukraine. Subsequently, Armenia, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Costa Rica, El Salvador, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Mongolia, Mozambique, San Marino, Slovakia and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

237. At the same meeting, the representatives of Egypt and Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), South Africa and the United States of America made general comments on the draft resolution. In its statement, the representative of South Africa disassociated the member State from the consensus on paragraph 4 of the draft resolution.

238. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/7).

Effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of all human rights

239. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representatives of Algeria and Egypt introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.9, sponsored by Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Saudi Arabia. Subsequently, Angola, Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Maldives, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo joined the sponsors.

240. At the same meeting, the representative of South Africa introduced amendment A/HRC/34/L.47.

241. Amendment A/HRC/34/L.47 was sponsored by South Africa.

242. At the same meeting, the representative of Egypt made a statement on the proposed amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.9.

243. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Saudi Arabia and South Africa made general comments on the draft resolution and on the proposed amendment.

244. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Egypt, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/34/L.47. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, South Africa, Tunisia

Against:

Albania, Belgium, Burundi, Croatia, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Panama, Rwanda, Togo

245. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/34/L.47 by 28 votes to 7, with 11 abstentions.⁵

246. At the same meeting, the representatives of Belgium, Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Japan, South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United

⁵ The delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela did not cast a vote.

States of America made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

247. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Nigeria, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Albania, Belgium, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Panama

248. The Human Rights Council adopted draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.9 by 28 votes to 15, with 4 abstentions (resolution 34/8).

Adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living and the right to non-discrimination in this context

249. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representative of Namibia (also on behalf of Brazil, Finland and Germany) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.12, sponsored by Brazil, Finland, Germany and Namibia, and co-sponsored by Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Angola, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, France, Hungary, Italy, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen joined the sponsors.

250. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

251. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

252. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/9).

Freedom of religion or belief

253. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representative of Malta, on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.15, sponsored by Malta, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Angola, Cabo Verde, Chile, the Congo, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Indonesia, New Zealand, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia joined the sponsors.

254. At the same meeting, the representative of Egypt made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

255. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/10).

The negative impact of the non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin to the countries of origin on the enjoyment of human rights, and the importance of improving international cooperation

256. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representative of Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.16/Rev.1, sponsored by Afghanistan, Ecuador, Egypt, Haiti, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Libya and Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States). Subsequently, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Kyrgyzstan and Sri Lanka joined the sponsors.

257. At the same meeting, the representatives of Egypt, Ghana, Nigeria and the United States of America made general comments on the draft resolution.

258. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Germany and Switzerland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

259. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Belgium, Croatia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

260. The Human Rights Council adopted draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.16/Rev.1 by 30 votes to 1, with 16 abstentions (resolution 34/11).

The right to food

261. At the 56th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.21, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Algeria, Andorra, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Serbia, South Africa, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and the State of Palestine. Subsequently, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cabo Verde, China, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Haiti, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Japan, Maldives, Monaco, Pakistan, Paraguay, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey joined the sponsors.

262. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba orally revised the draft resolution.

263. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a general comment on the draft resolution.

264. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

265. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

United States of America

Abstaining:

Republic of Korea

266. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 45 votes to 1, with 1 abstention (resolution 34/12).

Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

267. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.14, sponsored by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. Subsequently, Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf) and Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) joined the sponsors.

268. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba made a general comment on the draft resolution.

269. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

270. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Germany, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian State of)

Against:

Albania, Belgium, Croatia, Georgia, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

271. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 32 votes to 14, with no abstentions (resolution 34/13).⁶

Right to work

272. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representatives of Egypt and Greece introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.22, sponsored by Egypt, Greece, Indonesia, Mexico and Romania, and co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cuba, Cyprus, Georgia, Germany, Kenya, Luxembourg, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Nigeria, Paraguay, the Philippines, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, the Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia and Yemen. Subsequently, Angola, Australia, Canada, Colombia, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Guatemala,

⁶ The representative of Germany subsequently stated that there had been an error in the delegation's vote and that it had intended to vote against the draft text.

Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

273. At the same meeting, the President announced that amendment A/HRC/34/L.48 to the draft resolution had been withdrawn.

274. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Indonesia made a general comment on the draft resolution.

275. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

276. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

277. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/14).

Birth registration and the right of everyone to recognition everywhere as a person before the law

278. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Mexico introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.24, sponsored by Mexico and Turkey, and co-sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Togo, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Mali, New Zealand, Norway, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Switzerland, Thailand and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

279. At the same meeting, the representative of Belgium made a general comment on the draft resolution.

280. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/15).

Rights of the child: protection of the rights of the child in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

281. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representatives of Malta (on behalf of the European Union) and Uruguay (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.25, sponsored by Malta (on behalf of the European Union) and Uruguay (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Algeria, Armenia, Canada, Israel, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Maldives, New Zealand, Norway, Rwanda, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste and Tunisia joined the sponsors.

282. At the same meeting, the representative of Malta orally revised the draft resolution.

283. Also at the same meeting, the President announced that amendments A/HRC/34/L.49 and A/HRC/34/L.50 to the draft resolution as orally revised had been withdrawn.

284. At the same meeting, the representatives of Egypt and South Africa made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

285. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

286. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised.

287. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 34/16).

Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights

288. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Belgium (also on behalf Mexico, Senegal and Thailand) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.26/Rev.1, sponsored by Armenia, Belgium, Mexico, Senegal and Thailand, and co-sponsored by Angola, Austria, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and Turkey. Subsequently, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malaysia, Montenegro, the Philippines, Poland, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

289. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

290. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/17).

Freedom of opinion and expression: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression

291. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of the United States of America introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.27, sponsored by the United States of America and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay. Subsequently, Algeria, Argentina, Botswana, Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Hungary, Maldives, Mongolia, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia and Sri Lanka joined the sponsors.

292. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

293. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

294. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/18).

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment: mandate of the Special Rapporteur

295. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Denmark introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.32, sponsored by Denmark and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil,

Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Chad, Costa Rica, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Georgia, Guatemala, Lebanon, Madagascar, Maldives, Mozambique, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors.

296. At the same meeting, the representative of Denmark orally revised the draft resolution.

297. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution as orally revised.

298. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

299. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 34/19).

Human rights and the environment

300. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representatives of Costa Rica and Switzerland introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.33, sponsored by Costa Rica, Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia and Switzerland, and co-sponsored by Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Spain, the Sudan, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Ukraine, Uruguay and the State of Palestine. Subsequently, Algeria, Angola, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chad, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia joined the sponsors.

301. At the same meeting, the representative of Switzerland orally revised the draft resolution.

302. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

303. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bangladesh and the United States of America made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised.

304. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 34/20).

Human rights of migrants: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

305. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Mexico introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.36, sponsored by Mexico and co-sponsored by Argentina, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Colombia, El Salvador, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Algeria, Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, Guatemala, Ireland, Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Spain, Thailand and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

306. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico orally revised the draft resolution.

307. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

308. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 34/21).

Human rights, democracy and the rule of law

309. At the 59th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Romania (also on behalf of Morocco, Norway, Peru, the Republic of Korea and Tunisia) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.20, sponsored by Morocco, Norway, Peru, Romania, the Republic of Korea and Tunisia, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Ukraine and the United States of America. Subsequently, Algeria, Armenia, Botswana, Costa Rica, Denmark, Fiji, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Paraguay, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

310. At the same meeting, the representative of Romania orally revised the draft resolution.

311. Also at the same meeting, the representative of China introduced amendment A/HRC/34/L.52 to the draft resolution as orally revised.

312. Amendment A/HRC/34/L.52 was sponsored by China, Pakistan and the Russian Federation.

313. At the same meeting, the representative of the Republic of Korea made a statement on the proposed amendment to the draft resolution as orally revised.

314. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

315. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council took action on amendment A/HRC/34/L.52.

316. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/34/L.52.

317. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Republic of Korea, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/34/L.52. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Congo, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Croatia, El Salvador, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Switzerland, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Iraq, Mongolia, Rwanda, Tunisia

318. The Human Rights Council rejected amendment A/HRC/34/L.52 by 23 votes to 18, with 6 abstentions.

319. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, Cuba and Egypt made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised. In its statement, the representative of China disassociated the member State from the consensus on the draft resolution as orally revised. In its statement, the representative of Cuba disassociated the member State from the consensus on the sixth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution as orally revised.

320. The Human Rights Council adopted draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.20 as orally revised without a vote (resolution 34/41).

IV. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

A. Panel discussions

High-level panel discussion on the human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic

321. At the 34th meeting, on 14 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 33/23, a high-level panel discussion on the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic.

322. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, and the United Nations Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Syrian Crisis made opening statements for the panel. Journalist and Senior International Correspondent for CNN, Arwa Damon, moderated the discussion for the panel.

323. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: Executive Director at the Syrian Network for Human Rights, Fadel Abdul Ghani; lawyer at the Syrian Women's Network, Joumana Seif; former Vice-President of the Syrian National Coalition, Noura Aljizawi; Co-Founder of the organization Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently and researcher on extremist groups in the Middle East, Sarmad al-Jilane; Director of the Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression, Mazen Darwish. The Human Rights Council divided the panel discussion into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

324. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bahrain⁷ (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Belgium, Germany, Norway⁷ (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Israel, New Zealand, Spain, Uruguay;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Human Rights Watch, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

325. At the end of the first speaking slot, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

326. During the discussion for the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Iraq, Netherlands, Portugal, Qatar, Slovenia, Switzerland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Liechtenstein, Maldives, Russian Federation;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Africa culture internationale, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, World Council of Arameans (Syriacs).

327. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

⁷ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

B. Interactive dialogue with the commission of inquiry on Burundi

328. At the 33rd meeting, on 13 March 2017, the Chair of the commission of inquiry on Burundi, Fatsah Ouguergouz, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 33/24, an oral briefing.

329. At the same meeting, the representative of Burundi made a statement as the State concerned.

330. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the national human rights institution, the Commission nationale indépendante des droits de l'homme du Burundi, made a statement.

331. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the members of the commission of inquiry on Burundi questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, China, Germany, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Norway, Morocco, Slovakia, Spain, the Syrian Arab Republic, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Service for Human Rights, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, World Organization against Torture.

332. At the same meeting, the Chair, and a member of the commission of inquiry, Reine Alpani Gansu, answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

C. Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic

333. At the 35th meeting, on 14 March 2017, the Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 28/20, the report of the Commission (A/HRC/34/64).

334. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

335. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chair questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Belgium, Brazil, China, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iraq, Japan, Netherlands, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Chile, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark (also on behalf of Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), Estonia, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Poland, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Turkey, Holy See;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alliance Defending Freedom, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Conseil international pour le soutien à des

procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, European Centre for Law and Justice, Union of Arab Jurists, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Council of Arameans (Syriacs), World Jewish Congress.

336. At the same meeting, the Chair and members of the Commission answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

D. Interactive dialogue with the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan

337. At the 36th meeting, on 14 March 2017, members of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, Yasmin Sooka, Kenneth Scott and Godfrey M. Musila, presented the Commission's report (A/HRC/34/63).

338. At the same meeting, the representative of South Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.

339. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the members of the Commission questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Belgium, Botswana, China, Cuba, Egypt, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Australia, Czechia, Denmark, France, Ireland, Morocco, Norway, Slovakia, Spain, Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Human Rights Watch, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

340. At the same meeting, the members of the Commission answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

E. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

341. At the 31st meeting, on 13 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Tomas Ojea Quintana, and two members of the group of independent experts on accountability in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Sonja Biserko and Sara Hossain, presented their reports (A/HRC/34/66 and Add.1).

342. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, China, Croatia, Cuba, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Belarus, Czechia, Estonia, France, Greece, Iran (Islamic republic of), Ireland, Liechtenstein, Maldives, Myanmar, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Jubilee Campaign, People for Successful Corean Reunification, United Nations Watch.

343. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur and the members of the group of independent experts answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

344. At the 31st meeting, on 13 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Asma Jahangir, presented her report (A/HRC/34/65).

345. At the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement as the State concerned.

346. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 31st and 32nd meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, China, Cuba, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Belarus, Czechia, France, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ireland, Israel, Myanmar, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, Baha'i International Community, Child Foundation, Ensemble contre la peine de mort, Hazrat Javad-al-Aemeh Cultural Charity Institute, Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society, United Nations Watch, Women's Human Rights International Association.

347. At the 32nd meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made final remarks as the State concerned.

348. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

349. At the 32nd meeting, on 13 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Yanghee Lee, presented her report (A/HRC/34/67).

350. At the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar made a statement as the State concerned.

351. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, China, Croatia, India, Iraq, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan⁷ (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Philippines (also on behalf of ASEAN), Republic of Korea, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Cambodia, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, New Zealand, Poland, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Viet Nam;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asian Legal Resource Centre, International Commission of Jurists,

International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Jubilee Campaign, World Barua Organization.

352. At the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar made final remarks as the State concerned.

353. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Oral update by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea

354. At the 33rd meeting, on 13 March 2017, the Human Rights Council heard an oral update of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea, Sheila B. Keetharuth.

355. At the same meeting, the representative of Eritrea made a statement as the State concerned.

356. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, China, Cuba, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Belarus, Djibouti, France, Ireland, Norway, Somalia, Sudan;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, European Solidarity towards Equal Participation of People, Jubilee Campaign, International Fellowship of Reconciliation.

357. At the same meeting, the representative of Eritrea made final remarks as the State concerned.

358. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

F. General debate on agenda item 4

359. At its 36th meeting, on 14 March 2017, and at its 37th and 38th meetings, on 15 March, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 4, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, Japan, Malta⁷ (on behalf of the European Union), Netherlands, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, France, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Maldives, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters, African Development Association, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Agir ensemble pour les droits de l'homme, Al-Hakim Foundation, Alliance Creative Community Project, Alsalam Foundation, American Association of Jurists, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, ANAJA – l'Éternel a répondu, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association Dunenyó, Association for

the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection "Manshour-e Parseh", Association pour les victimes du monde, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Baha'i International Community, B'nai B'rith International, Canners International Permanent Committee, Center for Inquiry, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre Europe-tiers monde, Child Foundation, Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, "Coup de pouce" Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud, Disability Association of Tavana, Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development, European Centre for Law and Justice, European Union of Public Relations, Family Health Association of Iran, France Liberté: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Hazrat Javad-al-Aemeh Cultural Charity Institute, Helios Life Association, Human Rights House Foundation, Human Rights League of the Horn of Africa, Human Rights Watch, Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society, Indian Council of Education, Indian Council of South America, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, Institute for Women's Studies and Research, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Commission of Jurists (also on behalf of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan), International Educational Development, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies, International-Lawyers.Org, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (on behalf of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation), International Muslim Women's Union, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International PEN (also on behalf of Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, Human Rights Watch, the International Press Institute, the International Publishers Association and Reporters sans frontières international), International Service for Human Rights, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Iraqi Development Organization, Islamic Women's Institute of Iran, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Kiyana Karaj Group, Liberation, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Observatoire mauritanien des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie, Organisation internationale pour le développement intégral de la femme, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, Peivande Gole Narges Organization, Prahar, Presse emblème campagne, Prevention Association of Social Harms, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Society for Recovery Support, Society for Threatened Peoples, Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of the Environment, Tourner la page, Union of Arab Jurists, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, Victorious Youths Movement, VIVAT International, Women's Human Rights International Association, World Barua Organization, World Environment and Resources Council, World Evangelical Alliance, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress.

360. At the 36th meeting, on 14 March 2017, the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Japan, the Philippines, Turkmenistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

361. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

362. At the 38th meeting, on 15 March 2017, the representatives of Bahrain, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Thailand and Turkey made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

363. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon and the Russian Federation made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

G. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Situation of human rights in Myanmar

364. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Malta, on behalf of the European Union, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.8/Rev.1, sponsored by Malta, on behalf of the European Union, and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Australia, Costa Rica, Norway, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Switzerland and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia joined the sponsors.

365. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil, Ecuador, Egypt, the Philippines and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made general comments on the draft resolution. In its statement, the representative of the Philippines disassociated the member State from the consensus on paragraphs 10, 11 and 12 of the draft resolution. In its statement, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela disassociated the member State from the consensus on the draft resolution.

366. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Myanmar made a statement as the State concerned and disassociated the member State from the consensus on the draft resolution.

367. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

368. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, India, Indonesia and Japan made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution. In their statements, the representatives of China and India disassociated the respective member States from the consensus on the draft resolution.

369. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/22).

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

370. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Sweden (on behalf of the Republic of Moldova, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United States of America) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.17, sponsored by the Republic of Moldova, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United States of America, and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain. Subsequently, Costa Rica, New Zealand, San Marino and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the sponsors.

371. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

372. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement as the State concerned and disassociated the member State from the consensus on the draft resolution.

373. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

374. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil, Cuba, Iraq, Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

375. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Croatia, El Salvador, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Against:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Brazil, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Mongolia, Nigeria, Philippines, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia

376. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 22 votes to 12, with 13 abstentions (resolution 34/23).

Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

377. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representatives of Japan and Malta (on behalf of the European Union) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.23, sponsored by Japan and Malta (on behalf of the European Union), and co-sponsored by Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Chile, Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, New Zealand, Palau, the Republic of Moldova and San Marino joined the sponsors.

378. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made general comments on the draft resolution. In its statement, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela disassociated the member State from the consensus on the draft resolution.

379. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

380. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba and Egypt made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution. In their statements, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China and India disassociated the respective member States from the consensus on the draft resolution.

381. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/24).

Situation of human rights in South Sudan

382. At the 57th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of the United States of America introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.34, sponsored by Albania, Paraguay, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and co-sponsored by Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Subsequently, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Monaco, New Zealand, Portugal, San Marino, Slovakia and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

383. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

384. Also at the same meeting, the representative of South Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.

385. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

386. At the same meeting, the representative of Egypt made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution. In its statement, the representative of Egypt disassociated the member State from the consensus on paragraph 16 (b) of the draft resolution.

387. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/25).

The human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic

388. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representatives of Saudi Arabia (also on behalf of France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United States of America) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.37, sponsored by France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. Subsequently, Andorra, Bahrain, Botswana, Croatia, Georgia, Lithuania, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Slovakia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and the United Arab Emirates joined the sponsors.

389. At the same meeting, the representatives of Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and Switzerland made general comments on the draft resolution.

390. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned and disassociated the member State from the consensus on the draft resolution.

391. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

392. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

393. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of China and Cuba, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, El Salvador, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Togo, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Against:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mongolia, Nigeria, Philippines, South Africa, Tunisia

394. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 27 votes to 7, with 13 abstentions (resolution 34/26).

V. Human rights bodies and mechanisms

A. Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law

395. At the 39th meeting, on 15 March 2017, the Co-Chair of the first session of the Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law, Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Daniyar Mukashev, introduced the report adopted by the Forum, held on 21 and 22 November 2016 (A/HRC/34/46).

B. Forum on Minority Issues

396. At the 39th meeting, on 15 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, Rita Izsák, presented the recommendations adopted by the Forum on Minority Issues at its ninth session, held on 24 and 25 November 2016 (A/HRC/34/68).

C. Social Forum

397. At the 39th meeting, on 15 March 2017, the Officer-in-Charge of the Development and Economic and Social Issues Branch of OHCHR, on behalf of the Co-Chair-Rapporteurs of the Social Forum, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Jorge Lomónaco, and Deputy Permanent Representative and Chargé d'affaires of New Zealand to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Carl Allan Raich, introduced the report of the Forum, which was held from 3 to 5 October 2016 (A/HRC/34/69).

D. Special procedure mandate holders

398. At the 39th meeting, on 15 March 2017, the Chair of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures, Yanghee Lee, presented the reports on the twenty-third annual meeting of special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/34/34, Corr.1 and Add.1), including updated information on the special procedures, which was held at Geneva from 6 to 10 June 2016.

E. General debate on agenda item 5

399. At its 39th meeting, on 15 March 2017, and at its 44th meeting, on 16 March, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 5, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, China, Cuba, Hungary (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay), Iraq, Latvia, Malta⁸ (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine), Romania⁸ (also on behalf of Morocco, Norway, Peru, the

⁸ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Republic of Korea and Tunisia), Tunisia (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Republic of Korea, Togo, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Austria, Benin, Iran (Islamic republic of), Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, International Development Law Organization, Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, African Commission for Health and Human Rights Promoters, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Alliance Creative Community Project, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, ANAJA – l'Éternel a répondu, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Canners International Permanent Committee, Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, European Union of Public Relations, Indian Council of South America, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Career Support Association, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Muslim Women's Union, International Service for Human Rights, Iraqi Development Organization, Japanese Workers Committee for Human Rights, Jssor Youth Organization, Kham Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Observatoire mauritanien des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie, Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Prahar, Save the Children International (on behalf Child Rights Connect and the International Detention Coalition), Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Tourner la page, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Barua Organization, World Environment and Resources Council, World Muslim Congress.

400. At the 39th meeting, on 15 March 2017, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

VI. Universal periodic review

401. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/251, Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, Council decision 17/119 and President's statements PRST/8/1 and PRST/9/2 on modalities and practices for the universal periodic review process, the Council considered the outcome of the reviews conducted during the twenty-sixth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, held from 31 October to 11 November 2016.

402. In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the President stated that all recommendations must be part of the final outcome of the universal periodic review and accordingly, the State under review should clearly communicate its position on all of the recommendations by indicating that it either "supported" or "noted" each recommendation.

A. Consideration of the universal periodic review outcomes

403. In accordance with paragraph 4.3 of President's statement PRST/8/1, the following section contains a summary of the views expressed on the outcome by States under review, member and observer States of the Human Rights Council, as well as general comments made by other relevant stakeholders before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session.

Togo

404. The review of Togo was held on 31 October 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Togo in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/TGO/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/TGO/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/TGO/3).

405. At its 40th meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Togo (see sect. C below).

406. The outcome of the review of Togo comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/4), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/4/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

407. The delegation of Togo, headed by Kokouvi Agbetomey, Minister for Justice and Relations with the Institutions of Togo, presented to the Human Rights Council the position of the State on the recommendations received.

408. During the review, Togo had received 195 recommendations and on that occasion, it had supported 162 recommendations, 26 of which it had considered to be already implemented. Of the remaining recommendations, 22 had been noted and 11 were to be examined and the responses provided during the adoption of the outcome during the session of the Human Rights Council.

409. With regard to the recommendations that had been deferred, five had been supported and six had been noted.

410. The recommendations accepted could be grouped under two themes: trafficking in persons (paragraphs 130.2 and 130.6) and violence against women (paragraphs 130.3 to 130.5).

411. The recommendations that had been noted concerned the following themes: ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (paragraph 130.1), issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures (paragraphs 130.7 and 130.8), establishing quotas for women in elected and administrative positions (paragraph 130.9), introducing a quota system in the employment sector for persons with disabilities (paragraph 130.11), and organizing a popular referendum on presidential term limits and setting a date for and plan to hold local elections (paragraph 130.10).

412. Nonetheless, the delegation clarified that the implementation of a road map on decentralization and local elections continued, in line with the five-year programme of the Head of State. The Government, having committed itself to making decentralization a key factor in anchoring democracy at the grass-roots level and in local development, had mobilized various actors and partners to that end. In that regard, a workshop had been held in December 2016 with the support of UNDP, which had resulted in a number of recommendations, including that the next local elections be held within 18 months at the latest.

413. The delegation then highlighted the fact that, since the presentation of its national report, Togo had launched a participatory process with a view to adopting a new national development plan (2018–2022), in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

414. That plan contained five main pillars, namely improving the well-being of the population; improving the productivity and competitiveness of the growth sectors; reinforcing the infrastructure to ensure such growth; the sustainable management of the land; and an environment ensuring the consolidation of good governance and peace. In that regard, several initiatives had also been adopted to contribute to the improvement of the human rights situation.

415. In February 2017, the Government had established a strategic unit for the follow-up on the Sustainable Development Goals and on international agreements on development. That initiative signalled the Government's commitment to implement the 17 Goals, as that unit would have the mandate to monitor the progress achieved in the areas prioritized for action by the Government on that issue.

416. The delegation noted, with regard to the area of health, the development of a new national health development plan (2017–2022), in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. That plan had five strategic parts, namely accelerating the reduction of maternal, neonatal and child and juvenile mortality, and strengthening family planning and adolescent health; strengthening the fight against non-communicable diseases; improving health security and responses to epidemics and other public health emergencies; strengthening the fight against communicable diseases and promoting health; and strengthening the health-care system towards universal coverage, including at the community level.

417. The delegation added that the campaign against corruption was also a matter of particular attention, noting that the members of the High Authority for the Prevention and Fight against Corruption and Related Offences had been appointed and had taken office in February 2017.

418. Lastly, the delegation stressed the Government's commitment to implement its human rights obligations and it noted that, as with the drafting of the national report, and as in the first cycle, the recommendations accepted during the second cycle would be implemented through a participatory and inclusive process. After the adoption of the outcome, the Government proposed to organize a series of sectoral workshops to disseminate the recommendations and receive the observations of all stakeholders with a view to developing a five-year action plan for their implementation.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

419. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Togo 16 delegations made statements.⁹

420. Algeria welcomed the measures taken by Togo to fight against torture and discrimination against women. It welcomed the cooperation of Togo with the universal periodic review and the State's acceptance of the recommendations made by Algeria to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and to adopt a specific law, based on the prevention of violence against women and related assistance, to combat all violence against women.

421. Angola welcomed the strong engagement of Togo with the human rights treaty bodies and the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. It noted that, despite the challenges faced by Togo to consolidate its macroeconomic policy, the State had made remarkable progress in the agriculture sector, leading to a reduction in levels of poverty. Angola also noted with satisfaction the efforts made by Togo to improve conditions of detention.

422. Benin deeply appreciated the cooperation and continuous support of Togo with regard to the activities of the Human Rights Council since its creation. The acceptance by Togo of the majority of the recommendations received proved the openness of the country to international mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights. Benin also noted the commendable measures adopted by Togo to promote and protect human rights in the country, particularly with regard to its legal and institutional framework.

423. Botswana welcomed the measures taken by Togo in relation to the recommendation to adopt comprehensive legislation to address trafficking in persons. It commended the State for its public policy reforms and the establishment of institutions such as the High Authority for the Prevention and Fight against Corruption and Related Offences. It encouraged Togo to continue to cooperate with human rights mechanisms and development partners in relation to birth registration, health in prisons and the implementation of social programmes.

424. Brazil acknowledged the acceptance by Togo of its recommendation on freedom of expression and of assembly, and on the protection of journalists. While noting that Togo had not supported the recommendation to decriminalize same-sex relations, Brazil welcomed the State's frank and open dialogue on the issue. The efforts of Togo to advance human rights, such as the abolition of the death penalty, should be encouraged by the international community. Brazil praised Togo for having accepted the overwhelming majority of the recommendations from both universal periodic review cycles.

425. Burundi congratulated Togo on having made the fight against poverty one of its priorities and for having adopted policies and programmes, in particular the national programme on sustainable development. It encouraged Togo to redouble its efforts to maximize results. It noted with satisfaction the measures taken to eliminate discrimination against women and to reduce gender inequality. It also welcomed the State's efforts to improve access to health care and education.

426. China appreciated the commitment of Togo to implement effectively the recommendations accepted. It thanked Togo for having accepted its recommendations to implement effectively the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and promote sustainable economic and social development in order to create a solid foundation for the development of its human rights cause, and to further lower its maternal and infant mortality rates. China called upon the international community, on the basis of full consultation with Togo, to provide the State with technical assistance.

427. The Congo noted with satisfaction the significant progress made by Togo since the previous universal periodic review in several areas, in particular through the adoption of a

⁹ The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/34thSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

number of important laws. It encouraged Togo to continue its efforts to harmonize its domestic legislation with international instruments. It invited the State's technical and financial partners to continue to provide Togo with assistance.

428. Cuba acknowledged the work carried out by Togo to implement the recommendations accepted during the previous universal periodic review. It encouraged the State to continue its efforts to approve national policies and programmes in the field of human rights, particularly those to fight poverty. It thanked Togo for having accepted the recommendations made by Cuba.

429. Djibouti was pleased to see the commitment made by Togo to improve the human rights situation in the country, by having accepted most of the recommendations received during the review, including those made by Djibouti. It also welcomed the excellent cooperation of Togo with international and regional human rights mechanisms, particularly with the special procedure mandate holders.

430. Egypt commended Togo for the efforts made to improve economic, cultural and social rights and to promote democracy. It congratulated the State on its efforts to implement the recommendations accepted and it called upon the Government to continue its efforts to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms. It praised Togo for its cooperation with human rights mechanisms.

431. Ethiopia commended Togo for the acceptance of a significant number of recommendations, including those it had made to continue to strengthen the quality of education by building and equipping school facilities, and to further continue the implementation of the national development plan for generating resources. Ethiopia commended Togo for its accelerated growth and employment creation strategy for 2013–2017, which was focused on combating poverty. It supported the adoption of the universal periodic review outcome of Togo.

432. Gabon welcomed the legislative and institutional measures taken by Togo to improve the enjoyment of the rights of vulnerable groups, such as women, children and persons with disabilities. It took note of the adoption of a new Criminal Code and of the review of the Family Code with a view to addressing discrimination against women. In that regard, Gabon welcomed the creation of centres dedicated to fighting gender-based violence, and measures on gender inequality and the participation of women in public affairs.

433. Ghana welcomed the measures taken by Togo to consolidate the education system and to make education accessible to all, in particular the promotion of inclusive education for persons with disabilities through the supply of textbooks in braille and the introduction of sign language. Ghana applauded the reinforcement of preventive action to combat the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS, the provision of free malaria treatment, the creation of an observatory to combat discrimination against persons living with HIV/AIDS, and the provision of free vaccinations for women and children.

434. Iraq welcomed the acceptance by Togo of the recommendations it had made during the previous universal periodic review, particularly those to develop the normative and institutional framework at the national level by integrating all instruments and treaties ratified by Togo into the legislative system of the country, and to intensify efforts to achieve equality and non-discrimination in the framework of equality and equity between men and women.

435. Kenya noted with satisfaction that Togo had accepted most of the recommendations received during the review, including those made by Kenya to promote, protect, respect and fulfil human rights and fundamental freedoms. It commended Togo for the ratification of several treaties and for their domestication through various pieces of legislation.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

436. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Togo, seven other stakeholders made statements.

437. The National Human Rights Commission of Togo acknowledged the Government's efforts to protect the rights of the child and it indicated that the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure

would further attest to the country's commitment to grant special attention to that group. The Criminal Code adopted in 2015 had addressed many of the concerns regarding violence against women. Nonetheless, further action could be carried out, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders on certain specific aspects highlighted in some recommendations, including the possibility, if necessary, of adopting new specific legislation. Noting that the country had never opposed a visit by any special procedure mandate holder, it considered that the issuance of a standing invitation would strengthen the State's cooperation with such mechanisms. While noting efforts made in that regard, it indicated that a law on quotas for women would offer greater guarantees.

438. Amnesty International highlighted concerns regarding the excessive use of force by law enforcement officials against peaceful demonstrators, and torture and other ill-treatment of arrested or detained persons. It welcomed the acceptance by Togo of general recommendations on freedom of expression, but it indicated that such commitments rang hollow in light of the State's rejection of more specific recommendations to create an enabling space for human rights defenders. It called upon Togo to protect journalists and human rights defenders, including by amending legislation to ensure that it protected the right to freedom of expression. It expressed disappointment at the State's decision to reject all recommendations to protect lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and it called upon the country to end discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, including by revising the Criminal Code.

439. Action Canada for Population and Development welcomed the acceptance by Togo of recommendations on violence against women, including domestic violence. However, it expressed concern that recommendations to decriminalize same-sex adult consensual sexual relationships had not been accepted. It noted that, in 2013, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders had recommended a framework for a safe working environment for human rights defenders working on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons by amending relevant legislation. It called upon the Government to amend legislation in order to ensure that sexual orientation and gender identity and expression were included as prohibited grounds of discrimination and to decriminalize same-sex adult sexual relationships.

440. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme congratulated Togo on having submitted a midterm report for the universal periodic review, on having acceded to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and on having received the visits of several special procedure mandate holders. It was concerned about the persistence of sexual violence, the maltreatment of girls, sexual harassment, rape in schools, female genital mutilation, child labour, trafficking in persons, and the high rates of early and forced marriages. It urged Togo to ensure that the necessary conditions for the respect of freedom of expression were in place, and to intensify efforts to eliminate corruption in the judiciary, prison overcrowding and the ill-treatment of detainees.

441. The World Organization against Torture welcomed efforts by the Government to fight torture, in particular through the adoption of a new Criminal Code, which criminalized torture in compliance with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Nevertheless, it was concerned about the impunity of persons responsible for human rights violations, notably during the presidential elections in 2005. In order to fight torture, Togo should rapidly adopt the new Code of Criminal Procedure, guaranteeing to individuals the right to a lawyer and doctors at all stages of legal procedures, as well as the right of family members to information on detainees. It stressed the importance of organizing as soon as possible a meeting with civil society organizations to discuss the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations.

442. Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco welcomed the constructive engagement of Togo with the universal periodic review and the efforts made to improve the protection of children's rights. It noted the persistence of serious discrimination against vulnerable children, including children affected by HIV/AIDS, children with mental and physical disabilities, and children in street situations. It recommended that the Government eradicate all types of discrimination against children by guaranteeing them equal opportunities in access to basic services, and that it guarantee access to education to children with disabilities. It encouraged Togo to carry out awareness-raising campaigns on the importance of free birth registration for all children, without any discrimination and in all regions of the country.

443. The International Catholic Child Bureau regretted that Togo had noted the recommendation to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. It invited Togo to organize a workshop and develop a national plan for the implementation of recommendations, particularly those on children's rights, and to bring the recommendations and the outcome to the attention of the relevant authorities. It recommended that Togo better define the areas of competence of the national committee on the rights of the child, take the measures necessary for the appointment of its members and provide it with the necessary resources. Togo should also finalize as soon as possible the process for setting up the national preventive mechanism.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

444. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 195 recommendations received, 167 recommendations had enjoyed the support of Togo and 28 had been noted.

445. The delegation indicated that it had taken note of the comments and observations made by all the delegations and members of civil society. It reiterated that the Government was determined to make every effort for the country's development and it was aware that the promotion and protection of human rights not only contributed to development but was an essential factor for stability and social peace.

446. The delegation stated that Togo would like to be able to count on international cooperation in order to implement adequately the recommendations accepted, with the objective of improving the human rights situation in the country. The delegation expressed its sincere gratitude to its development partners and to the international community as a whole for its willingness to continue to support it in its efforts to strengthen its capacity to promote and protect the human rights of all.

Syrian Arab Republic

447. The review of the Syrian Arab Republic was held on 31 October 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/SYR/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/SYR/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/SYR/3 and Corr.1).

448. At its 40th meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Syrian Arab Republic (see sect. C below).

449. The outcome of the review of the Syrian Arab Republic comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/5), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/5/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

450. The delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic, headed by the Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office at Geneva, stressed that, in spite of the difficult and exceptional circumstances, the State had engaged in an interactive dialogue within the framework of the universal periodic review mechanism, as a global non-discriminatory mechanism under which all countries were reviewed on an equal footing. The Syrian Arab

Republic had provided its report for its second review and had used that report to engage in the dialogue, with the firm belief in the interaction with transparent and non-discriminatory human rights mechanisms. In addition, it was committed to dialogue and cooperation to promote human rights, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the human rights instruments to which it had acceded.

451. Its second periodic report and the ensuing interactive dialogue had provided a comprehensive overview of the human rights situation and the available protection mechanisms on the ground. The Syrian Arab Republic had welcomed the objective comments and recommendations made during the review and had worked immediately to study the recommendations.

452. In that regard, the delegation expressed its appreciation for the many constructive recommendations to promote and protect human rights for all, which had resulted in the acceptance by the Syrian Arab Republic of 158 recommendations out of 231 recommendations, more than 68 per cent, as reflected in the addendum to the report of the Working Group.

453. The Syrian Arab Republic had welcomed the comments and constructive recommendations made by countries out of their concern to promote human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as they had acknowledged the legitimate right of the Government to counter terrorism and protect its citizens from crimes and to preserve the national unity of the Syrian people and the territorial integrity of the country.

454. The delegation confirmed that measures were being taken to establish a human rights institution in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).

455. With regard to the promotion of women's rights and the review of the personal status laws and other relevant laws, in order to remove discriminatory provisions against women, the Government had confirmed that it was aware of the existence of loopholes and it was working to overcome them by conducting a review of the law.

456. Regarding the recommendation to enact a law on the rights of the child, the State had finalized a draft law on the rights of the child, and had included relevant paragraphs on the protection of children's rights as contained in the report.

457. The recommendations relating to a political solution to the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic and to addressing humanitarian needs were considered as already implemented, as the Government did not hesitate to cooperate with all initiatives that had sought to preserve the interest of the people. With that understanding, the Syrian Arab Republic was effectively and positively participating in the talks in Astana on the cessation of hostilities and in the meetings in Geneva on a political solution to the crisis, based on a Syrian-Syrian dialogue, led by Syrians, without preconditions, to ensure that the Syrian people alone exercised their exclusive rights to determine the future of their country. In parallel, the Syrian Arab Republic continued its efforts to achieve national reconciliation, which had become a national strategy, which had proved successful in many parts of the country. The Government was also determined to continue the fight against terrorism, a path that would continue until the elimination of the widespread armed terrorist groups in the country and restore the State's authority over its entire territory.

458. The delegation reiterated that the Government had adopted the approach of dialogue since the beginning of the crisis and had actively participated in all the meetings that had been held for that purpose in the Syrian Arab Republic, Moscow, Geneva and Astana. That approach had been accompanied since the beginning of the crisis with a comprehensive reform process. Regarding the humanitarian situation, the Government stressed the need to address root causes and the factors that had led to the aggravation, without politicizing distorting facts. In that context, the success of those efforts to combat terrorism and to put an end to external support for it, the enforcement of relevant Security Council resolutions and the immediate lifting of unilateral coercive measures were essential to alleviating the suffering of the Syrian people.

459. With regard to the recommendations relating to the ratification of certain conventions, the Syrian Arab Republic was committed to make every effort to implement the recommendations it had accepted. Conversely, the delegation regretted that a number of

States had refused to abide by the principles of the universal periodic review as stipulated in Human Rights Council resolution 5/1. In that context, the Syrian Arab Republic was compelled to reject the recommendations of those States, as they represented flagrant interference in the internal affairs of an independent sovereign State.

460. The delegation was also of the view that the recommendations of some States were more a representation of political statements than a basis for a genuine interactive dialogue with the Government. Although the Syrian authorities were firmly committed to engaging in a constructive dialogue based on respect for the Charter of the United Nations, they felt compelled to reject politically motivated recommendations, in particular because the States making those recommendations seemed to overlook the impact of the unilateral coercive measures on the Syrian people and on the enjoyment of their rights.

461. As indicated in the addendum to the report of the Working Group, the Syrian Arab Republic had not supported the recommendations made by States that were either parties in the war on the Syrian Arab Republic or that had adopted hostile, extreme attitudes against it.

462. The authorities would continue to defend the rights of the people in the occupied Syrian Golan against Israeli violations until the end of the Israeli occupation and the return of the occupied Syrian Golan to the motherland.

463. Lastly, the delegation reaffirmed the firm commitment of the Syrian Arab Republic to respect its international commitments to promote human rights.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

464. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Syrian Arab Republic, 16 delegations made statements.¹⁰

465. Maldives acknowledged the engagement of the Syrian Arab Republic with the Human Rights Council and took note of the report submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic for the second universal periodic review. The challenges faced by the Syrian Arab Republic and its people were insurmountable. Maldives highlighted the fact that the existence of a situation of conflict did not relinquish the State's obligation to promote and protect the human rights of the people within its borders. It called upon all actors in the Syrian conflict to refrain from further violence and to commit to a political solution for the security of the population of the Syrian Arab Republic.

466. Israel deplored the rejection by the Syrian Arab Republic of its universal periodic review recommendations, and it stated that the Syrian Arab Republic preferred to hide behind unconvincing excuses instead of committing to immediately stopping the killing it was responsible for. Israel was not surprised by the State's rejection of the recommendations on the grounds that it did not recognize Israel. The Human Rights Council should reject the Government's attempt to divert attention from the atrocities it was perpetrating by referring to the Golan, which Israel viewed as one of the safest regions in the Middle East at a time when the citizens of the Syrian Arab Republic continued to be tortured, bombarded and poisoned by their own Government.

467. Nicaragua welcomed the commitment that the Syrian Arab Republic had taken by having accepted 158 recommendations. It welcomed the fact that the State had accepted the recommendations made by Nicaragua in a constructive spirit, particularly the recommendation to preserve the model of peaceful coexistence of different religious faiths and cultural identities. It reiterated its support for the inter-Syrian dialogue and it hoped that there would be a peaceful solution to the conflict, which would be the basis for peace and reconciliation and without foreign interference.

468. Nigeria commended the Syrian Arab Republic for its active participation in the universal periodic review process. Despite the challenges the State was facing, which were caused by internal and external factors that had had an impact on the peace and security, as well as the sovereignty, of the country, the Government had reaffirmed its determination to

¹⁰ The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/34thSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

observe the Charter of the United Nations, the principle of international law and international humanitarian instruments. Nigeria considered that to be an indication of the strong commitment of the Syrian Arab Republic to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights of all its citizens.

469. Oman expressed its appreciation for the presentation by the Syrian delegation during the twenty-sixth session of the Working Group. It appreciated the positive engagement of the Syrian Arab Republic with the universal periodic review mechanism, despite the State's difficult circumstances. It welcomed the international efforts to restore peace among the conflicting parties and it hoped that those efforts would contribute to realizing social peace, reflect positively at the regional level, and help to achieve security and stability.

470. Pakistan welcomed the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic and thanked it for having presented an update on the recommendations accepted. It commended the Government for having accepted the majority of the recommendations made during the review, including those made by Pakistan, and it encouraged the State to continue to implement them. Pakistan wished the Syrian Arab Republic every success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

471. The Russian Federation thanked the Syrian delegation for the information provided and it noted that, despite the continuing acute confrontation between the legitimate Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and people and the terrorists enjoying support from outside, the Syrian Arab Republic had accepted most of the recommendations made during the universal periodic review. The Russian Federation welcomed the steps taken by the Syrian authorities to address the complex humanitarian challenges and to improve the situation relating to medical provisions, education and the detention of prisoners.

472. Sierra Leone noted with concern the massive loss of human lives, the continued destruction of basic facilities and the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Syrians. It encouraged the Syrian Arab Republic to accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; to eliminate child, early and forced marriage; to modify its Penal Code to abolish honour killings; and to continue to cooperate with relevant United Nations bodies to provide humanitarian relief and ensure respect for international humanitarian laws. It called upon the Government and all those involved in the war to strengthen efforts to restore peace, stability and security.

473. The Sudan commended the commitment of the Syrian Arab Republic to the universal periodic review process, in spite of the crisis, which was nearing its seventh year, and it was concerned that the unilateral coercive measures exacerbated the already bad situation and disrupted the enforcement of the enjoyment of all fundamental rights of the Syrian people. The Sudan urged all parties in the Syrian Arab Republic to put an end to the violence and to encourage a peaceful resolution to the humanitarian crisis. It thanked the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic for having accepted the three recommendations made by the Sudan during the review process.

474. Turkey reaffirmed its commitment to the universal periodic review and was greatly disturbed that a standard universal periodic review session on the Syrian Arab Republic had been held the previous November, giving ground to the Government to politicize and exploit the process. As the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic entered its seventh year, the suffering of the Syrian people continued and the Government was mainly responsible for the horrific situation in the country. Turkey categorically rejected the baseless allegations made by the Government in its universal periodic review report and it reiterated its recommendations.

475. UNHCR urged the Government to accept the recommendations relating to UNHCR. It acknowledged the efforts of the Syrian Arab Republic to address the immense protection challenges affecting internally displaced persons; however, it urged the State to improve the availability of efficient civil registration and documentation services. UNHCR encouraged the Government to accede to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and to adopt comprehensive national asylum legislation. It called for further action to resolve the situation of the Maktoumeen, who were ineligible to apply for nationality, to adopt legislation permitting Syrian women to transmit their nationality to their children and to accede to the statelessness conventions. UNHCR reiterated its readiness to provide the Government with technical advice and support.

476. UNICEF stated that grave violations of child rights and the laws of armed conflict continued to be documented, and it highlighted the alarming number of cases of recruitment and use of children in the conflict. It noted that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic had long prohibited the recruitment and use of any person under 18 years of age, and it encouraged the Government to ensure that all allied forces did the same. It welcomed the fact that a number of armed groups had also expressed their commitment to halt and prevent child recruitment, and it urged all parties to commit to their obligations under international law to prevent child recruitment and to protect children on the ground.

477. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was appalled by the critical humanitarian and human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, and it condemned the Government's obstruction to the delivery of humanitarian aid. The freedoms of expression, opinion and peaceful assembly remained severely restricted, and arbitrary detention, torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of civilians continued to occur. The Syrian Arab Republic should immediately end violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, fully implement every universal periodic review recommendation it had supported and engage constructively in the negotiations led by the United Nations.

478. The United States of America was appalled by the human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and it referred to the serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, some of which amounted to war crimes, documented by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry in its report on Aleppo. It urged the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the militias supported and trained by the Islamic Republic of Iran to cease the use of lethal violence against civilians and to implement a political solution to the conflict. It called for unrestricted access for humanitarian assistance, the end of egregious abuses against prisoners, the release of Syrians who had been unlawfully imprisoned and accountability for perpetrators of human rights violations.

479. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that, despite the continued aggression to the country, which seriously affected the lives of its people, the Syrian Arab Republic stood firm in its commitment to human rights with its presence in the universal periodic review. It reaffirmed its support for the huge efforts made by the Government to work towards national unity and to fight against terrorism. It reiterated its unwavering support for the capacity of the Syrian people and the Government to achieve a political solution to the conflict without foreign interference.

480. Algeria commended the Syrian Arab Republic for its serious efforts in the field of human rights and its positive engagement with the universal periodic review mechanism. It had accepted 158 recommendations, among which were the three recommendations made by Algeria, including the recommendation to establish a national human rights institution. It noted the adoption of many strategies and plans to enhance the level of development, despite the difficult circumstances that the Syrian Arab Republic had been facing for years, and the spread of terrorist groups that spread fear and destruction, and the negative impact of economic sanctions. It hoped that efforts would continue in order to reduce the negative effects of the crisis on the standard of living and respond to the requirements of a decent living for the Syrian citizen.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

481. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Syrian Arab Republic, six other stakeholders made statements.

482. Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme stated that holding review sessions of the Syrian Arab Republic during conditions of war was becoming more complicated in light of the challenges arising from the acts of the armed terrorist groups, backed and financed from outside the Syrian Arab Republic, which required the legitimate Government to maintain security and protect the lives of its citizens, and to combat terrorist groups. Suicide attacks against the judiciary and public and civilian facilities crowded with civilians had caused the death of dozens and wounded hundreds. It was concerned about the Israeli occupation of the Golan since 1967, which created obstacles to the exercise of the Syrian citizens of their rights, which was a result of

injustice and discriminatory policies. It was also concerned by the global war targeting the existence of the country.

483. Africa culture internationale extended its support to the civilians of Aleppo, Idlib and Damascus, particularly the victims of human rights violations. It recognized the importance of the support of Governments and the freedom of the press in order to denounce human rights and political rights violations in the country. The international community had not only fallen short with regard to Syrian civilians, but it had also been ineffective in pursuing and prosecuting those who had committed crimes against humanity and violated international human rights law. Africa culture internationale called for peaceful measures to solve the crisis and it called upon all member States to implement measures to facilitate humanitarian assistance to the people in need.

484. Amnesty International estimated that, since 2011, about 17,723 people had died as a result of torture or other ill-treatment in detention centers across the Syrian Arab Republic, and 13,000 individuals had been killed in systematic extrajudicial executions during mass hangings in Saydnaya Military Prison. It welcomed the recommendations made to the Syrian Arab Republic to end enforced disappearances, summary executions, torture and sexual violence and to bring those responsible to justice. It was concerned about the use of unfair trials and the practice of trying civilians in military courts. It called upon the Syrian Arab Republic to allow for an independent investigation into human rights violations and to grant independent international monitors unhindered access to all prisoners.

485. The International Association of Democratic Lawyers noted with appreciation the active cooperation of the Syrian authorities with the mechanisms established by the Human Rights Council, particularly the universal periodic review, under the current circumstances, in which the Syrian Arab Republic was confronted with aggression from terrorist groups such as Daesh and Jabhat Al-Nusra. The bloody suicide bombing that had taken place at the High Court in Damascus was an example of the brutality that the State had been facing for years. It encouraged the Government to fight against terrorist groups, which caused great suffering of civilians and threatened the Middle East and the whole world.

486. Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue noted that, given the current circumstances, the fact that the review of the Syrian Arab Republic was taking place at all represented a victory for the Human Rights Council and the universal periodic review, despite the attempts of Israel to sabotage that mechanism through a lack of respect and the deferral of its review. It would have liked to have had time to react to the report, particularly with regard to the recommendations accepted on the rights of children and women, but it questioned how those rights could be protected when the right to life was threatened. It was concerned about the imposition of the blockade, the freedom of movement, systematic random shelling and the deliberate destruction of infrastructure. It emphasized the fact that the universal periodic review could not operate in isolation from the other mechanisms, including the independent mechanism to investigate war crimes committed on Syrian territory by regular forces and by terrorist organizations, Daesh and its supporters.

487. Agence pour les droits de l'homme drew the attention of the Human Rights Council to the suffering inflicted on the Syrian people by anti-government armed groups. Two highly frequented places, the Palace of Justice in Hamadiyah al-Jadidah and a restaurant in Al-Raboueh, had been the target of the rebels, and the two attacks had resulted in 40 people killed, including judges, lawyers and even children. Certain media outlets had scarcely called those acts "terrorist attacks". It called upon the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic to invite its European counterparts to take part in the investigations of terrorist attacks conducted against the Syrian people.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

488. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 231 recommendations received, 156 had enjoyed the support of the Syrian Arab Republic and 73 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another two recommendations, indicating which part of the recommendations had been supported and which part had been noted.

489. The Syrian Arab Republic regretted that the discussions had again demonstrated the continued attempts by some States to violate the regulations of the universal periodic

review process, such as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. The delegation referred to its letter addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council on the misleading defamation campaigns of the United Kingdom in the Human Rights Council.

490. The distortion of facts by the Israeli occupation authorities was meant to divert the attention from the Israeli occupation of the Syrian Golan, pretending that it was the most secure area in the Middle East to cover the Israeli responsibility as an occupier. Those attempts to distort the facts could not deny the responsibility of Israel for supporting terrorist groups in the separation area in the Golan, and for treating Jabhat Al-Nusra terrorists in its hospitals. The Syrian Arab Republic called upon that delegation to take part in the discussions under agenda item 7 before lecturing States about respecting the Human Rights Council.

491. The delegation referred the delegation of Turkey to the report of OHCHR on the State's violations and crimes inside Turkey, while stating that Turkish support for terrorism and aggression against Syrian territories would not be acceptable under any circumstances.

492. Concerning the questions from Sierra Leone and UNICEF on children, the delegation reiterated the State's commitment to make all efforts possible to protect children under the exceptional circumstances. Child recruitment was illegal under a Presidential Decree, which criminalized the recruitment of children and treated them as victims.

493. Lastly, the delegation stated that the recruitment of children, and forcible and early child marriage could be observed in many refugee camps, particularly in Turkey, and it called upon UNICEF to focus on that issue.

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

494. The review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was held on 1 November 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/VEN/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/VEN/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/VEN/3).

495. At its 40th meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (see sect. C below).

496. The outcome of the review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/6), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/6/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

497. The delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, headed by the Minister of Peoples Power for the Penitentiary Service, expressed satisfaction at the successful conclusion of the State's second review, both in terms of compliance with international obligations and also the popular participation of its people together with the responsible State institutions.

498. It highlighted the fact that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was a country committed irrevocably to social justice, the deepening of democracy and the effective realization of all human rights. The universal periodic review had been a great opportunity to implement, in an ambitious and profound way, the extraordinary political and institutional human rights mechanisms provided for in the Constitution. The State was advancing in its political, economic, social and cultural democratization, in spite of internal and external pressures, expressed in acts of sabotage, destabilization and actions that bordered on terrorism.

499. Democratization in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was irreversible. It had changed from the authoritarian and oligarchic State of the past to a democratic and popular State. The transformations towards social justice had been deepened, despite the economic war that internal and foreign factors had unleashed.

500. Only in a State of that nature, with a social State of law and justice instituted in its Constitution, could great progress be achieved in the realization of all human rights. The national report provided details of human rights achievements, and the high-level delegation participating in the second universal periodic review had presented extensive evidence of those achievements.

501. Since the founding of the fifth Republic by Commander Hugo Chavez with the original constituency process of 1999, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had stood as a pioneer in the promotion and protection of human rights. It had taken great steps to fulfil its obligations to the United Nations universal human rights system. It reaffirmed its willingness to make further progress in cooperation with its organs and mechanisms and with OHCHR. That collaboration was evidenced by the extensive information provided by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in a timely and systematic manner to the treaty bodies and other United Nations human rights mechanisms, including numerous responses to the requests of the special procedures.

502. The delegation asserted that the State had accepted the great majority of the recommendations made during its second universal periodic review, of which 70 per cent had already been implemented. The recommendations accepted referred to a range of issues that were of primary interest to the State, such as access to justice, gender equality, sexual and reproductive rights, the eradication of poverty and political participation in public affairs. Those recommendations were implemented within the framework of the social policies contained in the first national human rights plan 2016–2019. A total of 517 contributions had been made to the United Nations system, which demonstrated the breadth and plurality of opinions and reinforced the legitimacy of the universal periodic review exercise for the people of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Government.

503. In its review, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had demonstrated the solid legal bases, guarantees, institutions and good practices it had been developing in the field of human rights, as well as the remaining challenges. The Government had taken note of a set of recommendations, and the delegation reiterated that the State had maintained and would continue to maintain close cooperation with all United Nations human rights organs and mechanisms. The delegation emphasized the fact that, in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the full exercise of human rights and democratic freedoms was universally guaranteed. The State had strengthened the policy of gender equality and equity, and the protection of children and adolescents, persons with disabilities and older persons, and action was being taken to defend the rights of indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants and other vulnerable groups.

504. In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, any restriction on the free exercise of fundamental rights was prohibited. They were vital and inherent to democratic life. Such was the case of the right to freedom of expression, the right to information, and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, in accordance with the Constitution and laws. All political, civil, economic, social and cultural organizations exercised their rights freely, with no more limitations than those established in the Constitution and laws.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

505. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, 15 delegations made statements.¹¹

506. Pakistan commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for having accepted the majority of the universal periodic review recommendations. It welcomed the incorporation of a human rights approach into all public policies made by the State.

507. The Philippines appreciated the determination of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to strengthen mechanisms for the protection of the human rights of its people. It hoped that the State would also give due consideration to ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189). It encouraged the State to strengthen its programmes and mechanism to promote gender equality and equity, and it noted with interest the actions taken by the State to combat trafficking in persons.

508. The Republic of Korea welcomed the fact that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had supported its recommendation. It recommended that the State conduct a prompt and impartial investigation into allegations of arbitrary detention and the excessive use of force by law enforcement officials in response to protests. It appreciated the State's support for the other recommendation made by the Republic of Korea to redouble its efforts to guarantee the autonomy, independence and impartiality of the judiciary.

509. The Russian Federation appreciated the efforts made by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to enhance its legal instruments and defend human rights, especially economic, social and cultural rights. It underlined the State's success in having ensured the rights of those deprived of liberty and in having brought the prison system into compliance with international standards. It took note of the implementation by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela of recommendations from the first cycle of the universal periodic review.

510. Sierra Leone commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its efforts to promote computer literacy and to ensure full health-care coverage for all its citizens by 2017, and for the establishment of the national human rights plan. It encouraged the State to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and to establish more programmes to promote the participation of women, including by expediting the adoption of the bill on the rights of women to gender equality and equity.

511. The Sudan commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its commitment to and positive engagement with the universal periodic review process, and it appreciated the positive steps taken since the previous review in 2011 in the areas of education, poverty reduction and social development, as well as the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol. The State had accepted most of the recommendations made during the review process, including the three recommendations made by the Sudan.

512. The Plurinational State of Bolivia appreciated the efforts of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to implement the recommendations accepted and it acknowledged the advances in social policy directed at the most vulnerable sectors. It highlighted the role of civil society in the development of public policies and in the establishment of the national council for human rights. It reiterated its solidarity with the people of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and with the Government of President Maduro.

513. Cuba noted that the commitment of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the universal periodic review was unquestionable. Despite the political and economic warfare that the State was suffering, the Government of President Maduro had done everything in its power to promote and protect human rights in favour of all Venezuelans. Cuba reiterated

¹¹ The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/34thSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

its solidarity with the Venezuelan people, the Government of President Maduro and the Bolivarian Revolution.

514. UNICEF welcomed the initiative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to create the national council for human rights and to elaborate a national human rights plan. It recognized that the plan included a great portion of the recommendations made by the Committee on the Rights of Child in 2014. It shared the concern of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela about the impact of the current economic crisis on children and adolescents, and it offered technical support to the Government.

515. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland continued to be concerned by developments in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, particularly the political, economic and security challenges. It urged all sides to engage in constructive dialogue, while respecting the Venezuelan Constitution, democratic liberties and the independence of State powers. It continued to urge the State to issue an early invitation to OHCHR for an official visit.

516. The United States of America remained troubled by the worsening human rights situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and it called upon the Government to respect citizens' constitutional right to elections. It called upon the Government to engage in dialogue with all Venezuelans, to announce a timetable for elections in 2017, to release all political prisoners, to permit the National Assembly to carry out its constitutionally mandated functions, and to permit peaceful protests and independent media reporting.

517. Viet Nam noted that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had accepted most of the recommendations made during its second review, as well as its willingness to implement additional voluntary commitments to improve the lives of its people. It welcomed the State's acceptance of its recommendations to consolidate and boost the effective implementation of the State's commitments to protect and promote human rights. It expressed its support for the efforts of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to pursue national development.

518. Algeria welcomed the excellent work done by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to protect and promote human rights, the creation of the national council for human rights, and the development and implementation of policies to guarantee human rights at the local level. It encouraged the State to pursue social programmes in favour of people in situations of vulnerability. It welcomed the commitment and cooperation of the State with the Human Rights Council and the universal periodic review mechanism.

519. Angola congratulated the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for having accepted a large number of the recommendations. Despite the economic and social difficulties that the State was facing, it had reinforced free access to health and education for all. Angola encouraged the State to continue its efforts to reduce socioeconomic inequalities and to protect the human rights of all citizens, particularly rural women and children.

520. Belarus noted that the second universal periodic review had confirmed the determination of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to take comprehensive and concrete measures to improve its national human rights protection system. It noted the focused efforts to reduce poverty and social inequality in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which would open a way to implement the Sustainable Development Goals.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

521. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, ten other stakeholders made statements.

522. Amnesty International was deeply concerned about the rejection by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela of all recommendations relating to human rights defenders and the need to guarantee their protection, as they continued to face intimidation and harassment. Although the State had accepted most recommendations on freedom of expression, recent events demonstrated continuing challenges. Peaceful protests stemming from the political crisis and the scarcity of basic goods had been met with the use of force, leading to violations. It expressed concern that the State had rejected recommendations to end arbitrary detention. It welcomed the State's acceptance of recommendations to end impunity for serious human rights violations. It regretted the State's rejection of

recommendations to allow access for international human rights monitors and to reverse its decision to denounce the American Convention on Human Rights.

523. Action Canada for Population and Development welcomed the voluntary commitment made by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela during the panel discussion on preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights. It regretted that no recommendations had been made on the decriminalization of abortion, with unsafe abortion being a major cause of maternal mortality, or on comprehensive sexuality education, a key element for a holistic and effective sexual and reproductive health policy. It stressed the need for measures to reinforce sexuality education in the school curriculum at all levels of education and to decriminalize safe abortion. It urged the Government to take the legislative, policy and administrative measures necessary to implement them.

524. The International Lesbian and Gay Association stated that, although the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had accepted the recommendation made by Canada during the first review cycle regarding the consolidation in law and in practice of the rights of people with different sexual orientation and gender identity, that had not been translated into concrete actions. It regretted that the State had taken note of recommendations to protect the right to identity of transgender persons, the decriminalization of same-sex relations in the armed forces and the recognition of same-sex couples. The creation of a legal instrument that sanctioned discrimination was needed, as well as a special office to protect lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and a campaign against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and expression in all media.

525. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation shared the concerns of other States about the lack of cooperation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela with OHCHR and the State's refusal to invite special procedures to the country. The State maintained a state of emergency, which did not comply with its international obligations. Freedoms of association, peaceful protest and expression were severely restricted, while journalists, students, political activists and human rights defenders were stigmatized and their actions criminalized. It highlighted the lack of independence of the Supreme Court, the National Electoral Council and the Ombudsman's Office. The intelligence service should stop operating as a parallel justice system, and military justice should not be applied to civilians. It urged the State to accept international humanitarian cooperation.

526. The International Association of Democratic Lawyers highlighted the results achieved in eradicating illiteracy and in access to health, housing and higher education. It congratulated the Government on its new gender policies, democratic guarantees in its electoral system and the increase in the minimum salary. The advances were possible thanks to the Bolivarian Missions. It recalled that, in 2016, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had had a social investment of 71.4 per cent of the country's budget. It also highlighted the fact that those achievements were even more impressive considering the continuing attempts at destabilization, both internally and externally, and the economic war and media harassment. It asked the Government to continue to strengthen its reforms and reinforce its policies to reduce poverty inequality and exclusion.

527. The American Association of Jurists recognized the socioeconomic achievements of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela since 1998, as well as the obstacles faced in fulfilling political, civil, social, economic and cultural rights. It firmly condemned the attempts to overthrow the Government and create ungovernability through foreign interference since 2002 and the internal destabilization of national institutions. It recommended that the State pursue an inclusive dialogue with the whole society in order to develop strategies leading to political and economic stability; to prevent and prosecute human rights violations committed by any institution, including transnational corporations and enterprises; and to pursue dialogue, cooperation and solidarity with countries and regional organizations, as well as with the good offices of the Holy See.

528. The Indian Council of South America underscored the democratic right of indigenous peoples to health and food security, and to their territory, natural resources and environment. Consultation with indigenous peoples must also mean free, prior and informed consent with the right to protect their environment. It recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela implement measures to achieve the sustainable management of its natural resources, and implement policies for the sound expansion and strengthening of special indigenous jurisdiction. It highlighted the universal periodic review

recommendation to continue to implement mechanisms for the prior consultation and participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making processes, underscoring that it should be done in connection to self-determination and the right to free, prior and informed consent.

529. The International Service for Human Rights stated that human rights defenders were still subject to stigmatization and smear campaigns, criminalization, arbitrary detention, the excessive use of force and attacks on freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. The reiteration of recommendations regarding defenders and civil society in the second cycle of the universal periodic review demonstrated a lack of progress on the subject. It called upon the Government to cease stigmatizing defenders, recognize their legitimate role and adopt a public policy to protect them. It was unacceptable that defenders engaging with the United Nations were subject to reprisals, and as a member of the Human Rights Council, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had a legal and institutional duty to cooperate with its procedures. It urged cooperation with special procedures and OHCHR.

530. The World Organization against Torture referred to a pattern of serious violations of human rights, which had increased since the start of the “Operation Liberation and Protection of the People” in July 2015. It urged the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to adopt, in line with the recommendations it had accepted, a strategy to combat organized crime based on respect for and the promotion of human rights, the demilitarization of the functions of public order, and the reform of existing regulations to ensure the proportional use of force and firearms. It called upon the State to schedule as soon as possible the visits requested by special procedures and the representative of the High Commissioner, in line with its own voluntary commitments.

531. Human Rights Watch stated that, while in 2011 the Government had rejected a recommendation to combat the abuse of power by security forces, in 2014 Venezuelan security forces had used brutal force against demonstrators during anti-government protests, held detainees incommunicado and committed abuses against them. The Government had rejected recommendations to address the lack of judicial independence and to stop using the justice system to silence its critics. Since then, it had arbitrarily persecuted opposition leaders, activists, journalists and ordinary citizens who publicly criticized the Government. It had also taken advantage of the control exercised by the Supreme Court of Justice to virtually annul all laws adopted in 2016 by the opposition majority in the National Assembly.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

532. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 274 recommendations received, 193 had enjoyed the support of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and 81 had been noted.

533. The delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela indicated that some recommendations regarding health and food, the reactivation of a referendum procedure and alleged political persecutions had been made in a politicized manner and with no constructive spirit. Those had not been accepted by the Government, as they were biased and politically motivated. They were part of the permanent siege and constant threats against Venezuelan democracy. Unfounded recommendations made in bad faith contradicted the universal periodic review. With regard to the loss of life owing to the excessive use of force by security forces, the delegation stated that those responsible had been prosecuted and detained, under due process guarantees.

534. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was facing an endless economic, commercial and financial war that affected the full enjoyment of some basic human rights. The blockades and the sabotaging of the nation were made by the hoarding of and overcharging for food and medicine, illegal trafficking, and actions of international financial institutions, which blocked the State’s direct financial transactions to acquire food and medicine.

535. The delegation noted with satisfaction that, within the framework of the universal periodic review, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had made 24 voluntary commitments, which demonstrated the strong commitment of the country to continue to promote and protect human rights. Those voluntary commitments, which were contained in the addendum to the report of the Working Group, would strengthen the State’s human rights policies. Among them, the delegation highlighted the implementation of 100 per cent

of the new Venezuelan penitentiary regime, the implementation of integral public policies on citizen security, the commissioning of a specialized body for the care of victims of violence and the deepening of human rights training for police officers.

536. The delegation expressed its gratitude to those who, through their interventions, had confirmed once again that the universal periodic review was the main instrument of the Human Rights Council for the effective promotion and protection of human rights, through genuine dialogue and cooperation.

537. Lastly, the delegation reiterated the Government's determination to implement the 193 recommendations accepted, as well as the 24 voluntary commitments made, a process that had already begun.

Iceland

538. The review of Iceland was held on 1 November 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Iceland in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/ISL/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/ISL/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/ISL/3).

539. At its 41st meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Iceland (see sect. C below).

540. The outcome of the review of Iceland comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/7), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/7/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

541. The delegation of Iceland stated that the universal periodic review process – both the preparatory stages in Iceland and the review in Geneva – had highlighted some areas where improvement was warranted. It had proven very useful for the authorities to hear the views and recommendations of the Icelandic people and the international community.

542. The review of Iceland, held on 1 November 2016, had taken place only three days after parliamentary elections. A new Government had been formed on 11 January 2017. Iceland had received 167 recommendations on a variety of issues. The authorities had adopted a position right away on the majority of the recommendations, but 41 had been left for further consideration. Those had been dealt with in the addendum to the report of the Working Group. In total, Iceland had accepted 133 recommendations and noted 34 recommendations. The delegation emphasized that fact that, due to the parliamentary elections and the time it had taken to form a new Government, some recommendations had been noted for further consideration at the domestic level.

543. The delegation emphasized the fact that the position of Iceland to note all recommendations relating to the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure did not represent its final view on the matter. Rather, the question of whether to ratify those protocols deserved a thorough analysis of the domestic and international implications and a discussion, both on the political level and among domestic experts. Such a broad-ranging domestic consultation process would be necessary in order to reach a sufficiently well-founded position. The same applied to the

recommendations concerning the decriminalization of defamation, the exact mandate of a national human rights institution and the withdrawal of reservations to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

544. The establishment of the interministerial human rights steering committee was underway. Its task would be to enhance and coordinate the implementation of human rights commitments and follow up on the outcome of the present review. It would work on the implementation of the recommendations accepted during the review and oversee the analysis and discussion necessary to adopt a position on some of the recommendations that had been noted.

545. The Government had made pronouncements on several of the issues raised during the review of Iceland and contained in the recommendations. For example, on 8 March, International Women's Day, the Government had announced its intention to propose a new law that would require larger firms and State institutions to have their equal pay systems certified. That formed part of the commitment of Iceland to bridge the gender pay gap by 2022.

546. The Government had placed special emphasis on guaranteeing adequate health care, irrespective of economic status, improving health-care services for older persons and increasing flexibility on the pension age. The Government intended to focus on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, following its recent ratification.

547. The delegation reported on the high priority accorded to combating violence, particularly domestic and sexual violence, and on the focus to be placed on capacity-building and the coordination of the relevant domestic authorities. Preparations were also well underway for the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention).

548. The delegation highlighted the Government's intention to welcome more refugees and uphold relevant international standards, including by strengthening the State's international development cooperation with relevant humanitarian actors and organizations.

549. The national review process had been conducted in an open, inclusive and transparent manner. The Ministry of the Interior had cooperated closely with relevant parts of the central administration. It had also reached out to non-governmental organizations, other stakeholders and the general public, all of which had provided comments on the report and input during the preparatory process. The delegation thanked all for their contributions, which had contributed to making the recommendations more relevant and to the point.

550. The process of implementing and following up on the recommendations would continue in cooperation with relevant domestic stakeholders and through interministerial coordination. Recalling that the universal periodic review was a cyclical process, the delegation stated that Iceland was beginning to prepare for the next round.

551. The delegation reiterated that human rights remained at the centre of government policy, domestically and internationally. Iceland took seriously the recommendations received during the review and it would do its utmost to implement them. It also intended to submit a midterm report, accounting for the progress made and possibly its position regarding some of the recommendations noted for further consideration.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

552. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Iceland, 12 delegations made statements.

553. Albania acknowledged the acceptance by Iceland of a considerable number of recommendations, including those made by Albania to make progress towards the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Albania also referred to its recommendation to widen the scope of international obligations through the ratification of

such treaties as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

554. The Council of Europe congratulated the delegation of Iceland on the successful examination of its national report. It referred to some recommendations made by its monitoring bodies. The absence of comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation remained a serious shortcoming in Iceland. Concerning the protection of persons with psychosocial or intellectual disabilities, legislation and practice were currently not fully aligned with international standards. Iceland lacked a national human rights institution, which would combat racism and discrimination. Human rights were currently protected through dispersed structures. Improvements could be made through the swift implementation of a national human rights action plan. Concerning migrants, the State's policy in practice needed to fully uphold the right to family reunification and facilitate migrant integration. Furthermore, Iceland needed to improve the identification of victims of trafficking among migrant workers and asylum seekers. The Council of Europe welcomed the measures already taken by Iceland to address those issues and its commitment to ratify the Istanbul Convention. It invited Iceland to swiftly ratify the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism.

555. Egypt expressed concern regarding the increasing number of hate crimes, xenophobia and discrimination, the gender pay gap and discrimination against persons with disabilities, including with respect to housing, education and employment. It welcomed the fact that Iceland had accepted five out of the six recommendations it had made to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to create a national human rights institution according to the Paris Principles, to adopt a new programme to deal with the gender pay gap and the law on combating discrimination, and to provide protection for the family as the fundamental unit of society. Egypt expressed the hope that its recommendation to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families would be considered positively.

556. Estonia welcomed the positive approach taken by Iceland to accept most of the 167 recommendations made on a wide range of issues, including the recommendation to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. It commended Iceland for its commitment to continue to strengthen gender equality and the empowerment of women, and to take further steps for the protection of the rights of the child. Estonia regretted that Iceland had noted many recommendations, including those to decriminalize defamation in accordance with international standards. It took note of the response of Iceland that it would thoroughly examine and subsequently decide on that issue.

557. Haiti welcomed the commitment of Iceland to the universal periodic review, but it regretted that its two recommendations, namely to follow up on the results of the referendum in 2012 and to study the possible introduction of a universal basic income, had only been noted by the Government of Iceland. Haiti encouraged the country to continue the constitutional reform process in cooperation with all political parties.

558. Iraq appreciated the acceptance by Iceland of its recommendations to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It also appreciated the acceptance of recommendations to accede to the Convention against Discrimination in Education and to accelerate the adoption of a national action plan on human rights.

559. Libya commended Iceland for its acceptance of more than 100 recommendations and it congratulated the State on the holding of successful parliamentary elections and its formation of the new Government.

560. Maldives appreciated the support of Iceland for the three recommendations it had made to address gender pay disparity through the equal pay standard, to improve access to justice for women victims of domestic violence and gender-based violence, and to increase professional and effective working procedures in addressing child sexual abuse cases. Maldives was encouraged by the efforts of Iceland to improve the status and participation of women in society and its dedication in the protection of women's rights.

561. Pakistan commended Iceland for having accepted the majority of the recommendations, including those it had made. It also commended the State for the

significant progress it had made in promoting gender equality and empowering women. It expressed appreciation for the laws and policies introduced to protect refugees, migrants, older persons and persons with disabilities.

562. The Philippines appreciated the fact that Iceland had supported a large number of the recommendations received. It looked forward to the establishment of a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles and the promulgation of its national human rights action plan. The Philippines expressed the hope that Iceland would ratify the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).

563. Sierra Leone commended Iceland for its gender mainstreaming efforts, including in all policy and decision-making processes, as well as the revision of the Gender Equality Act. Sierra Leone referred to the State's commitment to improve human rights standards, including for foreigners, with new policies, legislation and the action plan on integration of 2016. It commended Iceland for its commitment to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and its recent ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Sierra Leone encouraged Iceland to develop new strategies and strengthen national policies to combat racism, hate crime and all forms of discrimination.

564. The Sudan commended Iceland for the legislative developments since the previous review, the adoption of the national action plan against trafficking in persons, the adoption of measures to address violence against and sexual abuse of children, awareness-raising among children and the training of professionals. It thanked Iceland for having accepted its recommendations to continue efforts to adopt a national human rights action plan and to establish an independent national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

565. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Iceland, four other stakeholders made statements.

566. The Center for Global Nonkilling referred to Iceland as a gender champion and to its top ranking in the Global Peace Index. It highlighted the importance of raising the issue of suicide prevention and the fact that it was a target under the Sustainable Development Goals (Goal 3). Iceland had received 251 recommendations in the two universal periodic review cycles, but it had made only about 85 recommendations to other States. The Center for Global Nonkilling hoped that Iceland, as a gender and peace champion, would participate more in the work of the Human Rights Council, and specifically the universal periodic review.

567. Amnesty International welcomed the fact that 19 States had recommended that Iceland ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and that those recommendations had enjoyed the support of Iceland. Noting that, during its first review in 2012, Iceland had committed to considering the ratification of the optional protocols to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention against Torture, Amnesty International urged Iceland to complete the ratification of those instruments without delay. Referring to the global refugee crisis, Amnesty International welcomed the State's general pledge to accept a greater number of refugees, including Syrian refugees through UNHCR. It noted, however, that Iceland had yet to make a more detailed commitment with regard to the number of refugees it planned to accept, and it called upon Iceland to make such a commitment and to consider participating in current efforts to relocate refugees within Europe. Amnesty International welcomed the efforts of Iceland to establish a new national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles, building on the Icelandic Human Rights Centre, and it encouraged the Government to expedite those efforts in close consultation with civil society. The Government had produced a draft legislative bill in 2016 decriminalizing defamation, after being charged by Parliament in 2010 with strengthening the enjoyment of the right to freedom of expression. Amnesty International regretted the State's rejection of the recommendation to decriminalize defamation within its Civil Code and it encouraged Iceland to reconsider and accept that recommendation.

568. The International Humanist and Ethical Union welcomed the introduction by Iceland of a bill removing the anti-blasphe my provision of its Criminal Code, as agreed by the

Icelandic Parliament on 2 August 2015. It referred to extensive support for the bill among the various organizations consulted by Parliament, including its campaign partners Sidmennt, the bishop of Iceland, the Icelandic priesthood, the association of publishers and PEN Iceland. It also referred to such action as an important step taken by Iceland to guarantee the human right to freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression for its citizens, and it urged other States to follow that good practice. The blasphemy laws protected ideas, not people, and in so doing threatened the very underpinnings of the human rights framework. The International Humanist and Ethical Union encouraged Iceland to establish an independent national human rights institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles, as recommended by a number of States. It highlighted the recommendations recently made by the Office for the Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to create such an institution and it invited Iceland to use the expertise, experience and network of the Icelandic Human Rights Centre in that process.

569. The International Lesbian and Gay Association welcomed the first cycle recommendation to Iceland on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics, and it commended Iceland for having accepted that recommendation. It expressed great concern that medical treatment in Iceland was carried out on intersex infants, who were unable to give consent, to “normalize” their sex characteristics. Such violations were a breach of the rights of children as laid out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Committee against Torture had also issued multiple recommendations to various countries, stating that such practices constituted torture, cruel, degrading or inhumane treatment. Intersex persons in Iceland had limited access to redress due to a 10-year statute of limitations on reporting medical mistreatment. Legislation in Iceland did not explicitly cover discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics in the fields of employment, housing or health. The International Lesbian and Gay Association also called for hate crime and hate speech legislation to include the grounds of sex characteristics so as to protect the vulnerable intersex community. The Directorate of Immigration of Iceland offered no training for its staff or translators on issues relating to sexual orientation or gender identity, despite UNHCR guidelines on claims for refugee status covering sexual orientation or gender identity, which the institution reportedly followed. It hoped that Iceland would take decisive actions to rectify such matters before the next universal periodic review cycle.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

570. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 167 recommendations received, 133 had enjoyed the support of Iceland and 34 had been noted.

571. The delegation expressed its thanks to all for their participation and to the secretariat and the troika for their excellent and vital support. It expressed appreciation for the important and unique opportunity provided by the universal periodic review to reflect on the human rights situation in Iceland.

572. In conclusion, the delegation quoted from a statement made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, Gudlaugur Thor Thordarson, at a recent high-level segment, stating that the universal periodic review had proven to be a valuable tool, as it allowed each member State – even those that might think they were beyond reproach – to listen to the comments and questions of others, to receive criticism and recommendations to improve their human rights record.

Zimbabwe

573. The review of Zimbabwe was held on 2 November 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Zimbabwe in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/ZWE/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/ZWE/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/ZWE/3).

574. At its 41st meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Zimbabwe (see sect. C below).

575. The outcome of the review of Zimbabwe comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/8), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/8/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

576. The delegation of Zimbabwe expressed its profound appreciation to the President and members of the Human Rights Council, OHCHR, the troika and the several States that had made interventions during the review in November 2016, as well as the secretariat.

577. Zimbabwe fully appreciated the importance of the universal periodic review mechanism and would continue to engage with the mechanism.

578. During the review, Zimbabwe had received 260 recommendations, 142 of which had been immediately supported, while 18 had been noted. The remaining 100 recommendations had been deferred for further consideration, as those recommendations required further consultation at the national level.

579. Of the 100 recommendations that had been deferred, 9 had since been supported, bringing the number of supported recommendations to 151, while 6 recommendations had been supported in part. A relevant factor in the decision to support those recommendations was the capacity of Zimbabwe to implement them before the next universal periodic review. In addition, those recommendations were in line with the letter and spirit of the State's national development programmes.

580. The remaining 85 deferred recommendations had been noted, bringing the number of noted recommendations to 103. Most of those recommendations were repetitive and inconsistent with the State's national policies and values. In addition, some of those recommendations sought to revisit what had already been addressed in national laws.

581. Referring to the partially supported recommendations to ensure the independence of the Human Rights Commission of Zimbabwe, the delegation stated that the Commission was independent and enjoyed financial autonomy.

582. Referring to the noted recommendation to ensure that humanitarian agencies could operate in all parts of the country without undue restrictions, the delegation stated that such agencies were guaranteed by law to operate freely, provided that they operated within the confines of that law.

583. Referring to the partially supported recommendation to provide free quality health-care services for all children, to abolish corporal punishment in all settings and to strengthen child protection systems in full compliance with international human rights obligations, including the implementation of national child protection programmes by December 2018, the delegation stated that efforts were already being pursued to ensure that all children were progressively afforded free quality health care. Various child protection programmes in line with international obligations as enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child were being implemented. Zimbabwe was, however, unable to support the part of the recommendation concerning corporal punishment, as that matter was pending before the Constitutional Court.

584. Referring to the recommendations to create an environment conducive to civil society organizations and to facilitate a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, the delegation stated that those recommendations had been partially supported, with the part relating to the extension of an invitation to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders having been noted. Also noted were

the recommendations to issue a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders. Such invitations would be extended on a case-by-case basis.

585. Although the recommendations to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol had been noted, the legal national framework prohibited torture and the infliction of cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment.

586. Zimbabwe remained committed to strengthening its legal and policy framework, as well as the institutions responsible for monitoring human rights situations.

587. Zimbabwe had been affected by the El Niño weather phenomenon, which had adversely affected the implementation of social and economic rights, leaving the population vulnerable to famine and related challenges. The negative impact of the drought in 2016 had put pressure on the Government to redirect resources from national social programmes to feeding over 800,000 vulnerable households. Zimbabwe was also experiencing the devastating effects of Cyclone Dineo, which, apart from having claimed human lives, was destroying infrastructure, crops and livestock. A state of national disaster had been declared. The delegation appealed to the Human Rights Council to be cognisant of those challenges.

588. The Government remained hopeful that the Special Programme for Maize Production for Import Substitution, coupled with other ongoing initiatives, such as the Presidential Inputs Support Programme, would mitigate those challenges.

589. Zimbabwe continued to be burdened by the debilitating effects of the imposition of economic sanctions by some countries in the West. The sanctions had severely limited the country's fiscal space and constrained economic growth. They had compounded the difficulties faced by the Government in its effort to mobilize resources for the provision of social services, including education and health provision, particularly in rural areas. The absence of balance of payment support from international financial institutions had also forced the Government to depend largely on resources mobilized from the domestic market.

590. The Government was cognisant of the need to speed up the alignment of laws with the Constitution in order to implement some of the recommendations that had been supported.

591. On behalf of the Government and the people of Zimbabwe, the delegation expressed its sincere appreciation to development partners and to the international community at large for their cooperation, assistance and partnership in the Government's efforts to protect, promote and strengthen human rights.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

592. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Zimbabwe, 17 delegations made statements.¹²

593. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela recognized the efforts made by Zimbabwe to comply with its human rights commitments. It highlighted the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socioeconomic Transformation programme and commended the State for its successful social programmes, and especially its education policy. It appreciated the willingness of Zimbabwe to participate in the present review, despite the imposition of unjust and unlawful unilateral coercive measures imposed by some countries.

594. Algeria commended Zimbabwe for its efforts to protect and promote human rights, including through the adoption of the new Constitution. It welcomed the measures to combat corruption and to protect children's access to education. It also welcomed the acceptance of recommendations made by Algeria, including those relating to children's access to health care and the rights of persons with disabilities.

595. Angola supported the firm commitment of Zimbabwe to cooperate with international and regional mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights.

¹² The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/34thSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

Macroeconomic measures had been put in place to overcome the sanctions imposed by some countries. Those sanctions had had perverse consequences for the people and constituted a violation of economic and social rights. Angola encouraged the continued strengthening of socioeconomic policies to reduce the adverse effects of drought in order to improve food security for the most vulnerable groups.

596. Belarus stated that the close study of all of the recommendations by Zimbabwe showed that the Government paid a great deal of attention to the universal periodic review. It noted with satisfaction the acceptance of a significant number of recommendations, which included those made by Belarus.

597. Belgium appreciated the commitment to establish the minimum legal age for marriage at 18 years. It was interested in knowing about the concrete measures envisaged in that respect and the timetable for their implementation. It noted that Zimbabwe had not accepted the recommendation made by Belgium to amend all discriminatory administrative provisions and regulations relating to the family. It encouraged Zimbabwe to re-evaluate its position. It expressed regret that the State had not taken measures to abolish the death penalty.

598. Botswana noted that Zimbabwe had prioritized the sustenance of livelihoods, especially for the most vulnerable. It commended the country for its resolute efforts to promote and protect human rights. Zimbabwe had ratified some key human rights conventions and undertaken legislative and institutional reforms to promote human rights.

599. Burundi congratulated Zimbabwe on the efforts and progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights, despite the challenges it had faced because of the drought due to climate change. It welcomed the ratification of various international human rights instruments. It noted with satisfaction the various measures adopted to improve the rights of women and the institutional measures to strengthen the judicial system.

600. China thanked Zimbabwe for having accepted the recommendations made by China. It commended Zimbabwe for having introduced measures to promote sustainable economic social development to comprehensively eradicate poverty, enhance food security, strengthen infrastructure development and guarantee people's rights to education, health and housing. China called upon the international community to respect the development path chosen by Zimbabwe and to provide it with constructive aid for economic and social development.

601. The Congo welcomed the commitment of Zimbabwe to its human rights obligations and the value the State attached to the universal periodic review mechanism. It noted the acceptance of the majority of the recommendations, including those made by the Congo relating to the alignment of legislation to the Constitution and the incorporation of international commitments into law. The Congo encouraged bilateral and multilateral partners in Zimbabwe to support the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

602. Cuba reiterated that Zimbabwe had human rights challenges and emphasized the fact that those challenges were being aggravated by the unilateral coercive measures from which the country suffered. However, Zimbabwe continued to make progress in improving the promotion and protection of human rights. Cuba was grateful that Zimbabwe had accepted the recommendations made by Cuba, including the recommendation to continue to work, with the support of the international community, to have the unilateral coercive measures imposed on the country lifted.

603. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea stated that the interactive dialogue with the delegation of Zimbabwe during the session of the Working Group the previous year had provided a useful opportunity to become familiarized with the State's experiences in the promotion and protection of human rights, despite the challenges due to economic sanctions imposed by Western countries. It welcomed the acceptance of many of the recommendations, including those made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

604. Egypt thanked Zimbabwe for its responses to some the recommendations received, as well as some of the measures that had been taken to promote and protect human rights. It welcomed the State's acceptance of a large number of recommendations, which reflected the sincere efforts made to promote and protect human rights, which were in line with the new Constitution and obligations at the international level.

605. Ethiopia noted that Zimbabwe had accepted the recommendations made by Ethiopia to continue efforts towards the capacity-building of the national human rights institutions and to take agricultural productivity measures to ensure food security in the country. It encouraged Zimbabwe to take all the measures necessary to fully implement the recommendations accepted.

606. Ghana encouraged Zimbabwe to put in place a comprehensive strategy to modify or at best eliminate patriarchal attitudes and stereotypes that discriminated against women, in particular the persistent wage gap between women and men. It urged Zimbabwe to fully implement its new Constitution and to operationalize the key human rights institutions established by the Constitution.

607. The Islamic Republic of Iran acknowledged the steps taken by Zimbabwe to promote and protect human rights, notably the legislative measures that had been taken and other positive developments in the area of human rights. It expressed its appreciation for the State's constructive consideration of the recommendations it had made.

608. Iraq thanked Zimbabwe for the comprehensive information presented on the human rights situation in the country and its approach to the recommendation made by Iraq relating to the education system and to supporting vulnerable children to complete their education. Iraq recognized the acceptance of a vast number of recommendations.

609. Kenya noted that Zimbabwe had accepted most of the recommendations it had received, including the four recommendations made by Kenya. It noted that the concrete steps taken, including the adoption of a new Constitution in 2013, the establishment of a national steering committee and the ongoing development of a national action plan, would assist Zimbabwe in meeting its obligations arising from treaties and recommendations.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

610. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Zimbabwe, 11 other stakeholders made statements.

611. The Human Rights Commission of Zimbabwe noted with appreciation the strides made in the area of human rights. It urged the Government to align the various pieces of legislation with the Constitution within a specified and reasonable time frame. Some of the recommendations were in line with the findings of the Commission, especially regarding the need to ratify human rights instruments. The Commission urged Zimbabwe to establish, operationalize and capacitate an independent commission supporting human rights and democracy, and to make further efforts to support some of the recommendations that had been noted.

612. Africa culture internationale acknowledged the efforts of Zimbabwe to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group. However, it noted the inefficiencies of the Government in supporting freedom of expression and the ineffectual implementation of the act on child care and protection. It encouraged Zimbabwe to unrestrictedly allow freedom of expression, develop strict rules to protect human rights defenders and journalists, and cooperate with other member States to improve the political, economic and social situation.

613. Amnesty International regretted that the harmonization of domestic laws with international human rights treaties and the Constitution of 2013 was not complete. It welcomed the acceptance by Zimbabwe of the recommendation to investigate the disappearance of human rights defender Itai Dzamara and to ensure that those responsible were brought to justice. It called upon the Government to ensure that civil society, the media and political opposition activists were able to exercise their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly.

614. Action Canada for Population and Development expressed deep concern that the recommendations to decriminalize and prohibit discrimination against sex workers, women with non-normative sexualities and persons of diverse gender identities had not enjoyed the support of Zimbabwe. It urged the State to ensure access to sexual and reproductive health information, education and services, to review the Termination of Pregnancy Act, to decriminalize sex work, and to take seriously the attacks against women human rights defenders and civil society organizations.

615. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation welcomed the continued cooperation of Zimbabwe with the universal periodic review process. However, it was saddened that the human rights situation on the ground remained dire, particularly regarding freedoms of assembly and expression. It urged the Government to fully investigate human rights abuses, in particular the disappearance of human rights activist Itai Dzamara, and to reconsider constitutional amendment bill No. 1, which, if passed, would weaken the independence of the judiciary.

616. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues was concerned that human rights defenders continued to be harassed, arbitrarily arrested and tortured. It urged Zimbabwe to fully investigate the human rights abuses highlighted during the universal periodic review process, in particular the disappearance of Itai Dzamara. It noted that the Government, immediately after the review, had introduced constitutional amendment bill No. 1, which affected the independence of the judiciary.

617. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droit de l'homme noted with concern the inadequate resources allocated for the implementation of policies on food and health security, and it expressed support for the lifting of economic sanctions, which weighed heavily on the civilian population. It was concerned about the restrictions on freedom of expression, association and assembly, increased politically motivated violence and the lack of credible investigations into abuses by law enforcement agents.

618. The International Service for Human Rights called upon Zimbabwe to improve the situation of human rights defenders. It noted that the Government was drafting a cyber crimes bill, which, if passed, would further curtail freedom of expression. It urged the authorities to ensure the compliance of all legislation with international obligations, to safeguard the independence of the judiciary and to invite the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders.

619. United Nations Watch quoted six paragraphs from the report on the universal periodic review of Zimbabwe that commended or acknowledged the State's progress on human rights issues, but stated that the truth was the opposite. The Government targeted members of the opposition and human rights activists with abductions, torture, arrests, abuse and harassment; restricted freedom of expression, the press, assembly, association and movement; interfered with the judiciary; and failed to investigate or prosecute those responsible for violence.

620. Human Rights Watch noted that the Government had not aligned existing laws to the new Constitution. The Government's critics faced harassment, threats and arbitrary arrest, and the torture and other ill-treatment of detainees remained a serious and systemic human rights problem. It called upon the Government to ensure the independence of the judiciary and of the Human Rights Commission, to ensure accountability for past abuses, and to immediately provide information on the fate or whereabouts of pro-democracy activist Itai Dzamara.

621. Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Netherland noted that same-sex relations were still criminalized and that the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community faced discrimination and violence in many aspects of life, including through the lack of protection by law enforcement and the lack of equal access to health care. It called upon the Government to adhere to international human rights standards and abandon unfair discrimination.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

622. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 260 recommendations received, 151 had enjoyed the support of Zimbabwe and 103 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on another six recommendations, indicating which part of the recommendations had been supported and which part had been noted.

623. In response to concerns about early and forced marriages, the delegation stated that the Constitution of Zimbabwe made provision for a minimum age of 18 years for marriage, which had been confirmed by the Constitutional Court. The Government was in the process of harmonizing all marriage-related laws with the Constitution, and the harmonized

marriages bill was undergoing consultation with stakeholders. With regard to the judiciary, the Constitution granted the judiciary independence.

624. The delegation expressed its gratitude for the interventions by the Human Rights Commission of Zimbabwe and civil society organizations operating within Zimbabwe. The Government would continue to work with the Human Rights Commission and civil society organizations as it implemented the recommendations that had been supported.

625. The issues of concern raised by States were being treated as matters of great importance. To that end, the Government was already taking action to implement the recommendations accepted, and a national action plan would be developed.

626. The Government also intended to scale up efforts to implement the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socioeconomic Transformation programme in order to revive and grow the economy in a sustainable manner with the aim of, *inter alia*, economically empowering the people of Zimbabwe and eradicating poverty.

627. The delegation, on behalf of the Government, expressed its gratitude to development partners and the United Nations Country Team for their continued support for the universal periodic review process in Zimbabwe. The Government would continue to engage with stakeholders and the international community on human rights issues.

Lithuania

628. The review of Lithuania was held on 6 November 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Lithuania in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/LTU/1 and Corr.1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/LTU/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/LTU/3).

629. At its 41st meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Lithuania (see sect. C below).

630. The outcome of the review of Lithuania comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/9), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/9/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

631. The delegation of Lithuania stated that the Government highly valued its cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms. Recommendations from treaty bodies had proven useful for the promotion and protection of human rights. Lithuania had put considerable efforts into implementing the recommendations from its second universal periodic review. Those efforts had already yielded important results in the realm of human rights. Notably, it had given a new positive impetus to the ongoing dialogue between the Government and civil society, including with the non-governmental organizations representing lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. The interactive dialogue of the second review, which had been held in November 2016, had resulted in the commitment of the Government to ratify the Istanbul Convention. Those inspiring examples demonstrated the strong commitment of Lithuania to the universal periodic review process. The delegation reaffirmed the commitment of the Government to continue to take measures to further improve the human rights situation in Lithuania.

632. During the interactive dialogue during its second review, Lithuania had received 172 recommendations. Lithuania had submitted its position on all of the recommendations in written form after a thorough analysis and active consultations with the relevant stakeholders. The majority of the recommendations had proven to be fully in line with the Government's plans, policies and priorities, as well as its assessment of the remaining challenges and problematic areas that required urgent attention. Therefore, the Government had supported without difficulty the vast majority (89 per cent) of the recommendations.

633. Of the 172 recommendations received, the Government had supported 153 and noted 19. At the same time, all of the recommendations – with only one exception, as clearly indicated in the report of the Working Group – irrespective of whether they had already been accepted or only noted, would remain under consideration of the Government throughout the reporting period of the second review in order to further improve the human rights situation and to bring it into line with the international obligations of Lithuania.

634. The delegation presented some clarifications and updates concerning several recommendations that had been accepted. The Government had made significant efforts to ensure gender equality in society. Lithuania had taken measures to raise public awareness, to reduce the wage gap between women and men, to improve its legislation in order to combat domestic violence and violence against women, and to provide victims with assistance and the respective professionals with training programmes. The delegation highlighted the fact that the amendments to the Criminal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code had been adopted in 2015 to enable the police to provide a more efficient response to cases of domestic violence. Victims of violence and women at risk had received a special tool of urgent assistance to use in the event of danger and to call for assistance by pressing a single button. The Government had been discussing with relevant stakeholders, including civil society, a new draft national action plan on non-discrimination for 2017–2019, which included further initiatives to improve gender equality.

635. Furthermore, in 2017, Lithuania had amended the law on the rights of the child to bring it into line with its international human rights obligations and in order to combat violence against children. The amendments included the prohibition of all forms of violence against a child, including corporal punishment, and a comprehensive definition of violence against a child. In addition, the amendments streamlined a procedure of taking away a child from abusive parents or an unsafe environment, which remained subject to judicial authorization. The Government had been taking steps to provide the necessary training for law enforcement officials in order to ensure the effective enforcement of those amendments.

636. Regarding the recommendations to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles, the Seimas Ombudsmen's Office had been discussing the status of the institution with the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions and the final solution should be reached shortly.

637. Lithuania had taken serious steps to fight trafficking in persons. During the reporting period, the Government had taken measures to provide victims of trafficking with support, to bring its legislation into line with its international obligations, to improve national mechanisms for the prevention of trafficking in persons and to provide law enforcement officers with the necessary training. The delegation referred to an increase in pretrial investigations and in the number of offenders convicted by courts for crimes relating to trafficking in persons and the enhanced capacity of law enforcement officers to combat trafficking in persons. Those achievements were direct results of the Government's efforts made during the reporting period.

638. The delegation reaffirmed the commitment of Lithuania to further improve its human rights situation in line with its international human rights obligations and in close cooperation with civil society and international partners and institutions. The achievements of Lithuania in that area made the State a credible candidate for the Human Rights Council for 2022–2024.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

639. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Lithuania, 16 delegations made statements.

640. Albania noted with appreciation the constructive engagement of Lithuania during the universal periodic review and the commitment of the Government to promote and protect human rights. It noted the efforts of the Government to improve national legislation and practice in the area of human rights and to implement the recommendations from the universal periodic review.

641. Belarus stated that the acceptance of a considerable number of recommendations by Lithuania demonstrated the responsible approach of Lithuania to the improvement of national human rights mechanisms. It hoped for a thorough approach by the Government to implement the recommendations from the second review, and in particular those recommendations on measures to combat discrimination, intolerance and hate speech.

642. The Council of Europe referred to several recommendations of its monitoring bodies addressed to Lithuania concerning the inadequate legal and policy framework for the protection of persons belonging to minorities, cases of alleged discrimination and of racist hate speech and violence, insufficient protection for persons with disabilities and victims of domestic violence, and the high perceived levels of corruption. It welcomed the measures taken by the Government to address those issues and it invited Lithuania to ratify the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism, the Istanbul Convention and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

643. Egypt commended Lithuania for the amendments to the laws on domestic violence and on the gender pay gap. It expressed concern about the cases of intolerance and xenophobia. It welcomed the acceptance of its five recommendations to establish an independent national human rights institution, to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, to investigate cases of racism, Islamophobia and xenophobia, to increase and promote tolerance and intercultural understanding, and to take effective measures for the social integration of refugees.

644. Estonia commended Lithuania for the acceptance of the majority of the recommendations made during the second review and for the State's commitment to strengthen gender equality and the empowerment of women, and particularly to ratify the Istanbul Convention. It noted with appreciation that the Government continued its efforts to protect the rights of the child and had accepted a recommendation made by Estonia to adopt legislation explicitly prohibiting the corporal punishment of children and consider awareness-raising activities to increase public knowledge about the issue.

645. Georgia noted with appreciation the progress made in promoting and protecting human rights, including efforts to improve the protection of the rights of the child, to combat discrimination against women and to ensure the effective participation of non-governmental organizations in decision-making. It commended Lithuania for its efforts to combat domestic violence. It noted with appreciation that Lithuania had supported the vast majority of the recommendations, including the two recommendations made by Georgia.

646. Iraq appreciated the acceptance by Lithuanian of its recommendations to fight poverty and to achieve prosperity. It welcomed the acceptance of a recommendation to improve services in centres for foreigners and in particular for asylum seekers with special needs. It encouraged Lithuania to reconsider its refusal to accede to the Convention against Discrimination in Education. It commended Lithuania for its acceptance of most of the recommendations made.

647. Kyrgyzstan noted that Lithuania had supported the majority of the recommendations from the second review. It commended the State for having supported the recommendations made by Kyrgyzstan to address gender-based violence and to take additional measures to protect children from corporal punishment and sexual crimes. It expressed its conviction that the implementation of those recommendations would improve the protection of the rights of women and children.

648. Libya noted with satisfaction the progress made by Lithuania during the reporting period. It noted with appreciation the acceptance by Lithuania of 153 recommendations.

649. Maldives noted with appreciation the meaningful participation of Lithuania in the universal periodic review process and the fact that Lithuania had supported the three recommendations made by Maldives. It was encouraged by the efforts of Lithuania to

ensure gender equality, to combat discrimination against women and to increase the participation of women in all levels of governance.

650. Pakistan commended Lithuania for having accepted the majority of the recommendations made during the universal periodic review. It welcomed the establishment of a national mechanism to protect and promote human rights. It commended the State for the development of various national plans to implement the rights to health and education and those of women, children and persons with disabilities.

651. The Philippines noted with appreciation that Lithuania had supported the majority of the 172 recommendations received during the interactive dialogue. It thanked Lithuania for having accepted its recommendations, namely to step up efforts towards the establishment of a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles and to sustain efforts to eradicate domestic violence and gender-based violence. The Philippines hoped for the ratification by Lithuania of the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).

652. Romania noted the commitment of Lithuania to the protection and promotion of human rights at the national and international levels. It expressed its appreciation that Lithuania had supported the recommendations made by Romania during the second review.

653. The Russian Federation noted the acceptance by Lithuania of its recommendations to eliminate discrimination on the basis of language in the areas of education and employment and to adopt a law on national minorities. It noted with concern that Lithuania had not supported several recommendations relevant to a part of its population and a recommendation to put an end to the practice of rewriting and interpreting history based on political interests. The Russian Federation noted that criminal prosecution for expressing views different from those of the Government on some historical events was not in accordance with the State's international obligations on freedom of expression.

654. Sierra Leone noted that Lithuania had supported most of the 172 recommendations from the second review. It encouraged Lithuania to accelerate efforts to accredit the Seimas Ombudsmen's Office to bring it into compliance with the Paris Principles. It noted that further efforts were necessary to address acts of racism and xenophobia, to improve the integration of ethnic minorities and migrants, and to increase the legal age for marriage.

655. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela appreciated the efforts made by Lithuania to implement the recommendations accepted from the universal periodic review. It noted that persons with disabilities received free technical means of support or partial subsidies from the 10 regional branches of the centre for technical medical support and their municipalities. It recognized the progress made by Lithuania in the area of human rights and it encouraged the State to continue to promote successful social programmes for the well-being of the people.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

656. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Lithuania, two other stakeholders made statements.

657. Action Canada for Population and Development noted with appreciation the acceptance by Lithuania of recommendations on sexual and reproductive rights. It expressed concern about the failure of the Government to fulfil some recommendations received during the first review, in particular a recommendation to make available various family planning methods, including modern and affordable contraceptives. The Government had failed to take any action to improve access to contraception, and the draft law on sexual and reproductive health had not been adopted due to a lack of political will. Action Canada for Population and Development called upon the Government to implement a comprehensive law on women's reproductive rights and to introduce comprehensive sexuality education in schools.

658. The International Lesbian and Gay Association commended Lithuania for having accepted almost all of the recommendations on sexual orientation and gender identity. Lithuania had accepted criticism and taken concrete actions to achieve progress. The Government had not supported two recommendations to amend and review the law on the protection of minors. While the Government claimed that that law was not implemented in a discriminatory manner, it had been used to censor public information on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons on three different occasions in 2013. The Government

claimed that the law was necessary for the protection of the rights of the child. However, the law violated the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender children to receive objective and scientific information. Lithuania should therefore amend the law so that it did not openly stigmatize lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

659. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 172 recommendations received, 153 had enjoyed the support of Lithuania and 19 had been noted.

660. The delegation of Lithuania made some clarifications regarding several statements given by States Members of the United Nations. Regarding cases of discrimination and hate speech, the delegation explained that the Criminal and Criminal Procedure Codes contained provisions to combat various forms of discrimination. The full enforcement of those provisions remained a challenge. The Government, in cooperation with civil society, had been developing a national action plan on non-discrimination for 2017–2019 in order to provide measures to address discrimination in practice.

661. In response to comments on the non-ratification of several international human rights instruments by Lithuania, the delegation explained that the current position of Lithuania should not be seen as a refusal to ratify those treaties. Lithuania would not be in a position to ratify them at the current stage. However, the issue of the ratification of those treaties would remain under the consideration of the Government, similar to all the recommendations that had been noted. For example, despite the fact that the process of ratifying the Convention against Discrimination in Education had started, the current position of the Government was that ratification would be possible only after the Convention itself had been updated. While remaining committed to upholding the rights of migrant workers and their families and ensuring legal guarantees for the protection of their rights, Lithuania did not consider it a priority to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

662. Regarding comments on corruption rates, the transparent and wide media coverage of corruption cases, while welcomed as a positive experience, could have created the impression in society that corruption cases had been considerably increasing, which was not based on statistical data. The delegation assured the Human Rights Council that the Government would pursue efforts to prevent and fight corruption.

663. Lithuania had signed the Additional Protocol to the European Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism. The ratification process had been slightly delayed due to national elections at the end of 2016, but it had resumed and would be completed in the upcoming parliamentary session before June 2017.

664. In conclusion, the delegation of Lithuania reaffirmed the State's commitment to the universal periodic review and to the follow-up on the recommendations from the review.

Uganda

665. The review of Uganda was held on 3 November 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Uganda in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/UGA/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/UGA/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/UGA/3).

666. At its 42nd meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Uganda (see sect. C below).

667. The outcome of the review of Uganda comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/10), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/10/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

668. The delegation of Uganda stated that Uganda had accepted the majority of recommendations made during the review and that the Government was in the process of integrating them into the draft national action plan on human rights, as those recommendations constituted invaluable input from the Human Rights Council and they would enrich the substance of the draft national action plan. It was the intention of the Government to submit the draft national action plan to Cabinet for adoption in due course. A number of recommendations had been noted mainly because they either were imprecise in formulation or would pose legal and other challenges for Uganda if accepted. In spite of that, Uganda would continue its engagement regarding those outstanding issues.

669. At an appropriate time, Uganda would invite the international community to cooperate in order to ensure the full and effective implementation of the national action plan, in accordance with its Second National Development Plan.

670. The delegation concluded by drawing the attention of the Human Rights Council to a textual error in the addendum to the report of the Working Group, relating to the recommendation contained in paragraph 116.6 of the report, namely “International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights” should be substituted with “International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance”.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

671. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Uganda, 16 delegations made statements.¹³

672. Angola supported the efforts of Uganda to improve girls’ access to education and to upgrade legislation relating to the criminalization of female genital mutilation and domestic violence.

673. Belgium regretted that Uganda had not accepted its recommendation to increase access to sexual health services for women and girls, but it nonetheless hoped that measures would be taken in that regard. It also regretted that Uganda had not supported the recommendations relating to the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

674. Botswana appreciated the adoption of a national action plan on human rights, and the measures taken relating to the protection of vulnerable groups, including women and children. It noted the efforts of Uganda to address female genital mutilation and it encouraged the State to make a concerted effort to end female genital mutilation.

675. Brazil appreciated the balanced intervention by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uganda, who had addressed several sensitive human rights issues. It welcomed the State’s acceptance of the vast majority of the recommendations received. Even though the recommendation made by Brazil to decriminalize same-sex relations had not enjoyed the support of Uganda, Brazil welcomed the State’s openness on that matter and on several other human rights challenges.

¹³ The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/34thSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

676. Burundi welcomed the efforts of Uganda to adopt a national development plan to serve as, inter alia, a strategic framework for the implementation of international and regional human rights commitments. It lauded Uganda for its efforts to combat violence against women and girls, female genital mutilation, trafficking in persons and domestic violence, and its efforts to promote education for all. Burundi supported the adoption of the report of the Working Group on Uganda.

677. China welcomed the constructive participation of Uganda in the universal periodic review and its commitment to implement the recommendations accepted, including those made by China regarding social, economic and sustainable development and the protection of the rights of women. It appreciated the priority given by Uganda to overcome poverty, as well as the State's efforts to promote the rule of law. It called upon the international community to provide Uganda with constructive assistance.

678. The Congo noted with satisfaction that Uganda had supported its recommendation on the ratification of international human rights instruments. It called upon the international community to support Uganda in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

679. Cuba congratulated Uganda on the incorporation of the World Programme on Human Rights Education into its educational policy, the adoption of new regulations to combat child labour and trafficking in persons, and the steps taken to ensure access to education for all. It thanked Uganda for having accepted its recommendations to implement the national action plan on human rights and to step up the fight against corruption.

680. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea appreciated the constructive participation of Uganda in the universal periodic review process. Taking note of the report of the Working Group, it commended Uganda for its continued commitment to and work on human rights. It welcomed the acceptance by Uganda of many of the recommendations, showing the State's will to make further efforts in the field of human rights.

681. Djibouti underlined the fact that Uganda had supported most of the recommendations received during the second review, especially those to ratify international and regional treaties.

682. Egypt welcomed the response of Uganda to the recommendations received during the first review and it valued the acceptance by Uganda of the majority of the recommendations received during the second review, including its own recommendations. It noted the positive cooperation of Uganda with the Working Group, its efforts to promote and protect human rights, and its commitment to international human rights instruments.

683. Ethiopia noted with appreciation the acceptance by Uganda of a considerable number of recommendations from the second review, including its own recommendations on the implementation of the second five-year national development plan and the economic rights of the people. It commended Uganda for having taken meaningful action to finalize a draft national action plan.

684. Ghana commended Uganda for the positive steps taken to prevent and respond to allegations of violence against women and girls, including by having adopted laws that criminalized female genital mutilation, domestic violence and trafficking in persons, among others. It was encouraged by the cooperation of Uganda with OHCHR and it commended Uganda for having instituted progressive legal frameworks on the rights of refugees and asylum seekers.

685. Haiti regretted that Uganda had noted the three recommendations it had made. The recommendations were to increase the number of tribunals and legal aid centres, revise the minimum wage and implement the draft bill on food and nutrition of 2008.

686. India appreciated the receptive and constructive manner in which Uganda had participated in the universal periodic review. It was encouraging to note that Uganda had accepted as many as 148 recommendations. India noted that Uganda had gained much from its participation in the review and it hoped that the recommendations accepted would be implemented in the coming years.

687. Kenya was pleased to note that Uganda had accepted the four recommendations made by Kenya and it encouraged the State to continue the momentum of implementing the recommendations received. It noted that Uganda had undertaken policy, legal and administrative reforms, which involved the police, judiciary and prison sectors. The

pending national action plan on human rights should strengthen the ability of Uganda to implement the recommendations.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

688. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Uganda, 10 other stakeholders made statements.

689. The Uganda Human Rights Commission stated that the process of adopting the national action plan of human rights should be concluded expeditiously and a monitoring and evaluation framework developed to track progress of the priority interventions. The Commission reiterated its call for the Government to ratify and domesticate the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. It urged the Government to address the human rights challenges that tended to occur during the electoral cycle and those that were perpetrated due to real or perceived discrimination and/or ethnic tension.

690. Article 19: International Centre against Censorship regretted that Uganda had failed to fully implement its commitments from the first universal periodic review regarding freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association. It expressed disappointment at the rejection of specific recommendations to amend those laws and it was particularly concerned about the crackdown on those rights during the presidential elections in 2016. It urged prevention, protection and prosecution for attacks, as well as reforms to, inter alia, the Penal Code, the Press and Journalists Act and the Public Order Management Act.

691. Advocates for Human Rights called upon the Government to reconsider its position on the recommendations concerning the death penalty and to make progress towards the abolition of capital punishment by adopting a de jure moratorium, and to encourage the adoption of the law revision (penalties in criminal matters) miscellaneous amendment bill of 2015, aimed at giving effect to the Kigula ruling by amending laws that provided for mandatory death sentences and reducing the number of offences punishable by death.

692. Action Canada for Population and Development was deeply concerned that Uganda had not supported recommendations to combat and prevent discrimination and social stigmatization, which impacted persons with disabilities, persons with albinism, and those on the grounds of real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. It urged Uganda to take steps to guarantee economic, social and cultural rights for all people and it called upon the Government to honour its commitment made in the Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases to increase budget allocations for health and health-related services. It also urged Uganda to amend, pass and implement the School Health Policy.

693. The International Humanist and Ethical Union was disappointed by the rejection by Uganda of recommendations to amend the Public Order Management Act and the Non-Governmental Organizations Act and to ensure free assembly and association in line with international human rights standards, and of the recommendations specifically relating to access to abortion. It urged Uganda to improve law enforcement and the quality of education and to establish clear principles and priorities for the elimination of child sacrifices and ritual murder, including by implementing legislation abolishing child sacrifices.

694. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation expressed concerns about restrictions on freedom of expression during periods of elections, the physical assault of journalists and threats to those who covered the activities of opposition political parties. It was also concerned about the recent attacks on freedom of association exemplified by break-ins into the premises of civil society organizations, and that the recommendations to amend, repeal or improve such legislation, including sections of the Non-Governmental Organizations Act of 2016 and the Public Order Management Act of 2013, had not received the full support of the Government.

695. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues urged Uganda to consider the recommendations that sought to implement the Kigula ruling by the Supreme Court to revise legislation that provided for the mandatory death penalty through the enactment of the law revision (penalties in criminal matters) miscellaneous amendment bill of 2015. It further urged Uganda to consider the recommendations that sought to protect the rights to liberty and freedom of expression, association and assembly as recognized in the Constitution, by an amendment to the Public Order Management Act or the adoption of regulations, and to cease the harassment of political activists, human rights defenders and journalists.

696. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme deplored discrimination and social stigmatization, in particular of persons with disabilities, persons with albinism and same-sex relationships between consenting adults. It urged the revision of the Public Order Management Act to guarantee the adequate use of force and to dismantle the disciplines that allowed public authorities to ban peaceful protests. It stressed the need to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and that a formal moratorium on the death penalty with the aim of abolishing capital punishment should be adopted.

697. The Lutheran World Federation noted that it had submitted a parallel report with its partners outlining some of the challenges refugees faced relating to access to justice, child rights, the right to education, rights of persons with disabilities and women's rights, and it was glad to see that the related recommendations had enjoyed the support of the Government. It further reiterated its support and desire to collaborate with the Government of Uganda to ensure the swift implementation of the recommendations made.

698. Human Rights Watch was of the view that, in practice, the Government displayed limited commitment to protecting freedom of expression, association and assembly. State violence, including torture and extrajudicial killings, occurred without investigation and many abuses were evident during the elections in 2016, where concerns had been voiced, and the elections were neither free nor fair. At least 600 people, including children, had been killed by the military in Kasese, Western Uganda.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

699. The President of the Human Rights Council stated that, based on the information provided, out of 226 recommendations received, 148 had enjoyed the support of Uganda and 78 had been noted.

700. In replying to comments, the head of the delegation stated that the commitment of Uganda to the implementation of the recommendations supported was unequivocal. The Government had already started the process of integrating them into the national action plan. Regarding the recommendations that had been noted, the delegation indicated that they would be subject to further consultations with stakeholders with a view to possible implementation in line with the Constitution. Moreover, the commitment of Uganda to involve all stakeholders in the universal periodic review process, especially with regard to participation in the interministerial committee, which had prepared the national report, was unquestionable. Lastly, Uganda had developed one of the best refugee policies, which would serve as a model at the upcoming United Nations conference on refugees, to be hosted in Uganda. The delegation also noted that the bottom-up consultative mechanism the Government had put in place had been instrumental in building consensus and ownership of the final outcome, two elements that in turn would contribute to the implementation of the recommendations.

701. In the same vein, the multidisciplinary committee coordinated by the Government had facilitated a more structured approach to the whole process. Other partners, including those from the United Nations system, had played a supporting role, though the Government had remained the leader of the process. Ultimately, the involvement of various stakeholders in a more consultative manner had enhanced the transparency of the process, thus ensuring the credibility of the final outcome.

702. The delegation encouraged those partners that had extended their support throughout the universal periodic review process to ensure that their support was directed at areas prioritized by the Government for external support. Any assistance from the international community should be complementary and channelled through those areas specifically

identified by the Government. In the view of the delegation, technical assistance was an important factor without which the ultimate objective of the universal periodic review exercise could be hardly achievable by developing countries.

Timor-Leste

703. The review of Timor-Leste was held on 3 November 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Timor-Leste in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/TLS/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/TLS/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/TLS/3).

704. At its 42nd meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Timor-Leste (see sect. C below).

705. The outcome of the review of Timor-Leste comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/11), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/11/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

706. The delegation of Timor-Leste indicated that the State had made a strong commitment to improve and promote the human rights of its citizens based on a culture of mutual respect and non-discrimination. It acknowledged the universal periodic review mechanism as an important pillar in the development of human rights in the country, which promoted open and constructive dialogue. In that connection, the delegation expressed its gratitude to the United Nations human rights advisory team, which had supported the preparation of the national report for the second cycle of the universal periodic review.

707. The delegation highlighted the fact that the consultation process was central to the universal periodic review exercise: the technical team responsible for preparing the national report had organized consultations with relevant ministries, civil society, members of the religious community, the national police, officers of the national human rights institution and various United Nations agencies present in Timor-Leste with a view to gathering a credible and comprehensive set of information that would reflect the situation in the country.

708. The delegation expressed special thanks to civil society which had been involved in the process from the beginning. In that connection, it recognized the presence of the Office of the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice during the adoption of the outcome of the review of Timor-Leste.

709. The delegation emphasized the fact that, despite several challenges, the commitment of Timor-Leste to the defence of human rights remained unwavering. As Timor-Leste wished to develop a strong society, it had to guarantee its citizens the enjoyment of their inalienable rights. It firmly believed that the participation in the universal periodic review was an important step to that end.

710. Out of a total of 154 recommendations received, Timor-Leste had supported 146 recommendations and noted 8 recommendations. Among the 146 recommendations supported, 14 recommendations had already been implemented and 118 recommendations were being implemented.

711. The delegation further affirmed that, in relation to the recommendations on the rights of women and children, Timor-Leste had already adopted a national action plan on gender-based violence, which was in the second phase of implementation, and a national action plan for children. In addition, Timor-Leste was preparing a new civil registry law that would help to ensure that all children in Timor-Leste were registered at birth.

712. The delegation also emphasized the fact that Timor-Leste continued to place priority on the protection of the rights of women and that it was committed to highlighting the importance of the role of women in political and national development by investing in their education and economic and political participation.

713. The delegation reiterated the commitment of Timor-Leste to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

714. Timor-Leste would hold presidential elections on 20 March 2017 and legislative elections were scheduled for July of the present year. For the first time, Timorese nationals residing abroad would be able to exercise their right to vote during those elections in their respective country of residence, which reflected the State's efforts to involve all its citizens in the democratic political process.

715. Timor-Leste encouraged the visits of all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, while it recognized that there were some delays in responding to their requests for visits. It was working to improve its channels of communication in that regard.

716. Access to justice was a fundamental right that faced a number of obstacles, such as a lack of human and technical resources and a lack of knowledge of the available means of access to justice. Timor-Leste believed that it was the obligation of the State to educate its citizens in that important area. It was essential to ensure that all citizens had access to justice and that they were informed of their rights. Timor-Leste was working together with local and international partners to strengthen the judicial system. In that regard, the delegation highlighted the existence of mobile courts and the creation of "access to justice clinics".

2. View expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

717. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Timor-Leste, 18 delegations made statements. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela highlighted the efforts made to advance economic, social and cultural rights towards an adequate standard of living for the people, such as development initiatives that provided adequate housing for vulnerable persons and their families. It recognized the progress made by Timor-Leste in the implementation of the recommendation from the first review.

718. Algeria welcomed the efforts made and the results achieved in the promotion and protection of human rights in, inter alia, the fight against torture and ill-treatment, the promotion of gender equality, combating child labour and strengthening the protection of children. It welcomed the engagement and cooperation of Timor-Leste with the Human Rights Council and the universal periodic review. Timor-Leste had accepted 146 recommendations, including the two recommendations made by Algeria to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to adopt a national action plan for children.

719. Angola appreciated the determination of Timor-Leste to give priority to the promotion and protection of human rights, particularly regarding trying to draft reports, including the initial report on economic, social and cultural rights and the report on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination. In that regard, it encouraged Timor-Leste to strengthen the judicial reform process to ensure the registration of births of all citizens, to continue its policy of social protection for the family, particularly in rural areas, and to continue to give priority to the education of children, especially girls. Angola noted with satisfaction that the current electoral campaign was taking place in a safe and quiet environment. It expressed hope that the presidential elections to be held on 20 March 2017 would strengthen stability and the rule of law.

720. Brazil welcomed the acceptance of recommendations, including those made by Brazil in favour of persons with disabilities and the rights of children. It recognized the

commitment of Timor-Leste to the implementation of public policies for the promotion of human rights, especially the right to health. It encouraged Timor-Leste to make efforts to promote gender equality and to overcome discriminatory practices based on sexual orientation and gender identity. It referred to the successful regional cooperation in the framework of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, together with OHCHR, on the exchange of good practices and the sharing of experiences for the national implementation of the recommendations from the universal periodic review.

721. Brunei Darussalam appreciated the commitment of Timor-Leste to the universal periodic review process, as exemplified by the acceptance of the large majority of the recommendations, including its recommendation to ensure that people continued to have access to health-care services, especially in rural areas. It noted with satisfaction the State's efforts to that end, including through the use of mobile clinics. It was pleased to note that Timor-Leste had accepted its recommendation to ensure vulnerable groups continued to have access to free education. It welcomed the State's commitment to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

722. Cabo Verde appreciated the progress achieved in the political and development spheres, in the accession to international human rights instruments, and in the adoption of crucial legislative measures and thematic action plans and programmes. It congratulated Timor-Leste on having accepted about 95 per cent of the recommendations, including the two recommendations made by Cabo Verde.

723. China welcomed the constructive participation of Timor-Leste in the universal periodic review, and it commended the State for the active implementation of the recommendations accepted. It thanked Timor-Leste for having accepted its recommendations to develop a national action plan on human rights, to advance judicial reform and to continue to develop its health services. It commended the State for its efforts to promote economic and social development and to adopt measures, including those relating to housing, education and employment, as well as the progress made in addressing domestic violence and discrimination against women. China urged the international community to provide Timor-Leste with technical assistance and support to protect and promote human rights.

724. Cuba congratulated Timor-Leste on its commitment to promote and protect the human rights of its people. It welcomed the achievements made in the protection of human rights, particularly in education and health, as well as the adoption of the Law against Domestic Violence and the national action plan on gender-based violence.

725. Indonesia welcomed the commitment of Timor-Leste to promote and protect human rights through the strengthening of the judiciary and structural laws, and the implementation of the Strategic Development Plan for 2011–2030. It welcomed the State's efforts to further implement the recommendations from the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation, and from the Indonesia–Timor-Leste Commission of Truth and Friendship. Indonesia commended Timor-Leste for having accepted all of its recommendations, including the recommendation to expedite the process of ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

726. Iraq valued the acceptance of its recommendations, namely to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and to submit reports to the treaty bodies.

727. The Lao People's Democratic Republic was pleased to note the continued efforts and steps taken by Timor-Leste to promote and protect human rights through the acceptance of 146 out of 154 recommendations, including the two made by the Lao People's Democratic Republic to enhance women's empowerment and representation in decision-making, and to ensure the right to access quality education for vulnerable groups, including women and children. It welcomed the progress made in the promotion of the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children and persons with disabilities, by having made the efforts necessary to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

728. Malaysia congratulated Timor-Leste on its constructive engagement with the universal periodic review process and the acceptance of a large number of

recommendations, including its own recommendations. It was encouraged by the State's efforts to continue to take a balanced approach to all aspects of human rights, while paying particular attention to those in the most vulnerable situations.

729. Maldives appreciated the fact that Timor-Leste had accepted its two recommendations, namely to continue its efforts to improve access to health-care services, and to finalize the creation and facilitate the functioning of a national council for persons with disabilities. It welcomed the commitment of Timor-Leste to promote the rights of women and gender equality and to combat gender-based violence through a comprehensive and multisectoral approach.

730. Nicaragua commended Timor-Leste for the acceptance of 146 recommendations and it noted with satisfaction the ongoing implementation of a number of them. It encouraged Timor-Leste to continue to promote and protect the human rights of its people while paying particular attention to the most vulnerable groups, such as women, children and persons with disabilities.

731. Pakistan welcomed the establishment of a national commission to develop a national action plan for children. It appreciated such legislation as the Law against Domestic Violence.

732. The Philippines thanked Timor-Leste for having accepted its recommendations, namely to ratify the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) and to provide adequate funding and human resources to its national human rights institution. It commended Timor-Leste for having adopted the national action plan for children, the national action plan on gender-based violence, the national policy for the inclusion and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities and the national mental health strategy.

733. The Republic of Korea welcomed the State's promotion of gender equality and prevention of domestic violence and the implementation of a national action plan for persons with disabilities. It noted with appreciation the standing invitation issued to all special procedure mandate holders. It reiterated its support and assistance to the health programmes of Timor-Leste and to ensure the political participation of women and youth through the Leveraging Electoral Assistance for Regionalized Nation-Building (LEARN) Project, especially in the context of the upcoming elections.

734. The Sudan welcomed the important developments since 2011, including the ratification of core human rights treaties and ILO conventions and the promotion of the right to education. It appreciated the acceptance by Timor-Leste of 146 recommendations, including its two recommendations, namely to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to submit reports to mandate holders.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

735. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Timor-Leste, six other stakeholders made statements.

736. The Office of the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice recognized the efforts made by Timor-Leste to respect and protect the rights of all citizens of Timor-Leste, bearing in mind the many challenges it faced. It noted that too many citizens failed to benefit from development in Timor-Leste. It also referred to the inequality between the rural and urban population, men and women, and rich and poor, which did not correspond to the inclusive and sustainable development potential of Timor-Leste.

737. Amnesty International noted that attempts in previous years to bring to justice those suspected of criminal acts had not been sufficient. It regretted the lack of justice, truth and reparation for women and girls who suffered sexual and gender-based violence by members of the Indonesian security forces and Timorese men. Despite guarantees of the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly in the Constitution and domestic law, the police had banned peaceful gatherings concerning demands for accountability for past crimes or corruption by government officials. It was also concerned that the Media Law of 2014 could stifle freedom of expression and hamper freelance media workers, student journalists and bloggers from journalistic work.

738. Action Canada for Population and Development noted that, while Timor-Leste had taken some positive steps to protect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and

intersex persons, many continued to be subjected to high levels of violence. It urged the Government to conduct sensitization campaigns across the country and to enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that prohibited discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. It also urged Timor-Leste to amend article 52 of the Penal Code to include bias based on gender identity and intersex status as aggravating factors in the commission of a crime.

739. The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development regretted the Government's explanation that the Media Law was in line with international standards and respected freedom of expression. That law placed restrictions on foreign journalists and international media outlets. Provisions in the Penal Code criminalized defamation and had been used against journalists who exposed corruption in government ministries and the judiciary. It called upon Timor-Leste to amend the Media Law in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and fully implement the recommendations of the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation.

740. The American Association for Jurists recommended that Timor-Leste ratify the international instruments to which it had not yet acceded, strengthen training on human rights for members of the national police forces and of the armed forces, implement a national action plan for children and a national action plan on human rights, and strengthen dialogue with the Human Rights Council mechanisms and treaty bodies.

741. The International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, in a joint statement with Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, noted with deep concern that further efforts were required to ensure the rights of women and children. It called attention to the recommendations relating particularly to the rights of women and children as the most vulnerable groups in Timor-Leste, due to the discrimination and human rights abuses to which they were subjected. It urged the Government to consider the inadequate political and social participation, the barriers to quality education, unemployment and the lack of reasonable payment as the main causes of current inequalities. It also highlighted the fact that corporal punishment was still present, especially in the education system, and that women and girls were often victims of violence in their own families.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

742. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 154 recommendations received, 146 had enjoyed the support of Timor-Leste and 8 had been noted.

743. The delegation concluded by stating that Timor-Leste was committed to the universal periodic review process. It recognized the presence of non-governmental organizations, which had ensured that the consultation process was robust and valid. Timor-Leste took pride in the fact that it had a strong civil society that helped the Government to protect the rights of citizens.

Republic of Moldova

744. The review of the Republic of Moldova was held on 4 November 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by the Republic of Moldova in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/MDA/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/MDA/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/MDA/3).

745. At its 42nd meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Republic of Moldova (see sect. C below).

746. The outcome of the review of the Republic of Moldova comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/12), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/12/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

747. The delegation of the Republic of Moldova, headed by the Deputy Minister for Justice, Eduard Serbenco, commended the States members of the Human Rights Council for their recommendations, which had served as a great opportunity for the Republic of Moldova to scrutinize its progress in protecting and promoting human rights. The 209 recommendations made during the twenty-sixth session of the Working Group had served as an important assessment of the State's human rights obligations and commitments at the national level.

748. The delegation referred to the implementation of the second national human rights action plan for 2011–2014 and the fact that, following the second universal periodic review, the Government had launched an extensive process of drafting and promoting a new general human rights policy document dedicated to the implementation of the recommendations from the universal periodic review, as well as those of other international and regional bodies. The draft of the action plan was expected to undergo a consultation process and would be submitted to the Government for approval. A human rights secretariat would be created as the unit responsible for the coordination of the implementation and monitoring of the action plan and other international human rights recommendations.

749. The Republic of Moldova was committed to further strengthening the independence of the Ombudsman and the Council on the Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination and Ensuring Equality and to contributing to the consolidation of their institutional capacities.

750. Special attention would be paid to the activity of the National Preventive Mechanism against Torture to eradicate cases of ill-treatment, ensuring the fulfilment of criminal legislation purposes and the achievement of social equity.

751. The Republic of Moldova was considering the possibility of becoming a party to other major international human rights treaties. On 6 February 2017 it had signed the Istanbul Convention. The draft of a new strategy on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence for 2017–2021 was currently undergoing public consultation. The strategy for ensuring equality between women and men for 2017–2021, as well as the action plan for its implementation, had been approved by the Government on 9 March 2017.

752. A new strategy on the social inclusion of persons with disabilities for 2017–2021 had been drafted.

753. In the area of inter-ethnic relations and the protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, the new strategy for the consolidation of inter-ethnic relations for 2017–2027 had also been approved on 30 December 2016 by Government Decision No. 1464.

754. The impact of the justice sector reform strategy for 2011–2016 had been assessed by international partners and a new policy document would be promoted to ensure the continuity of justice sector reform to guarantee an accessible, efficient, independent and professional justice sector with high public accountability in line with European standards. Eliminating corruption and ensuring the rule of law were among the priorities of the Government.

755. The challenges faced by the Government regarding current detention conditions would be tackled by the new prison system development strategy for 2016–2020, and the action plan for its implementation had been approved on 30 December 2016.

756. Regarding the recommendations that had not enjoyed the support of the Republic of Moldova, the Deputy Minister of Justice explained that the Council on the Prevention and

Elimination of Discrimination and Ensuring Equality had a mandate to supervise all of the components of administrative offences involving discrimination. However, keeping in mind that non-discrimination policies were promoted through all of the national strategy documents, the development of a global strategy was considered groundless.

757. Despite the Government's commitment to ensure people's protection from torture and forced hospitalization and medication in psychiatric institutions, the enjoyment of rights and freedoms by persons suffering from mental disorders in psychiatric institutions remained an issue. The national legal framework and the practice would be reviewed in order to fully grant rights and freedoms to patients whose hospitalization and forced treatment were required.

758. The Republic of Moldova considered that the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families would not guarantee the legal status of its citizens abroad. The States that had ratified the Convention were not countries of destination for Moldovan nationals going to work abroad.

759. Even if the recommendation to ratify the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages had not enjoyed the support of the Republic of Moldova, comprehensive activities were carried out to ratify the treaty. The Charter's ratification was envisaged as a commitment in the draft of the new human rights action plan for 2017–2021.

760. The Republic of Moldova remained committed to ensuring freedom of expression online and offline and to personal data protection, to developing mechanisms to prevent and fight against all forms of exploitation, abuse and violence against children, to preventing and combating trafficking in persons by strengthening central and local capacities on new forms of online trafficking, and to identifying solutions for the improvement of the human rights situation in the Transnistrian region.

761. The Government appreciated the engagement of civil society as an active partner in the field of human rights.

762. The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations Office at Geneva, Tudor Ulianovschi, then reiterated the importance of the universal periodic review mechanism as one of the most successful State-driven processes of the United Nations system. He reiterated that, that year, the Republic of Moldova would be considered by five treaty monitoring bodies, namely the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee against Torture.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

763. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Republic of Moldova, 17 delegations made statements.

764. Maldives appreciated the support of the Republic of Moldova for its three recommendations and it noted the State's efforts to protect the rights of the child. Maldives was encouraged by the efforts of the Republic of Moldova to strengthen its legislative framework to combat torture and its commitment to create a new national human rights action plan that would strengthen the role of stakeholders in implementing human rights policies.

765. Pakistan commended the Republic of Moldova for having accepted the majority of the recommendations received, including those made by Pakistan. It welcomed the ratification of human rights instruments and the adoption of the strategy on inclusive diversity. It appreciated the work of the national councils for persons with disabilities and for children.

766. Paraguay congratulated the Republic of Moldova on having promoted policies that would reduce the youth unemployment rate, providing opportunities for young people to have access to work and would avoid the stigmatization of persons with disabilities and persons belonging to vulnerable groups. It recognized the efforts made by the Republic of Moldova to guarantee freedom of religion and belief without discrimination and without

legal preferences. It welcomed the State's commitments to continue to work with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

767. The Philippines commended the Republic of Moldova for its commitment to advance the promotion, protection and fulfilment of the human rights of its people by, among other things, promoting and ensuring gender equality and the education of children and young people with disabilities. It encouraged the Republic of Moldova to consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).

768. Romania noted that the overwhelming majority of the recommendations received had enjoyed the support of the Republic of Moldova and it was pleased to see that the State had supported both of its recommendations, namely to cooperate with human rights non-governmental organizations, in particular those involved in protecting human rights defenders, and to promote human rights in the region of Transnistria.

769. Sierra Leone was pleased to note that two of the recommendations it had made, including the recommendation to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, had enjoyed the support of the Republic of Moldova. It commended the State for its efforts to uphold human rights standards, notably the efforts to combat trafficking in persons, for the establishment of the law on the rehabilitation of victims of crime of 2016, and for the national strategies on child protection 2014–2020 and on combating violence against women and domestic violence. It encouraged the Republic of Moldova to consider establishing an independent national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles, or to strengthen the independence of the Office of the Ombudsman to that effect.

770. The Sudan congratulated the Republic of Moldova on its development since the first universal periodic review in 2011, particularly at the legislative and institutional level, and on the strategy on inclusive diversity for 2016–2026. The Sudan welcomed the fact that the Republic of Moldova had accepted the majority of the recommendations, including the four made by the Sudan.

771. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela stressed the fact that the national education system provided persons with disabilities with education at every level, including specialized assistance to children with disabilities. It appreciated the efforts made by the Republic of Moldova to overcome the obstacles to fully implement the recommendations it had accepted during the first universal periodic review.

772. Albania appreciated the fact that the Republic of Moldova had accepted the recommendations made by Albania, including the recommendations to establish an efficient mechanism to investigate and punish hate crimes and racial discrimination against minorities and vulnerable groups, and to ratify the Istanbul Convention. Albania recognized the efforts of the Republic of Moldova to continue to give due attention to the issue of the protection of the rights of migrant workers and members of their families.

773. Bulgaria appreciated the acceptance by the Republic of Moldova of its recommendations to further develop its policy on preserving and developing the cultural identity of persons belonging to national minorities and ethnic groups, to create mechanisms to prevent and fight all forms of exploitation, abuse and violence against children, and to strengthen the freedom of expression online and offline, as well as personal data protection. Bulgaria encouraged the State to further promote the linguistic rights of minorities and to strengthen the unity between various population groups in the country. It noted positively the fact that combating violence against women and domestic violence remained a priority for the Republic of Moldova and it encouraged the Government to sign the Istanbul Convention.

774. The Council of Europe stated that more could be done for the functioning of the judicial system, which needed to have its judges shielded from political influence. It referred to some worrying aspects, such as lengthy pretrial detentions, ineffective investigations and the failure to abide by final judgments. The discrimination of vulnerable groups was another challenge, marked by the absence of strong anti-discrimination legislation. The Council of Europe pointed to other challenges, such as impunity for ill-treatment, torture by law enforcement officials and poor prison conditions. It hoped that the

Republic of Moldova would soon ratify the Istanbul Convention and it invited the State to ratify the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

775. Estonia commended the Republic of Moldova for its commitment to strengthen gender equality and the empowerment of women, including by having accepted recommendations to ratify the Istanbul Convention and to take steps to prevent and prosecute cases of violence against women more effectively. Estonia was pleased to acknowledge that the Republic of Moldova had accepted recommendations to ratify the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court and the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on the crime of aggression. However, it regretted that the Republic of Moldova had not accepted several recommendations to amend the law on equality with the view of widening the list of possible discrimination criteria.

776. Georgia noted with appreciation the acceptance by the Republic of Moldova of a considerable majority of the recommendations, including the recommendations by Georgia, including one relating to the elaboration of a human rights monitoring mechanism in the Transnistrian region, which continued to represent a large gap from the human rights protection perspective.

777. Iraq thanked the Republic of Moldova for having accepted its recommendation to continue to strengthen the legal framework for combating torture, and it asked the State to continue to complete the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

778. Kyrgyzstan commended the Republic of Moldova for the acceptance of a number of recommendations. It highlighted the fact that the implementation of the recommendations would enhance the effectiveness of the protection of the rights of women and children, as well as the whole spectrum of human rights in general.

779. Libya commended the Republic of Moldova for its efforts to implement the recommendations accepted, including those made by Libya, which meant that the State regarded the universal periodic review process in a positive way.

780. Lithuania noted with appreciation the acceptance by the Republic of Moldova of a vast number of recommendations, in particular the recommendations to ratify the most important human rights treaties. It reiterated its support to further consolidate the rule of law in the Republic of Moldova. The independence of the judiciary and the freedom of the media were fundamental elements of a democratic society. Strengthening the fight against corruption, the independence of the judiciary and the law enforcement agencies were key aspects of a democratic society in accordance with international obligations. Lithuania welcomed the adoption of the strategy for the consolidation of inter-ethnic relations for 2017–2027.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

781. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Republic of Moldova, three other stakeholders made statements.

782. Advocates for Human Rights commended the State for its support of the recommendations on addressing the issue of domestic violence. It was concerned, however, that domestic violence continued to be a systemic problem in the Republic of Moldova. It called upon the State to identify specific actions that it would take and the funds that it would commit to implement the recommendations supported. Although it had signed the Istanbul Convention, the Republic of Moldova had not established a timeline for its ratification. It highlighted the fact that the Government had not yet adopted a comprehensive policy on violence against women that prevented, punished and eradicated those issues, especially in rural areas. It called upon the Government to collaborate with women's organizations to develop a concrete action plan to implement the recommendations accepted and to create specialized services for victims of domestic and sexual violence throughout the country.

783. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues and Promo-LEX were disappointed that the issue of the extensive use of pretrial detention had not been among the universal periodic review recommendations. The abusive use of pretrial detention remained a serious problem and courts routinely failed to provide relevant and sufficient reasoning to

support detention awaiting trial and limited themselves to abstract and stereotypical restatements of legal grounds of detention. According to data from the Ministry of Justice, 1,421 people were pending trial out of 7,892 detained in penitentiary system institutions. The organizations highlighted the fact that plans to reform the penitentiary system and to modernize prisons should include measures to reduce the excessively high number of pretrial detentions, which would have a direct impact on detention conditions, especially those relating to overcrowding.

784. Promo-LEX stated that there were specific challenges when protecting human rights in conflict zones and that the effective protection of civil society was extremely important when increased pressure on human rights defenders working in conflict zones was undermining human rights monitoring efforts. There was a need for special, strengthened protection for human rights defenders in such countries at the national level, and national level recognition and protection of human rights defenders was essential for ensuring a safe environment for their work. In the Transnistrian region, a breakaway region of the Republic of Moldova, human rights defenders, journalists, human rights activists and other civil society actors were being subjected to intimidation, harassment, restrictions on freedom of expression, association and movement, and arbitrary detention. Promo-LEX called upon the Republic of Moldova to ask that international partners, mediators and observers in the “5+2” format for negotiations on the Transnistrian settlement process intervene and request the de facto administration to immediately stop all persecution of human rights defenders in the Transnistrian region.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

785. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 209 recommendations received, 190 had enjoyed the support of the Republic of Moldova and 15 had been noted. Additional clarification had been provided on four recommendations, indicating which part of the recommendations had been supported and which part had been noted.

786. The Deputy Minister for Justice of the Republic of Moldova thanked the delegations that had made recommendations and the representatives of civil society who had taken the floor.

Haiti

787. The review of Haiti was held on 7 November 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Haiti in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/HTI/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/HTI/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/HTI/3).

788. At its 44th meeting, on 17 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Haiti (see sect. C below).

789. The outcome of the review of Haiti comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/14), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/14/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

790. The delegation of Haiti presented the State's positions on the recommendations made by 147 States on 9 November 2016. A total of 213 recommendations had been made, of which 175 had been provisionally supported, 5 were to be examined upon return to the country and 33 had been noted. A consultation workshop had been held in Port-au-Prince on 20 December 2016 to share information and collect the views of civil society and human rights organizations. As an outcome of that workshop, various suggestions of the participants had been taken into account and had led to an adjustment in the responses previously provided on certain recommendations. Therefore, Haiti was in a position to support 188 recommendations instead of 175 and to note 25 recommendations instead of 33.

791. The delegation reaffirmed the commitment of Haiti to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights. The regular submission of its reports to the treaty bodies and to human rights mechanisms, such as the universal periodic review, attested to that commitment since the establishment of the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights in 2012. Moreover, the universal periodic reviews of Haiti in 2011 and 2016 provided further testimony of that commitment. In 2014, Haiti had ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the initial report was currently being drafted.

792. There were different reasons for Haiti having noted certain recommendations; some of them had been deemed already implemented, while for others, legislation was foreseen for their implementation.

793. The ratification of an international convention often required follow-up measures and actions, as well as a certain harmonization with Haitian culture, which, in addition to its economic, social and cultural constraints, were the reasons why Haiti was not in a position to become party to all international human rights instruments, as had been recommended.

794. Haiti had committed to ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty in order to protect Haitians living in countries where the death penalty was still in force.

795. With regard to the ratification of the Rome Statute, Haitian legislation already contained provisions that allowed for the prosecution of violations qualified as crimes against humanity and therefore, for the moment, Haiti did not consider it necessary to ratify that instrument.

796. With regard to issuing a standing invitation to special procedures, Haiti was never opposed to visits of mandate holders and would continue welcoming them.

797. Regarding combating discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation or gender identity, Haiti noted that the Constitution guaranteed the unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, without distinction on the basis of sex, race or culture.

798. Haiti had made every effort to provide identification documentation to Haitians living in the Dominican Republic, as well as to negotiate conditions of repatriation. On the latter, Haiti requested that the memorandum of understanding with the Dominican Republic on repatriation mechanisms of 1999 be revised.

799. Legislation already set the minimum age of civil and political majority at 18 years. Article 144 of the Civil Code prohibited civil registrars from marrying boys or girls who were not yet 18 years without the consent of their parents. The Constitution of 29 March 1987 endorsed that disposition in its article 16.2, holding that "the age of majority is set at 18 years" and in article 17 "from the age of 18 Haitians, without distinction of sex or marital status, can exercise their civil and political rights if they satisfy the other conditions in Constitution and Law".

800. The delegation referred to the recommendation to end all forced evictions from displacement camps and establish an official moratorium on mass eviction until all legal and procedural safeguards compliant with international human rights standards were in place. It highlighted the fact that Haiti did not encourage forced evictions and made constant efforts to prevent them. It had issued instructions to the 18 government commissioners requesting that the execution of judicial decisions of forced evictions be prevented. Owing to its socioeconomic difficulties, Haiti was not in a position to guarantee fully the rights of expelled persons from third countries.

801. Regarding the five recommendations on which Haiti had not taken a position and based on the consultations with civil society on 20 December 2016, three recommendations had been supported: two to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the other to update the memorandum of understanding with the Dominican Republic on repatriation mechanisms in accordance with international standards and norms. The two other recommendations to introduce legislation criminalizing the practice of placing children from poor families in domestic services and to speed up the procedure to adopt a law against the high rate of pregnancy among adolescent girls had been noted.

802. The delegation highlighted the fact that, despite the country's difficult situation following the passage of Hurricane Matthew, which had devastated the departments of South, Grande-Anse and Nippes, and the post-electoral crisis, significant advances in human rights had been made.

803. The electoral process that started in May 2015 had resulted in the holding of free, fair and democratic presidential, legislative and municipal elections. Haiti had finally returned to constitutional order with the swearing in on 7 February 2017 of President-elect Jovenel Moïse.

804. Contrary to the forty-ninth legislature, in which the Senate did not have any female representative, the current legislature (the fiftieth) counted one female representative in the Senate and three in the National Assembly. Even if minimal, Haiti underlined the importance of that progress.

805. On 29 January 2017, local government elections and the second round of legislative elections had been held. The most recent local government elections, which should take place every four years, had been held in 2006.

806. On 1 February 2017, Parliament had ratified the Paris Agreement, adopted during the twenty-first session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and it had thus become part of national legislation.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

807. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Haiti, 15 delegations made statements.¹⁴

808. Brazil praised Haiti for its commitment to a transparent, fruitful and timely review, even in the face of the tragedy resulting from the passage of Hurricane Matthew. It was confident that Haiti would make its best efforts to foster resilience to natural disasters. It praised the recent efforts to enhance living conditions among the poorest and the implementation of a comprehensive strategy on social assistance, as well as the State's respect for the rights to freedom of opinion and expression and peaceful assembly.

809. Burundi welcomed the measures envisaged by Haiti to raise awareness among the population about their rights and duties, the elaboration of its national human rights plan and the establishment of the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights. It noted the measures adopted to combat corruption, notably the adoption of laws to prevent and punish corruption, money-laundering and the financing of terrorism. It welcomed the development of a national strategic development plan aimed at improving education, access to health and preparedness to natural disasters. It was pleased to note the establishment of a legal affairs directorate and an office to combat violence against women and girls.

810. The Congo congratulated Haiti on the significant institutional and legal progress, which would strengthen its cooperation with the treaty bodies and consolidate national mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights. It welcomed the State's willingness to implement progressively its development strategy and the promotion of human rights. It invited the international community to assist Haiti with the implementation of the recommendations supported.

¹⁴ The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/34thSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

811. Cuba welcomed the efforts made by Haiti to provide effective human rights protection for its people. According to Cuba, the commitment of Haiti to the universal periodic review had been demonstrated by the State's acceptance of the majority of the recommendations. Cuba reaffirmed its support for Haiti and invited the international community to provide the assistance necessary to improve the human rights situation, particularly the right to development.

812. Ecuador appreciated the fact that Haiti had accepted the recommendations received during the universal periodic review and it expressed its conviction that their implementation would have positive effects on the human rights of Haitians. It acknowledged the challenges faced by Haiti, including those due to natural disasters, and it encouraged the international community, while fully respecting the State's sovereignty and self-determination, to continue to support the Government and the people of Haiti in their national efforts.

813. Ghana urged the international community to lend support to the areas outlined in the national report of Haiti, namely to increase the size of the police force, to reform the justice system, to build new prisons, to establish a legal aid system and to eradicate illiteracy and gender inequality in education. Technical assistance and capacity-building support for Haiti would place the country on a new trajectory to protect and promote human rights and the rule of law.

814. Iraq expressed its appreciation to Haiti for having taken part in the universal periodic review and having responded positively to the recommendation made by Iraq requesting that Haiti adhere to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and pursue efforts to support women's rights and facilitate their participation in decision-making.

815. Madagascar welcomed the fruitful collaboration of Haiti with the Human Rights Council mechanisms, considering the significant number of recommendations it had supported. It welcomed the Government's concerted efforts to promote and protect human rights, despite the natural disasters it had faced in recent years, and notably the establishment of a ministry responsible for human rights and combating discrimination against women and girls.

816. Peru congratulated Haiti on its electoral process resulting in the election of Jovenel Moïse. It took note that Haiti had accepted the majority of the recommendations received during the review but it regretted that the State had not accepted those made by Peru, which it had made in the utmost constructive spirit and without infringing on any rules adopted by member States.

817. Nigeria commended Haiti for its continued engagement and cooperation with the treaty bodies and its cooperation with the universal periodic review mechanism, despite the challenges posed by the need to rebuild after the earthquake. It acknowledged the State's political will to improve its human rights situation and it was pleased to note the ratification by Haiti of many human rights instruments with a view to strengthening the already existing institutions to promote and protect human rights and democracy. Nigeria urged technical support for the Government to overcome the current challenges of Haiti.

818. Pakistan commended Haiti for having accepted the majority of the recommendations. It appreciated the fact that Haiti had made efforts to promote and protect the rights of its citizens, including women, children and persons with disabilities. It wished Haiti success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

819. Paraguay welcomed the acceptance by Haiti of the majority of the recommendations made by Paraguay, notably those relating to the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol and the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), the full functioning of national governmental institutions, including electoral and parliamentary systems, and the strengthening of the gender focus in its legislation. Paraguay stressed the importance of issuing invitations to different special procedures.

820. Maldives welcomed the measures taken by Haiti to protect and promote children's rights. It particularly commended the State for those measures taken to ensure the provision of free education, which had benefited 1 million children. It appreciated the efforts made

towards disaster risk management. It further appreciated the State's support of the three recommendations made by Maldives during the review.

821. The Philippines appreciated the support of Haiti for a large number of the recommendations received, including those made by the Philippines, namely to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189). It commended Haiti for having enacted reforms to its justice system and having taken measures to tackle corruption, trafficking in persons, violence against women and girls, and child abuse. It welcomed the strategic development plan, addressing among others the areas of education, health and housing, providing the population with safe drinking water and sanitation services, and improving the management of solid waste during natural disasters.

822. Sierra Leone commended Haiti for its efforts to improve literacy nationwide and to put in place free schooling policies to benefit 1 million children. It noted the establishment of a second national plan to combat violence against women and girls. It encouraged Haiti to expedite the implementation of the strategic development plan and the Child Protection Code, and to establish legal norms protecting women and girls from sexual exploitation and forced and arranged marriages.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

823. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Haiti, eight other stakeholders made statements.

824. In reference to the recommendations supported by Haiti to cooperate with civil society organizations and to implement a national human rights action plan, Franciscans International, in a joint statement with the International Commission of Jurists and the International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, underlined the importance of human rights organizations contributing to the development and implementation of an action plan on human rights. In that regard and in making reference to the intention of Haiti not to support the renewal of the mandate of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti, it conveyed the disagreement and dismay of Haitian civil society organizations at not having been consulted before the Government had taken such a decision, considered as a fundamental element in any action plan on human rights. It called upon Haiti to consult Haitian civil society before deciding to withdraw support for the mandate of the Independent Expert.

825. Amnesty International underlined the significance of the acceptance by Haiti of recommendations to ratify the United Nations statelessness conventions and it urged Haiti to work closely with the Government of the Dominican Republic to restore Dominican nationality to those arbitrarily deprived of it in 2013. It urged Haiti to adopt and implement the draft nationality law. It welcomed the acceptance by Haiti of recommendations to protect human rights defenders, to investigate thoroughly all allegations of harassment, threats and attacks against them, and to bring those responsible to account. It also welcomed the State's support of a recommendation to investigate and sanction violence based on sexual orientation, but it regretted that recommendations to combat gender stereotypes had been noted. In the context of the precariousness of the right to adequate housing, Amnesty International regretted that Haiti had not supported recommendations to protect the rights of displaced persons. It called upon Haiti to urgently implement the national policy on housing and habitat.

826. Advocates for Human Rights commended Haiti for having supported recommendations that addressed women's human rights, such as those relating to reforms to promote gender equality and combat stereotypes, assistance for domestic violence victims and increasing women's access to decision-making positions. It also commended Haiti for having accepted the recommendation to expedite the adoption of the Child Protection Code. It expressed concern that the recommendation to eliminate violence against women had been noted. It urged Haiti to continue to address violence against women and girls, to commit to promoting gender equality and increase access to high-quality education opportunities for women and girls, and to work with civil society.

827. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme remained concerned about the mass evictions from camps for internally displaced persons, food insecurity, the absence of a law criminalizing rape, domestic, sexual and sexist violence, gender-based

discrimination, illegal detention, extreme poverty, and the situation of disadvantaged children in rural areas or their placement as domestic workers in living conditions tantamount to slavery. It urged Haiti to take additional measures to strengthen the law and increase legal assistance to vulnerable groups, improve conditions of detention, investigate cases of violations of the rights of women and girls in camps for internally displaced persons, and improve access to education, drinking water and sanitation to prevent the spread of disease.

828. Human Rights Watch continued to have deep concerns about the dire public health conditions among the most marginalized and vulnerable individuals and it indicated that the Government's commitment to adopt, support and enforce guidelines for water and sanitation in all schools was crucial. With regard to the impacts of the migration policies of the Dominican Republic, Human Rights Watch made reference to its visit in September 2016 and the reported high levels of food insecurity. Haiti should establish information desks to offer advice to stateless persons residing in Haiti. Human Rights Watch made reference to many human rights challenges remaining, including overcrowding and poor health in prisons, insufficient protection of child labourers, women and human rights defenders, and the need to secure justice for victims of the Duvalier Administration. It expressed deep concern about indications that Haiti might no longer fully support the mandate of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti and it urged full consultation with civil society before any decision in that regard was taken.

829. Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco noted that, despite the efforts of Haiti, there continued to be deficiencies in the education system, such as a lack of training and motivation of teachers, who received little remuneration, and the linking of the quality of education to the economic situation of families, given that the majority of children were in private schools. It highlighted the fact that serious discrimination persisted against children with mental or physical disabilities, street children and children called "*restavèk*". It urged Haiti to intensify efforts to eradicate all forms of discrimination against children, guaranteeing them equal opportunities and access to basic services and quality education.

830. Centre pour les droits civils et politiques encouraged Haiti to implement the strategic development plan and to establish a national action plan on human rights based on universal periodic review recommendations. Haiti continued to face extreme poverty, which had further deteriorated with the passage of Hurricane Matthew. It called upon the international community to respect its commitments and involve all actors, including civil society. It expressed concern about the high incidence of deaths in detention, with 42 cases since the beginning of the year. It underlined the fact that, in addition to ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol, Haiti should create detention conditions that respected physical integrity and human dignity, in conformity with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) and the recommendations of the Human Rights Committee. The recommendations should be translated into the local language and widely disseminated and local authorities should be involved in their implementation.

831. The Center for Global Nonkilling commended Haiti for its decision to support instead of note the recommendations to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. It thanked Haiti for its recommendation to Iceland concerning a universal basic income. It further thanked Haiti for its recommendation to Nepal concerning the prevention and reduction of the number of suicides.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

832. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 213 recommendations received, 188 had enjoyed the support of Haiti and 25 had been noted.

833. The delegation thanked all the delegations for having commended the efforts of Haiti to protect and promote human rights. It highlighted the current Government's commitment to continue to engage fully with the human rights mechanisms, to implement

fully the 188 recommendations that had enjoyed the State's support, and to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for the full realization of human rights.

South Sudan

834. The review of South Sudan was held on 7 November 2016 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Human Rights Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by South Sudan in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/SSD/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/SSD/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 (A/HRC/WG.6/26/SSD/3).

835. At its 44th meeting, on 17 March 2017, the Human Rights Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of South Sudan (see sect. C below).

836. The outcome of the review of South Sudan comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/34/13), the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the Human Rights Council in plenary session to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/34/13/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions, its voluntary commitments and the outcome

837. The delegation of South Sudan, headed by the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs, thanked the Human Rights Council, the countries that had made recommendations, the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and members of the troika for having facilitated the first review of South Sudan. South Sudan was aware that the universal periodic review was one of the essential mechanisms for the promotion and improvement of human rights and it would therefore endeavour to implement the recommendations it had supported. The delegation highlighted the fact that South Sudan had had its first universal periodic review in November 2016 and had received 233 recommendations, out of which, after consultations, 203 had enjoyed the support of South Sudan and 30 had been noted.

838. With respect to the recommendations to ratify the core international human rights conventions, the delegation stressed the fact that South Sudan had already acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its optional protocols, and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. South Sudan was committed to continuing to work towards acceding to other major international conventions relating to human rights.

839. The Government of South Sudan would continue to implement the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, signed in August 2015, by carrying out the necessary institutional reforms stipulated in it, particularly the reforms relating to organized forces, law enforcement institutions and the criminal justice system. South Sudan would also continue its efforts to harmonize its laws and customs with international human rights standards, with the aim of empowering women and protecting children.

840. The implementation of the recommendations supported, which included institutional reforms and the capacity-building of human resources, entailed the availability of sufficient resources, for which South Sudan would surely be in need of technical assistance.

841. The delegation expressed the gratitude of South Sudan to OHCHR for the training provided to two South Sudanese officials on the national mechanism for reporting and

follow-up, and it hoped that additional trainings would be offered on different mechanisms in all fields of human rights.

842. South Sudan had further accepted the recommendation on the rights of all citizens to education by having made basic education compulsory and free. For that purpose, it had established an alternative education system, which was to provide basic adult accelerated learning programmes, a community school programme for girls, a pastoralist education programme, and an intensive English course for children demobilized from the army and other armed groups. There was a need for resources in order to continue to meet the goal to provide more education to the citizens.

843. South Sudan understood and appreciated the fact that freedom of expression was a fundamental right. Therefore, it was endeavouring to improve the enjoyment of that right by citizens.

2. Views expressed by member and observer States of the Human Rights Council on the review outcome

844. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of South Sudan, 16 delegations made statement.¹⁴

845. Maldives noted the efforts of South Sudan to promote and protect the human rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children and persons with special needs. It appreciated the establishment of the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare and the establishment of a framework to mainstream gender issues. It was pleased to note that its own recommendations had been accepted.

846. Nigeria noted the Government's continuous efforts, despite the challenges, to strengthen legal and security institutions and to find a lasting solution to the security challenges faced by South Sudan. It believed that providing assistance for capacity-building in criminal investigation and judicial processes would go a long way in the promotion and protection of human rights in South Sudan.

847. Pakistan commended South Sudan for its acceptance of the majority of the recommendations, including its own. It welcomed the promulgation of the Transitional Constitution and it wished South Sudan success in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

848. The Philippines noted that the current review was the first review of South Sudan as an independent State and it appreciated the challenges South Sudan faced. It thanked the State for having supported its own recommendation and it noted the cooperation of South Sudan with the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan. It commended the State for the accession to various regional and international conventions and it hoped that South Sudan would consider ratifying others.

849. Sierra Leone was pleased that its recommendation to establish the hybrid court and a commission for truth, reconciliation and healing had been supported. It urged South Sudan, *inter alia*, to cooperate fully with the African Union and United Nations in furthering sustainable peace and to strengthen efforts to prevent the recruitment of child soldiers.

850. South Africa considered that South Sudan should be afforded the space, technical support and capacity-building assistance to give effect to its obligations under the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan of 2015. It encouraged the State to carefully and correctly sequence the various components of the peace agreement, according to domestic imperatives, while maintaining its cooperation with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

851. The Sudan appreciated the commitment of South Sudan to the universal periodic review and the ratification of many regional and international human rights core conventions, such as the two International Covenants on Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It noted that South Sudan had accepted most of the recommendations made during the review, including its own three recommendations.

852. Togo welcomed the enactment of laws by South Sudan since independence, which had incorporated the provisions of 11 regional instruments into domestic legislation, as well as the accession to numerous international instruments. It called upon the international

community to intensify its cooperation with and support for South Sudan in the implementation of the recommendations accepted.

853. UNICEF considered that following the accession of South Sudan to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Child Act should be reviewed and the rights of children should be realized through the implementation of the provisions in the Convention. The legislation to govern birth registration remained pending in Parliament. UNICEF was concerned about the high levels of grave child rights violations being committed by parties to the conflict. It continued to advocate, inter alia, the Government's implementation of its commitments to the action plan to stop the recruitment of child soldiers.

854. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed developments, including the steps towards the establishment of a commission for truth, reconciliation and healing. It urged that the national dialogue process be inclusive. It remained concerned by the levels of sexual and ethnic violence committed by all sides and it called for accountability for those crimes. It was concerned about threats to freedom of expression and the increased harassment and detention of journalists.

855. The United States of America welcomed the acceptance of its recommendation to fulfil the obligation to cooperate fully in establishing the hybrid court for South Sudan and it underscored the importance of accountability. It was concerned that the State's obstruction of the Regional Protection Force continued. It hoped that, in the future, South Sudan would establish an open consultative process for drafting and ratifying a new constitution.

856. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela appreciated the efforts of South Sudan to cooperate with the universal periodic review and to implement the recommendations accepted. It highlighted the fact that, despite the conflict, the Government had managed to distribute 1,000 tractors, as well as other equipment and animals, and had provided training to farmers. It recognized the efforts of South Sudan to fulfil its human rights commitments.

857. Albania encouraged South Sudan to further strengthen its cooperation with human rights mechanisms, including the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan. It appreciated the acceptance of its recommendations, but noted that South Sudan was still considering its recommendation to complete the ratification process for two optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.

858. Algeria welcomed such measures as the promulgation of the Transitional Constitution and the establishment of the Transitional Government of National Unity. It reiterated its call for all parties to work together to find a political solution to the crisis and to support the related efforts of the United Nations and the African Union. It noted the acceptance of most of the recommendations, including its own recommendations.

859. Angola invited the Human Rights Council to continue to provide South Sudan with all assistance necessary to implement the recommendations. It encouraged South Sudan to continue its efforts to promote and protect human rights by ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. It supported the commitments of South Sudan to protect girls in the fight against sexual exploitation.

860. Botswana commended South Sudan for its cooperation with the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, despite the challenging political situation, and it welcomed the State's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

3. General comments made by other stakeholders

861. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of South Sudan, eight other stakeholders made statements.¹⁵

862. Article 19: International Centre against Censorship stated that, since December 2013, many journalists had been murdered, abducted, tortured or forcibly disappeared. It was seriously concerned about the findings of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan that many of those violations had been at the hands of State security agencies. It regretted the recommendation to notify the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the status of judicial inquiries into the murder of journalists had not been supported. More than seven media outlets had been forcibly closed, with only two having reopened, and many had had their publications confiscated. It was concerned that the Directorate of Information regularly interfered with editorial independence. It welcomed commitments to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to harmonize national legislation with the international obligations of the Government, which required the reform of the National Security Services Act. It was also encouraged by commitments to ensure civil society space but it indicated that that would require the authorities to desist from harassing non-governmental organizations and to reform the Non-Governmental Organizations Act of 2015. Reforms to the Broadcasting Corporation Act and the Media Authority Act were necessary.

863. Advocates for Human Rights was disappointed that South Sudan had not supported important recommendations relating to the death penalty. Despite having accepted a recommendation from Italy in 2011 to implement a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty, South Sudan had not implemented the moratorium. It urged the States Members of the United Nations that had made recommendations concerning the death penalty and denial of fair trial and due process rights to continue to monitor those issues and to press South Sudan to institute reforms in capital cases. It called upon South Sudan to reconsider its position on the recommendations concerning the death penalty and to immediately institute and maintain a moratorium on all executions; to provide access to qualified counsel in all capital cases and increase public information and transparency about policies and practices relating to the use of the death penalty; to provide notification when executions were set to occur; and to make publicly available all judicial decisions regarding death sentences and decisions by the President to confirm or commute death sentences.

864. The East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, in a joint statement with CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, stated that it had very little to welcome with regard to the universal periodic review process of South Sudan. Out of 33 recommendations made to improve the catastrophic human rights situation, only four had been accepted. It was dismayed that, for the first time since the creation of the universal periodic review process, no local civil society organization had been able to participate in the pre-session of the universal periodic review. South Sudanese human rights defenders had been intimidated in the corridors of the Palais des Nations, prevented from boarding a flight to Geneva at gunpoint, threatened after having met with the Security Council in Juba, and regularly prevented from cooperating with international mechanisms. The universal periodic review process was meant to create an opportunity for dialogue and collaboration between civil society and the Government; however, South Sudan was demonstrating persistent non-cooperation with that important mechanism. It reiterated its deepest concern that South Sudanese human rights defenders faced intimidation, torture, death or exile for working on transitional justice and human rights.

865. Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue appreciated that South Sudan had accepted the recommendations contained in paragraphs 126.4–126.19 on the resolution of the armed conflict, the ending of the war, and the consolidation of the measures necessary to implement the peace process. It also welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations relating to the creation of the hybrid court to combat impunity for human rights violations. However, it requested clarification of the State's position on

¹⁵ The statements of the stakeholders that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints are posted, if available, on the extranet of the Human Rights Council at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/34thSession/Pages/default.aspx>.

recommendations relating to the ratification of human rights treaties, namely those contained in paragraphs 126.1, 128.6 and 129.1. It also expressed concern about the State's conditional support for recommendations relating to the recruitment of children, crimes of rape, violence against women and war crimes, stating that what South Sudan required was political will, not technical assistance. It requested South Sudan to review its position on the recommendations it had noted, particularly those contained in paragraphs 128.40, 128.41, 128.43 and 128.44. It recommended that South Sudan create a national follow-up system for monitoring those recommendations, have civil society included in such a national follow-up system, and present an interim report after one year at the thirty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council.

866. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme stated that it had little to say regarding the human rights situation in South Sudan, given that everyone knew what was happening in the country, a country that had been plunged, by its leaders, into a climate of genocidal civil strife, impunity and the weaponization of gender-based violence. Its conclusion was that there were no guarantees as to how the recommendations accepted would be implemented. It urged the leaders of South Sudan to comprehensively and effectively engage in national reconciliation to assure durable peace in the country while drawing on the lessons of the tragedy of Darfur. It equally called upon the moral duty of the international community to engage concretely in putting an end to the deadly violence in South Sudan as soon as possible.

867. The International Service for Human Rights noted that South Sudan had received four specific and critical recommendations to protect human rights defenders. Journalists and the political opposition were threatened and attacked for criticizing the Government, and concern in that regard was reflected in five recommendations on freedom of expression and in seven recommendations calling for the protection of journalists. It was also deeply concerned about the lack of progress in establishing the hybrid court, despite 10 recommendations calling for its immediate establishment. It also expressed concern about the attempt to condition the acceptance of some recommendations. The obligation to respect and protect the rights to life and to liberty and security of the person was not an obligation that was resource contingent or subject to progressive realization. It urged the States that had highlighted the protection of human rights defenders and civil society space in the review of South Sudan to support a resolution that renewed and strengthened the mandate of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, including the identification of alleged human rights perpetrators, with a particular focus on attacks or reprisals against human rights defenders.

868. The Lutheran World Federation reiterated its support and desire to collaborate with South Sudan to ensure the implementation of the recommendations. It looked forward to working with South Sudan in providing immediate assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons and expediting the implementation of the transitional justice and reconciliation provision of the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan. It would, together with its partners, continue to provide platforms for key government and non-governmental stakeholders to come together and collectively devise strategies to amicably and tangibly address those issues and promote dialogue as a means to overcome political difference. It called upon South Sudan to continue to work closely with all national stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the recommendations, to provide support and cooperation in its facilitation of humanitarian assistance for internally displaced persons and refugees, and to ease bureaucratic obstacles and guarantee safety and security for civilians and humanitarian workers. It called upon the international community to provide the support and resources necessary for South Sudan to realize human rights for its citizens.

869. Human Rights Watch stated that, five years after independence, South Sudan was mired in a highly abusive and increasingly complex civil war. The Government continued to allow its forces to carry out serious abuses across the country. Both sides blocked humanitarian assistance to people in need, and the United Nations had declared a famine in parts of Unity State in February. Armed soldiers attacked humanitarian sites, including United Nations protection sites, refugee camps and international aid compounds. Human Rights Watch recommended that the Government of South Sudan stop all unlawful attacks on civilians and investigate and prosecute all alleged violations, particularly with respect to sexual violence, as a matter of great urgency, and accept the recommendations that Human Rights Watch had made to end the abuse and create conditions conducive for the return of

displaced persons. It also recommended that South Sudan proactively support the establishment of the hybrid court and show concrete progress in holding its own abusive forces to account, that it end its repressive practices, releasing detainees and ordering security officials to cease all harassment of independent civil society, and that it implement the recommendations to review and reform key laws and abusive institutions, such as the National Security Service.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

870. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 233 recommendations received, 203 had enjoyed the support of South Sudan and 30 had been noted.

871. The delegation stated that it had noted the concerns expressed by the speakers about the insecurity of children, especially by UNICEF, the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Government was aware of the situation and endeavouring to make children safe under the difficult circumstances that the country was experiencing.

872. Regarding the hybrid court for South Sudan, the delegation reiterated that the court should be initiated by the African Union, which should appoint the judges and prosecutors and issue a memorandum of understanding. South Sudan was expected to domesticate the memorandum of understanding. South Sudan had not yet received an official written communication from the African Union or a memorandum of understanding.

873. The delegation confirmed that South Sudan had accepted the establishment of a Regional Protection Force, which would be composed of 4,000 military personnel and whose arrival in the country was being facilitated by the United Nations Mission in South Sudan. It noted that an advance group was already in Juba.

874. All of the recommendations had been thoroughly considered by the authorities, who had welcomed the spirit in which they had been made and which had allowed them to indicate the measures taken in the field of the promotion and protection of human rights. Although South Sudan had not accepted all of the recommendations, the delegation stressed that that should not be taken as a lack of political will or commitment to human rights, but rather as a reflection of the current national situation and context.

875. The delegation stressed that South Sudan took the improvement of human rights seriously and it therefore would engage with all stakeholders, including civil society. The improvement of human rights was an ongoing process and the Government was fully committed to cooperating with the international community and all human rights mechanisms established by the Human Rights Council. South Sudan was aware that the recommendations made under that constructive dialogue mechanism would contribute positively to the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.

B. General debate on agenda item 6

876. At the 45th meeting, on 17 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 6, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, China, Cuba (on behalf of Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe), Georgia, Iraq (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Malta¹⁶ (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine), Switzerland, Tunisia (also on behalf of the Group of African States), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Côte

¹⁶ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the Netherlands, Ukraine, Uruguay and Zambia), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Malaysia, Montenegro, Morocco, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, Conectas Direitos Humanos, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, Indian Council of South America, International Educational Development, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Iraqi Development Organization, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Tourner la page, United Nations Watch, UPR Info, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Muslim Congress.

877. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Togo

878. At its 40th meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/101 without a vote.

Syrian Arab Republic

879. At its 40th meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/102 without a vote.

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

880. At its 40th meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/103 without a vote.

Iceland

881. At its 41st meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/104 without a vote.

Zimbabwe

882. At its 41st meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/105 without a vote.

Lithuania

883. At its 41st meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/106 without a vote.

Uganda

884. At its 42nd meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/107 without a vote.

Timor-Leste

885. At its 42nd meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/108 without a vote.

Republic of Moldova

886. At its 42nd meeting, on 16 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/109 without a vote.

Haiti

887. At its 44th meeting, on 17 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/110 without a vote.

South Sudan

888. At its 44th meeting, on 17 March 2017, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 34/111 without a vote.

VII. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

A. Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967

889. At the 46th meeting, on 20 March 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, Michael Lynk, presented his report (A/HRC/34/70) (by video message).

890. At the same meeting, the representative of the State of Palestine made a statement as the State concerned.

891. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Iraq (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Pakistan¹⁶ (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Tunisia (also on behalf of the Group of African States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Bahrain, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Namibia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust, Norwegian Refugee Council, Palestinian Return Centre, United Nations Watch, World Jewish Congress.

892. At the same meeting, the representative of the State of Palestine made final remarks as the State concerned.

B. Reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary-General

893. At the 46th meeting, on 20 March 2017, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions S-9/1 and S-12/1, the report on the implementation of Council resolutions S-9/1 and S-21/1 (A/HRC/34/36).

894. The High Commissioner also presented the report of the Secretary-General on the human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem (A/HRC/34/38), the report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/HRC/34/37 and Corr.1), and the report of the Secretary-General on Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/HRC/34/39). Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 31/35, the High Commissioner presented an oral update on the progress of the comprehensive review on the status of the recommendations addressed to all parties since 2009.

C. General debate on agenda item 7

895. At its 46th and 47th meetings, on 20 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 7, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bahrain¹⁶ (also on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States),

Nicaragua¹⁶ (also on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe), Pakistan¹⁶ (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Tunisia (also on behalf of the Group of African States), United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Chile, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sweden, Turkey, Uruguay, Yemen;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-Haq, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, American Association of Jurists, Amuta for NGO Responsibility, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, European Union of Jewish Students, Human Rights Watch, Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International-Lawyers.Org, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Meezaan Center for Human Rights, Norwegian Refugee Council, Palestinian Return Centre, Union of Arab Jurists, United Nations Watch, Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress.

D. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan

896. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.11, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation, and co-sponsored by Cuba, Maldives and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Angola, Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cabo Verde, Chile, Ecuador and Thailand joined the sponsors.

897. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a general comment on the draft resolution.

898. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements as the States concerned.

899. At the same meeting, the representatives of Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and Paraguay made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

900. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Congo, Croatia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Slovenia, Switzerland

901. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 26 votes to 3, with 18 abstentions (resolution 34/27).

Ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

902. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.38, sponsored by Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) and the State of Palestine, and co-sponsored by Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Cuba, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Maldives, Namibia, Nicaragua, Switzerland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe. Subsequently, Angola, Cabo Verde, Ecuador, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa and Sweden joined the sponsors.

903. At the same meeting, the representative of Ecuador made a general comment on the draft resolution.

904. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the State of Palestine made a statement as the State concerned.

905. At the same meeting, the representative of the Netherlands, also on behalf of Germany, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

906. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Togo, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Croatia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, India, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Rwanda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

907. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 30 votes to 2, with 15 abstentions (resolution 34/28).

Right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

908. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.39, sponsored by Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) and the State of Palestine, and co-sponsored by Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Cuba, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Maldives, Namibia, Nicaragua, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine. Subsequently, Angola, Austria, Belarus,

Botswana, Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

909. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Togo, United States of America

Abstaining:

Panama, Paraguay

910. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 43 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions (resolution 34/29).

Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

911. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.40, sponsored by Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) and the State of Palestine, and co-sponsored by Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Cuba, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Maldives, Namibia, Nicaragua, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe. Subsequently, Angola, Cabo Verde, Ecuador, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa and Sweden joined the sponsors.

912. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany, on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council, made a general comment on the draft resolution.

913. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Togo, United States of America

Abstaining:

Congo, Panama, Paraguay, Rwanda

914. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 41 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions (resolution 34/30).

Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan

915. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.41/Rev.1, sponsored by Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) and the State

of Palestine, and co-sponsored by Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Cuba, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Maldives, Namibia, Nicaragua, South Africa, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe. Subsequently, Angola, Botswana, Cabo Verde, Ecuador, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

916. At the same meeting, the representative of Pakistan orally revised the draft resolution.

917. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

918. At the same meeting, the representative of the Netherlands, also on behalf of Germany, made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised.

919. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Togo, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Croatia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Panama, Paraguay, Rwanda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

920. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised by 36 votes to 2, with 9 abstentions (resolution 34/31).

VIII. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

A. General debate on agenda item 8

921. At its 47th and 48th meetings, on 20 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 8, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria¹⁷ (also on behalf of Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Ecuador, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, South Africa, Timor-Leste, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe), Belgium (also on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Namibia, Portugal, Spain and Uruguay), Canada¹⁷ (also on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ukraine, the United States of America and Uruguay), Chile¹⁷ (also on behalf of Denmark, Ecuador, Luxembourg, Portugal, Rwanda and Uruguay), China (also on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cameroon, the Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Sudan, the Sudan, Thailand, Togo, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe), India, Italy¹⁷ (on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Columbia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Fiji, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Portugal, Rwanda, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay), Malta¹⁷ (on behalf of the European Union), Netherlands, Pakistan¹⁷ (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), South Africa, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Libya, Morocco, Russian Federation, Sudan;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Alliance Creative Community Project, Alsalam Foundation, American Association of Jurists (on behalf of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers), Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amuta for NGO Responsibility, ANAJA – l'Éternel a répondu, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Canners International Permanent Committee,

¹⁷ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Center for Inquiry, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, Centro Regional de Derechos Humanos y Justicia de Género (also on behalf of the Colombian Commission of Jurists, Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, the International Catholic Child Bureau, the International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development, the Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, the Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund, the Teresian Association and the World Organization against Torture), Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conectas Direitos Humanos, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development, European Union of Public Relations, France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Indian Council of South America, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International-Lawyers.Org, International Service for Human Rights, Iraqi Development Organization, Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Liberation, Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life Education Fund, Observatoire mauritanien des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie, Organisation internationale pour le développement intégral de la femme, Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Prahar, Stichting International Center for Ethnobotanical Education, Research and Service, Tourner la page, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, Victorious Youths Movement, World Barua Organization, World Environment and Resources Council, World Muslim Congress.

922. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

IX. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

A. Debate on racial profiling and incitement to hatred

923. At its 43rd meeting, on 17 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 71/181, a debate on the state of racial discrimination worldwide, at the occasion of the commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

924. The Director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division of OHCHR made an opening statement for the debate. The Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Anastasia Crickley, moderated the debate.

925. At the same meeting, the following panellists made statements: journalist and filmmaker, Rokhaya Diallo; Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, Mutuma Ruteere; Senior Advisor on ethnic profiling and police reform at the Open Society Justice Initiative, Rachel Neild; Senior Programme Manager for Social Research, Equality and Citizens' Rights Department at the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Miltos Pavlou. The Human Rights Council divided the debate into two speaking slots, which were held at the same meeting.

926. During the ensuing discussion for the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), India, Pakistan¹⁷ (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), United Arab Emirates;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Thailand;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

927. At the end of the first speaking slot, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

928. During the discussion for the second speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Nigeria, Portugal, South Africa, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Benin, Fiji, Greece, Honduras, Libya, Malaysia, Namibia, Pakistan;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Africa culture internationale, Article 19: International Centre against Censorship, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Palestinian Return Centre.

929. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

B. General debate on agenda item 9

930. At the 48th meeting, on 20 March 2017, the Chief of the Anti-Racial Discrimination Section of OHCHR presented, on behalf of the High Commissioner, the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief (A/HRC/34/35).

931. At the same meeting, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Taonga Mushayavanhu, presented his report on its eighth session, held from 17 to 28 October 2016 (A/HRC/34/71).

932. At the 48th meeting, on 20 March 2017, and at 49th meeting, on 21 March, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 9, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, China, Cuba, El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Iraq (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Malta¹⁷ (on behalf of the European Union), Nigeria, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Russian Federation (also on behalf of Belarus, Cuba and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (also on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Colombia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Mexico, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Turkey, Ukraine;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, African Regional Agricultural Credit Association, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amuta for NGO Responsibility, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Auspice Stella, Canners International Permanent Committee, Center for Inquiry, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre for Environmental and Management Studies, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle, Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development, European Union of Jewish Students, European Union of Public Relations, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Association for Democracy in Africa, International Educational Development, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Human Rights Association of American Minorities, International-Lawyers.Org, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (on behalf of Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, the African Development Association, Association Dunenyoy, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples and Servas International), Iraqi Development Organization, Liberation, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Meezaan Center for Human Rights, Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, Palestinian Return Centre, Pan African Union for Science and Technology, Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, Prahar, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Society for Threatened Peoples, United Nations Watch, United Schools International, Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, World Barua Organization, World Environment and Resources Council, World Jewish Congress, World Muslim Congress.

933. At the 48th meeting, on 20 March 2017, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in exercise of the right of reply.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief

934. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.10, sponsored by Pakistan, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. Subsequently, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Canada, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

935. At the same meeting, the representatives of Egypt and Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution.

936. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

937. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/32).

Establishment of a forum on people of African descent

938. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.28/Rev.1, sponsored by Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Haiti and South Africa. Subsequently, Argentina, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua joined the sponsors.

939. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil (also on behalf of Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay) and Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made general comments on the draft resolution.

940. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

941. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/33).

Mandate of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

942. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.29/Rev.1, sponsored by Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, the Philippines, South Africa, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Belgium, Colombia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Nicaragua and Sri Lanka joined the sponsors.

943. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a general comment on the draft resolution.

944. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

945. At the same meeting, the representative of Belgium made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

946. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

United States of America

947. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 46 votes to 1, with no abstentions (resolution 34/34).

Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance

948. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.30, sponsored by Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Cuba, the Philippines and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Indonesia, Ireland, Mexico, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Turkey and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

949. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

950. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution. In its statement, the representative of the United States of America disassociated the member State from the consensus on the draft resolution.

951. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/35).

Elaboration of complementary standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

952. At the 58th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.31/Rev.1, sponsored by Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, the Philippines, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Chile and Indonesia joined the sponsors.

953. At the same meeting, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil (also on behalf of Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Uruguay), South Africa and the United States of America made general comments on the draft resolution.

954. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Germany (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the United States of America made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

955. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Germany, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Belgium, Croatia, Georgia, Hungary, India, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia

956. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 31 votes to 4, with 12 abstentions (resolution 34/36).

X. Technical assistance and capacity-building

A. Interactive dialogue on cooperation with and assistance to Ukraine in the field of human rights

957. At the 52nd meeting, on 22 March 2017, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights provided, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 32/29, an oral update on the situation of human rights in Ukraine.

958. At the same meeting, the representative of Ukraine made a statement as the State concerned.

959. Also at the same meeting, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement.

960. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Assistant Secretary-General questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Croatia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Lithuania, New Zealand, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Caritas Internationalis, Human Rights House Foundation, Human Rights Watch, Minority Rights Group, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

961. At the same meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

B. Interactive dialogue on strengthening technical cooperation and advisory services for Guinea

962. At the 52nd meeting, on 22 March 2017, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 31/29, the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Guinea (A/HRC/34/43).

963. At the same meeting, the Minister of State of Guinea, Cheick Sako, and the Minister of National Unity and Citizenship of Guinea, Kalifa Gassama Diaby, made statements on behalf of the State concerned.

964. Also at the same meeting, the President of Association des Victimes, Parents et Amis du 28 septembre 2009, Asmaou Diallo, made a statement.

965. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 52nd and 53rd meetings, on 22 March 2017, the following made statements and asked the Assistant Secretary-General questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Egypt, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Benin, Chad, France, Mali, Morocco;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

966. At the 53rd meeting, on 22 March 2017, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

C. Interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

967. At the 53rd meeting, on 22 March 2017, the Human Rights Council held, pursuant to Council resolution 33/29, an interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

968. At the same meeting, the following made statements: Assistant-Secretary General for Human Rights; Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Maman Sambo Sidikou; member of Struggle for Change, Fred Bauma.

969. Also at the same meeting, the Minister for Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Marie Ange Mushobekwa, made a statement on behalf of the State concerned.

970. During the interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Botswana, Congo, Egypt, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Angola, Central African Republic, Chad, Czechia, France, Ireland, Mozambique, Sudan;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, Advocates for Human Rights, Association Dunenyu, Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la chartre africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples, Ensemble contre la peine de mort (also on behalf of the International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture), Espace Afrique International, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, World Evangelical Alliance.

971. At the same meeting, the Assistant-Secretary General for Human Rights answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

D. Interactive dialogue on technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Libya

972. At the 51st meeting, on 21 March 2017, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 31/27, the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Libya, including on the effectiveness of technical assistance and capacity-building measures received by the Government of Libya (A/HRC/34/42).

973. At the same meeting, the representative of Libya made a statement as the State concerned.

974. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Deputy High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Egypt, Germany, Ghana, Iraq (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Netherlands, Portugal,

Qatar, Togo, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Bahrain, Estonia, France, Greece, Italy, Mali, Malta, Morocco, Spain, Sudan, Turkey;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue, Human Rights Watch, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

975. At the same meeting, the Deputy High Commissioner answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

E. Interactive dialogues with special procedure mandate holders

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic

976. At the 49th meeting, on 21 March 2017, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic, Marie-Thérèse Keita Bocoum, presented an oral update to the Human Rights Council.

977. At the same meeting, the representative of the Central African Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

978. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Portugal, Togo, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Benin, France, Mali, Morocco, Netherlands, Sudan;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, World Evangelical Alliance (on behalf of Caritas Internationalis).

979. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti

980. At the 50th meeting, on 21 March 2017, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti, Gustavo Gallón, presented his report (A/HRC/34/73).

981. At the same meeting, the representative of Haiti made a statement as the State concerned.

982. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Brazil, Cuba, El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Chile, France, Mexico, Peru, Spain;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Franciscans International, Human Rights Watch, International Association of Democratic Lawyers.

983. At the same meeting, the representative of Haiti made final remarks as the State concerned.

984. Also at the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali

985. At the 49th meeting, on 21 March 2017, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali, Suliman Baldo, presented his report (A/HRC/34/72).

986. At the same meeting, the representative of Mali made a statement as the State concerned.

987. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 49th and 50th meetings, on 21 March 2017, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Netherlands, Togo, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Central African Republic, Denmark, France, Libya, Morocco, Mozambique, Spain, Sudan;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: UNICEF;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Catholic Child Bureau (on behalf of the International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus), International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, International Service for Human Rights, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme.

988. At the 50th meeting, on 21 March 2017, the representative of Mali made final remarks as the State concerned.

989. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

F. General debate on agenda item 10

990. At the 55th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the Deputy High Commissioner presented an oral update on the situation of human rights in Yemen and on the follow-up to Human Rights Council resolution 33/16 and a report on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and technical assistance achievements in the field of human rights in 2016 (A/HRC/34/41).

991. At the same meeting, the representatives of Afghanistan and Yemen made statements as the States concerned.

992. During the ensuing general debate, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Deputy High Commissioner questions:

(a) Representatives of States members of the Human Rights Council: Bahrain¹⁸ (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, China, India, Iraq, Malta¹⁸ (on behalf of the European Union), Morocco¹⁸ (on behalf of States members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie), Netherlands (also on behalf of Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania,

¹⁸ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of member and observer States.

Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Pakistan¹⁸ (on behalf of Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Peru (also on behalf of Algeria, Ecuador, Italy, Romania and Thailand), Saudi Arabia, Sudan¹⁸ (also on behalf of Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Maldives, Mali, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, South Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and the State of Palestine), Switzerland, Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Sudan, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine and the United States of America), United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Bhutan (also on behalf of Cabo Verde, Jamaica, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Senegal, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Trinidad and Tobago), Cambodia, Canada, Chad, France, Jordan, Maldives, Myanmar, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Thailand;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (by video message);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights, Alsalam Foundation, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, ANAJA – l'Éternel a répondu, Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association of World Citizens, Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi, Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique, Center for Organisation Research and Education, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue (also on behalf of Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale), Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme, Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development, Human Rights Watch, Indian Council of South America, Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Buddhist Relief Organisation, International Lesbian and Gay Association, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Iraqi Development Organization, Liberation, Observatoire mauritanien des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie, Maarif Foundation for Peace and Development, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Prahar, Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, Save the Children International (also on behalf of Action contre la faim, the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Cooperazione Internazionale, Defence for Children International, Mercy Corps and the Norwegian Refugee Council), Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Tourner la page, United Nations Watch.

993. At the 55th meeting, on 23 March 2017, the representatives of Afghanistan, China and Pakistan made statements in exercise of the right of reply.

994. At the same meeting, the representatives of Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Pakistan made statements in exercise of a second right of reply.

G. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Cooperation with Georgia

995. At the 59th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Georgia introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.13, sponsored by Georgia and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Turkey and Ukraine. Subsequently, Albania, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Latvia, New Zealand, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America joined the sponsors.

996. At the same meeting, the representative of Albania made a general comment on the draft resolution.

997. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Latvia, Paraguay, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

998. At the same meeting, at the request of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Belgium, Botswana, Croatia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay,¹⁹ Portugal, Slovenia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Against:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, Brazil, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates

999. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution by 18 votes to 5, with 24 abstentions (resolution 34/37).

Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Libya

1000. At the 59th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.18, sponsored by Libya and Tunisia (on behalf of the Group of African States), and co-sponsored by Australia, Bulgaria, Czechia, Ecuador, Estonia, Georgia, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Italy, Liechtenstein, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Spain, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Bahrain (on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf), Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and Thailand joined the sponsors.

1001. At the same meeting, the representative of Egypt made a general comment on the draft resolution.

1002. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Libya made a statement as the State concerned.

¹⁹ The representative of Paraguay subsequently stated that there had been an error in the delegation's vote and that it had intended to abstain.

1003. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1004. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/38).

Technical assistance and capacity-building for Mali in the field of human rights

1005. At the 59th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.19, sponsored by Tunisia, on behalf of the Group of African States, and co-sponsored by Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Georgia, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Lithuania, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand and Turkey joined the sponsors.

1006. At the same meeting, the representative of Tunisia orally revised the draft resolution.

1007. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Germany made a general comment on the draft resolution as orally revised.

1008. At the same meeting, the representative of Mali made a statement as the State concerned.

1009. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

1010. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution without a vote (resolution 34/39).

Promoting the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the Work of the Human Rights Council

1011. At the 59th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the representative of Maldives (also on behalf of Barbados, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Mauritius, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Senegal, Singapore, Switzerland and Turkey) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/34/L.35, sponsored by Barbados, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Maldives, Mauritius, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Senegal, Singapore, Switzerland and Turkey, and co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Angola, Australia, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, the Sudan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Vanuatu. Subsequently, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominica, Greece, Grenada, Hungary, Japan, Kiribati, Lithuania, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

1012. At the same meeting, the representative of Maldives orally revised the draft resolution.

1013. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Mongolia, the Netherlands and Paraguay made general comments on the draft resolution as orally revised.

1014. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

1015. The Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote (resolution 34/40).

Situation of human rights in Haiti

1016. At the 59th meeting, on 24 March 2017, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft President's statement A/HRC/34/L.53.

1017. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil made a general comment on the draft President's statement.

1018. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Haiti made a statement as the State concerned.

1019. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft President's statement.

1020. At the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft President's statement (PRST/34/1).

Annex I

Attendance

Members

Albania	Georgia	Portugal
Bangladesh	Germany	Qatar
Belgium	Ghana	Republic of Korea
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Hungary	Rwanda
Botswana	India	Saudi Arabia
Brazil	Indonesia	Slovenia
Burundi	Iraq	South Africa
China	Japan	Switzerland
Congo	Kenya	Togo
Côte d'Ivoire	Kyrgyzstan	Tunisia
Croatia	Latvia	United Arab Emirates
Cuba	Mongolia	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Ecuador	Netherlands	United States of America
Egypt	Nigeria	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
El Salvador	Panama	
Ethiopia	Paraguay	
	Philippines	

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Afghanistan	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Luxembourg
Algeria	Denmark	Madagascar
Andorra	Djibouti	Malawi
Angola	Equatorial Guinea	Malaysia
Argentina	Eritrea	Maldives
Armenia	Estonia	Mali
Australia	Fiji	Malta
Austria	Finland	Marshall Islands
Azerbaijan	France	Mauritania
Bahamas	Gabon	Mexico
Bahrain	Greece	Micronesia (Federated States of)
Belarus	Guatemala	Monaco
Benin	Guinea	Montenegro
Bhutan	Haiti	Morocco
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Honduras	Mozambique
Brunei Darussalam	Iceland	Myanmar
Bulgaria	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Namibia
Burkina Faso	Ireland	Nepal
Cabo Verde	Israel	New Zealand
Cambodia	Italy	Nicaragua
Cameroon	Jamaica	Norway
Canada	Jordan	Oman
Central African Republic	Kazakhstan	Pakistan
Chad	Kuwait	Papua New Guinea
Chile	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Peru
Colombia	Lebanon	Poland
Costa Rica	Libya	Republic of Moldova
Cyprus	Liechtenstein	Russian Federation
Czechia	Lithuania	Romania
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		Senegal
		Serbia

Sierra Leone	Syrian Arab Republic	Uganda
Singapore	Thailand	Ukraine
Slovakia	The former Yugoslav	United Republic of Tanzania
Somalia	Republic of Macedonia	Uruguay
South Sudan	Timor-Leste	Uzbekistan
Spain	Tonga	Vanuatu
Sri Lanka	Trinidad and Tobago	Viet Nam
Sudan	Turkey	Yemen
Swaziland	Turkmenistan	Zimbabwe
Sweden	Tuvalu	

Non-Member States represented by observers

Holy See
State of Palestine

United Nations

Economic Commission for Europe	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	United Nations Environment Programme
United Nations Children's Fund	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
United Nations Development Programme	United Nations Population Fund

Specialized agencies and related organizations

International Organization for Migration	World Health Organization
International Telecommunication Union	
World Economic Forum	

Intergovernmental organizations

Commonwealth Cooperation	International Organization of la Francophonie
Council for the Arab States of the Gulf	International Union for Conservation of Nature
Council of Europe	League of Arab States
European Union	Organization of Islamic Cooperation
International Development Law Organization	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Other entities

International Committee of the Red Cross
Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta

National human rights institutions, international coordinating committees and regional groups of national institutions

Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission	Conseil national des droits de l'homme du Maroc
Australian Human Rights Commission	Danish Institute for Human Rights
Canadian Human Rights Commission	Equality and Human Rights Commission
Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation	German Institute for Human Rights
Commission nationale independante des droits de l'homme du Burundi	Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions
	Human Rights Commission of Malaysia

Human Rights Commission of Zimbabwe
Kenya National Commission on Human Rights
National Council for Human Rights of Egypt
National Human Rights Commission of Togo
Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission
Office of Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia
Office of the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice of Timor-Leste

Ombudsman's Office of the Republic of Latvia
Ombudswoman of the Republic of Croatia
Provedoria de Justiça (Ombudsman) of Portugal
Scottish Human Rights Commission
Uganda Human Rights Commission
Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

Non-governmental organizations

Action Canada for Population and Development
Action contre la faim
Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs
Action on Disability and Development
Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme en Mauritanie
Advocates for Human Rights
Africa culture internationale
African-American Society for Humanitarian Aid and Development
African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters
African Development Association
African Regional Agricultural Credit Association
Agence internationale pour le développement
Agence pour les droits de l'homme
Agir ensemble pour les droits de l'homme
Al-Hakim Foundation
Al-Haq
Al-Khoei Foundation
Alliance Creative Community Project
Alliance Defending Freedom
Allied Rainbow Communities International
All-Russian Public Organization "Russian Public Institute of Electoral Law"
Al Mezan Center for Human Rights
Alsalam Foundation
Alulbayt Foundation
American Association of Jurists
American Civil Liberties Union
Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain
Amman Center for Human Rights Studies
Amnesty International
Amuta for NGO Responsibility
ANAJA – l'Éternel a répondu
Anti-Slavery International
Arab Organization for Human Rights
Arigatou International

Article 19: International Centre against Censorship
Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum
Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development
Asian Legal Resource Centre
Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas
Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgêneros
Association Bharathi centre culturel franco-tamoul
Association des étudiants tamouls de France
Association du développement et de la promotion des droits de l'homme
Association Dunenyo
Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism
Association for Progressive Communications
Association for the Prevention of Torture
Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights
Association for Women's Rights in Development
Association internationale pour l'égalité des femmes
Association mauritanienne pour la promotion des droits de l'homme
Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit
Association Miraisme International
Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection "Manshour-e Parseh"
Association of World Citizens
Association "Paix" pour la lutte contre la contrainte et l'injustice
Association PANAFRICA
Association pour les victimes du monde
Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi
Association solidarité internationale pour l'Afrique

Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII	Commission to Study the Organization of Peace
Auspice Stella	Conectas Direitos Humanos
Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights	Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle
Baha'i International Community	Conseil international pour le soutien à des procès équitables et aux droits de l'homme
Bangwe et dialogue	Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations
Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center	Corporación para la Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos – Reiniciar
Bischöfliches Hilfswerk Misereor	Corporate Accountability International
B'nai B'rith	“Coup de pousse” Chaîne de l'espoir Nord-Sud
Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies	Covenant House
Cameroon Youths and Students Forum for Peace	Defence for Children International
Canners International Permanent Committee	Democracy Coalition Project
Caritas Internationalis	Disability Association of Tavana
Center for Environmental and Management Studies	Dominicans for Justice and Peace: Order of Preachers
Center for Global Nonkilling	DRCNet Foundation
Center for Inquiry	Drepavie
Center for International Environmental Law	Earthjustice
Center for Organisation Research and Education	East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project
Center for Reproductive Rights	Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development
Centre catholique international de Genève	Edmund Rice International
Centre Europe-tiers monde	Elizka Relief Foundation
Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy	Ensemble contre la peine de mort
Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue	Equitas centre international d'éducation aux droits humains
Centre pour les droits civils et politiques	Espace Afrique International
Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales	European Centre for Law and Justice
Centro Regional de Derechos Humanos y Justicia de Género	European Disability Forum
Chant du guépard dans le désert	European Solidarity towards Equal Participation of People
Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims	European Union of Jewish Students
Child Development Foundation	European Union of Public Relations
Child Foundation	European Youth Forum
Child Rights Connect	Family Health Association of Iran
China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture	Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland
China NGO Network for International Exchanges	FIAN International
China Society for Human Rights Studies	Fondation pour l'étude des relations internationales et du développement
CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation	Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale
Colombian Commission of Jurists	Foundation for GAIA
Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos “Capaj”	France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand
Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos	Franciscans International
Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples	Freedom Now
Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches	Freemuse: World Forum on Music and Censorship
	Friedrich Ebert Foundation
	Friends of the Earth International
	Friends World Committee for Consultation
	Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social

Geneva Institute for Human Rights
 Genève pour les droits de l'homme:
 formation internationale
 Global Eco-Village Network
 Global Helping to Advance Women and
 Children
 Global Initiative for Economic, Social and
 Cultural Rights
 Graduate Women International
 Habitat International Coalition
 Hazrat Javad-al-Aemeh Cultural Charity
 Institute
 Health and Environment Program
 Helios Life Association
 Help4help
 Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
 Himalayan Research and Cultural
 Foundation
 Human Rights Advocates
 Human Rights Commission of Pakistan
 Human Rights House Foundation
 Human Rights Information and Training
 Center
 Human Rights League of the Horn of
 Africa
 Human Rights Network
 Human Rights Now
 Human Rights Watch
 Il Cenacolo
 Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society
 Indian Council of Education
 Indian Council of South America
 Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru"
 Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating
 Committee
 Initiative d'opposition contre les discours
 extrémistes
 Initiatives of Change International
 Institute for Planetary Synthesis
 Institute for Policy Studies
 Institute for Women's Studies and Research
 Institute on Human Rights and the
 Holocaust
 Institut international pour la paix, la justice
 et les droits de l'homme
 International Association for Democracy
 in Africa
 International Association of Democratic
 Lawyers
 International Bar Association
 International Bridges to Justice
 International Buddhist Relief Organisation
 International Career Support Association
 International Catholic Child Bureau
 International Catholic Migration
 Commission
 International Commission of Jurists
 International Council of Russian
 Compatriots
 International Council Supporting
 Fair Trial and Human Rights
 International Drug Policy
 Consortium
 International Educational Development
 International Federation for Human
 Rights Leagues
 International Federation for the Protection
 of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious,
 Linguistic and Other Minorities
 International Federation of ACAT
 International Federation of
 Pharmaceutical Manufacturers
 Associations
 International Fellowship of Reconciliation
 International HIV/AIDS Alliance
 International Humanist and Ethical Union
 International Human Rights Association
 of American Minorities
 International Institute for Non-Aligned
 Studies
 International-Lawyers.Org
 International Lesbian and Gay
 Association
 International Movement against All
 Forms of Discrimination and Racism
 International Movement ATD Fourth
 World
 International Muslim Women's Union
 International Organization for the
 Elimination of All Forms of Racial
 Discrimination
 International Organization for the Right to
 Education and Freedom of Education
 International PEN
 International Planned Parenthood
 Federation
 International Service for Human Rights
 International Solidarity for Africa
 International Studies Association
 International Volunteerism Organization
 for Women, Education and Development
 International Youth and Student
 Movement for the United Nations
 Iranian Elite Research Center
 Iraqi Development Organization
 Islamic Human Rights Commission
 Islamic Women's Institute of Iran
 Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice
 delle Salesiane di Don Bosco
 IUS PRIMI VIRI International
 Association
 Iuventum
 Japanese Workers Committee for Human
 Rights
 Jssor Youth Organization
 Jubilee Campaign
 Kham Rehabilitation Centre for Victims
 of Torture
 Kirkon Ulkomaanavun Säätiö
 Kiyana Karaj Group
 La Brique
 Lawyers for Lawyers
 Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada

Leadership Watch
 Liberal International
 Liberation
 Lutheran World Federation
 Maarij Foundation for Peace and
 Development
 Maat Foundation for Peace, Development
 and Human Rights
 Make Mothers Matter
 Martial Arts Academy
 Mbororo Social and Cultural Development
 Association
 Médecins du monde (international)
 Médecins sans frontières (international)
 Medical Aid for Palestinians
 Meezaan Center for Human Rights
 Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life
 Education Fund
 Minority Rights Group
 New Humanity
 Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational
 and Transparty
 Nord-Sud XXI
 Norwegian Refugee Council
 Observatoire mauritanien des droits de
 l'homme et de la démocratie
 Oidhaco, Bureau international des droit
 humains – action Colombie
 ONG Hope International
 Open Society Institute
 Organisation internationale pour le
 développement intégral de la femme
 Organisation pour la communication en
 Afrique et de promotion de la coopération
 économique internationale
 Organization for Defending Victims of
 Violence
 Orphan Charity Foundation
 Palestinian Return Centre
 Pan African Union for Science and
 Technology
 Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation
 Pax Christi International
 Pax Romana
 Peace Brigades International Switzerland
 Peivande Gole Narges Organization
 People for Successful Corean Reunification
 People's Solidarity for Participatory
 Democracy
 Planetary Association for Clean Energy
 Plan International
 Prahar
 Presse emblème campagne
 Prevention Association of Social Harms
 Privacy International
 Promo-LEX
 Promotion du développement économique
 et social
 Public Services International
 Regroupement des jeunes africains
 pour la démocratie et le
 développement (section Togo)

Rencontre africaine pour la défense des
 droits de l'homme
 Reporters sans frontières international
 Réseau international des droits humains
 Save a Child's Heart in Memory of Dr.
 Ami Cohen
 Save the Children International
 Servas International
 Social Service Agency of the Protestant
 Church in Germany
 Society for Development and Community
 Empowerment
 Society for Recovery Support
 Society for Threatened Peoples
 Society of Iranian Women Advocating
 Sustainable Development of the
 Environment
 Soka Gakkai International
 Solidarité pour un monde meilleur
 Stichting International Center for
 Ethnobotanical Education, Research and
 Service
 Suomen YK-liitto
 Swedish Association for Sexuality
 Education
 Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay,
 Bisexual and Transgender Rights
 Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund
 Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of
 Expression
 Terre des hommes fédération
 internationale
 Tourner la page
 TRIAL: Track Impunity Always
 Union internationale des avocats
 Union of Arab Jurists
 United Nations Watch
 United Schools International
 Universal Peace Federation
 UPR Info
 Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik
 Victorious Youths Movement
 Villages Unis
 VIVAT International
 Women's Centre for Legal Aid and
 Counselling
 Women's Federation for World Peace
 International
 Women's Human Rights International
 Association
 Women's International League for Peace
 and Freedom
 Women's World Summit Foundation
 World Barua Organization
 World Council of Arameans (Syriacs)
 World Environment and Resources
 Council
 World Evangelical Alliance
 World Federation of Ukrainian
 Women's Organizations
 World Jewish Congress
 World Medical Association

World Muslim Congress
World Organization against Torture
World Russian People's Council
World Vision International
World Wide Fund for Nature International
World Young Women's Christian
Association

Annex II

Agenda

- Item 1. Organizational and procedural matters
- Item 2. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General
- Item 3. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development
- Item 4. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention
- Item 5. Human rights bodies and mechanisms
- Item 6. Universal periodic review
- Item 7. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories
- Item 8. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action
- Item 9. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action
- Item 10. Technical assistance and capacity-building

Annex III

[English, French and Spanish only]

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A/HRC/34/2	1	Report of the Human Rights Council on its thirty-fourth session
A/HRC/34/3	2	Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/34/3/Add.1	2	Mission to Guatemala
A/HRC/34/3/Add.2	2	Situation of human rights in Honduras
A/HRC/34/3/Add.3	2	Situation of human rights in Colombia
A/HRC/34/4	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Togo
A/HRC/34/4/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/34/5	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Syrian Arab Republic
A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/34/6	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
A/HRC/34/6/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
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A/HRC/34/7/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
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A/HRC/34/8/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
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A/HRC/34/11	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Timor-Leste
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A/HRC/34/12	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Republic of Moldova
A/HRC/34/12/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/34/13	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on South Sudan
A/HRC/34/13/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/34/14	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Haiti
A/HRC/34/14/Add.1	6	Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review
A/HRC/34/15	2	Question of human rights in Cyprus: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/34/16	2	Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/34/17	2	United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/34/18	2	Conclusions and recommendations of special procedures: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/34/19	2	Measures taken to implement Human Rights Council resolution 9/8 and obstacles to its implementation, including recommendations for further improving the effectiveness, harmonization and reform of the treaty body system: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/34/20	2	Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Sri Lanka
A/HRC/34/21	2, 3	Rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities:

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A/HRC/34/23	2, 3	Workshop on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/34/24	2, 10	Summary of the panel discussion on promoting international cooperation to support national human rights follow-up systems and processes: Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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A/HRC/34/26	2, 3	Equality and non-discrimination under article 5 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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A/HRC/34/36	2, 7	Implementation of Human Rights Council resolutions S-9/1 and S-12/1: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/34/37	2, 7	Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan: report of the Secretary-General
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A/HRC/34/38	2, 7	Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/34/39	2, 7	Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan
A/HRC/34/40	2	Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/34/41	2, 10	The situation of human rights in Afghanistan and technical assistance achievements in the field of human rights: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/34/42	2, 10	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Libya, including on the effectiveness of technical assistance and capacity-building measures received by the Government of Libya
A/HRC/34/43	2, 10	Situation of human rights in Guinea: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
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A/HRC/34/45	3	Annual report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against

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A/HRC/34/48/Add.1	3	Mission to Poland
A/HRC/34/48/Add.2	3	Mission to Paraguay
A/HRC/34/48/Add.3	3	Mission to Poland: comments by the State
A/HRC/34/49	3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment
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A/HRC/34/50	3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion and belief
A/HRC/34/50/Add.1	3	Mission to Denmark
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A/HRC/34/55/Add.1	3	Mission to Georgia
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A/HRC/34/57/Add.1	3	Mission to institutions of the European Union
A/HRC/34/58	3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities
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A/HRC/34/58/Add.2	3	Mission to Zambia
A/HRC/34/59	3	Report of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with albinism
A/HRC/34/59/Add.1	3	Mission to Malawi
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A/HRC/34/61	3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism
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A/HRC/34/L.3	3	Mandate of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights
A/HRC/34/L.4 and Rev.1	3	Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights
A/HRC/34/L.5	3	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders
A/HRC/34/L.6	3	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues
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A/HRC/34/L.10	9	Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief
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		within large and/or mixed movements, on the basis of existing legal norms: conference room paper of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/34/CRP.2	2, 3	Relationship between climate change and the full and effective enjoyment of the rights of the child: Informal summary of inputs received
A/HRC/34/CRP.3	4	Human rights abuses and international humanitarian law violations in the Syrian Arab Republic, 21 July 2016- 28 February 2017: conference room paper of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
A/HRC/34/CRP.4	10	Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: conflict-related sexual violence in Ukraine (14 March 2014 to 31 January 2017)
A/HRC/34/CRP.5	10	Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in Ukraine: (16 November 2016 to 15 February 2017)

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A/HRC/34/G/2	4	Letter dated 25 November 2016 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Georgia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/34/G/3	4	Letter dated 26 December 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
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A/HRC/34/G/5	4	Note verbale dated 7 February 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/34/G/6	3	Note verbale dated 27 February 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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A/HRC/34/G/8	3	Note verbale dated 8 March 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/34/G/9	4	Note verbale dated 10 March 2017 from the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/34/G/10	4	Letter dated 24 February 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/34/G/11	3	Note verbale dated 15 March 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/34/G/12	3	Note verbale dated 21 March 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/34/G/14	3	Note verbale dated 22 March 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council

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A/HRC/34/NI/5	3	Guatemala: Office of the Human Rights Advocate
A/HRC/34/NI/6	3	Written submission by the Azerbaijan: Human Rights Commissioner (Ombudsman)
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A/HRC/34/NI/10	3	Written submission by the Azerbaijan: Human Rights Commissioner (Ombudsman)
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A/HRC/34/NGO/2	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/3	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/4	3	Written statement submitted by the World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/5	3	Written statement submitted by the World Muslim Congress, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/6	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/7	3	Written statement submitted by the International Career Support Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/8	3	Written statement submitted by the Child Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/9	3	Written statement submitted by the Child Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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A/HRC/34/NGO/11	4	Written statement submitted by the Sign of Hope e.V. -Hoffnungszeichen, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/31/NGO/12	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/13	4	Written statement submitted by the Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/14	3	Exposé écrit présentée par le Chant du Guépard dans le Désert, organisation non-gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/34/NGO/15	4	Written statement submitted by the Alsalam Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/31/NGO/16	5	Written statement submitted by the Friends World Committee for Consultation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/17	3	Written statement submitted by the Agence pour les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/18	3	Written statement submitted by the Child Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/19	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Recovery Support, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/20	4	Written statement submitted by the Islamic Women's Institute of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/21	3	Written statement submitted by Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/22	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/23	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/24	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special

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A/HRC/34/NGO/25	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/26	3	Written statement submitted by the Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection “Manshour-e Parseh”, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/27	1	Joint written statement submitted by Amnesty International, International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (FIDH), International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA), International Service for Human Rights (ISHR), World Organisation against Torture, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/28	5	Written statement submitted by the Centre Independent de Recherches et d’Initiatives pour le Dialogue (CIRID), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/29	3	Written statement submitted by the Centre Independent de Recherches et d’Initiatives pour le Dialogue (CIRID), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/30	4	Written statement submitted by the Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/31	3	Written statement submitted by the International Commission of Jurists, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/32	7	Written statement submitted by the Norwegian Refugee Council, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/33	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/34	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/35	6	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/36	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/37	7	Written statement submitted by the Norwegian Refugee Council, a non-governmental organization

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A/HRC/34/NGO/39	3	Written statement submitted by the Graduate Women International (GWI), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/40	3	Written statement submitted by the International Bar Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/41	3	Written statement submitted by the Jubilee Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/42	3	Written statement submitted by the International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/43	3	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/44	2	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/45	4	Joint written statement submitted by the Iraqi Development Organization, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrai, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/46	3	Written statement submitted by the Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/47	3	Written statement submitted by the Human Rights Advocates, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/48	3	Written statement submitted by the Human Rights Advocates, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/49	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Advocates, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/50	3	Written statement submitted by the Human Rights Advocates, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/51	3	Written statement submitted by the Human Rights Advocates, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/52	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Advocates, a non-governmental organization in

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A/HRC/34/NGO/54	3	Written statement submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/55	3	Written statement submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/56	9	Written statement submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/57	3	Written statement submitted by the Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/58	3	Written statement submitted by the Jssor Youth Organization, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/59	4	Written statement submitted by the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/60	3	Written statement submitted by the Centre international de droit comparé de l'environnement, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/31/NGO/61	3	Written statement submitted by the Hazrat Javad-al-Aemeh Cultural Charity Institute, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/62	4	Written statement submitted by the Kiyana Karaj Group, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/63	4	Written statement submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/64	3	Written statement submitted by the Family Health Association of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/65	4	Written statement submitted by Family Health Association of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/66	3	Written statement submitted by the Auspice Stella,

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A/HRC/34/NGO/68	4	Written statement submitted by the Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/69	2	Written statement submitted by the American Association of Jurists, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/70	7	Written statement submitted by the American Association of Jurists, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/71	4	Written statement submitted by the International Educational Development, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/72	4	Written statement submitted by the International Educational Development, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/73	3	Written statement submitted by the Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/74	3	Written statement submitted by the Hazrat Javad-al-Aemeh Cultural Charity Institute, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/75	4	Written statement submitted by the Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/76	3	Written statement submitted by the International Career Support Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/77	4	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/78	3	Written statement submitted by the Federal Union of European Nationalities, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/79	9	Written statement submitted by the Federal Union of European Nationalities, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/80	4	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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A/HRC/34/NGO/82	3	Exposición escrita presentada por la Association Miraisme International, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/34/NGO/83	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/84	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/85	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/86	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/87	2	Exposición escrita presentada por la Asociacion Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (Cuban United Nations Association), organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/34/NGO/88	4	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/89	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/90	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/91	3	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/92	3	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/93	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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A/HRC/34/NGO/95	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/96	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/97	4	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/98	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/99	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/100	4	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/101	3	Written statement submitted the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/102	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/103	10	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/104	3	Written statement submitted the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/105	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/106	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/107	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/108	5	Written statement submitted by the Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/109	7	Written statement submitted by the Amuta for NGO Responsibility, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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A/HRC/34/NGO/112	3 Written statement submitted by the Friends World Committee for Consultation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/113	3 Written statement submitted by the Friends World Committee for Consultation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/114	4 Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/115	9 Written statement submitted by the Meezaan Center for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/116	3 Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/117	4 Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/118	4 Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/119	7 Written statement submitted by the Amuta for NGO Responsibility, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/120	3 Written statement submitted by European Centre for Law and Justice, The Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/121	3 Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/122	5 Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/123	3 Written statement submitted by the Liberal International (World Liberal Union), a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/124	3 Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status

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A/HRC/34/NGO/125	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/126	4	Written statement submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/127	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/128	7	Written statement submitted by the Amuta for NGO Responsibility, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/129	4	Written statement submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/130	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/131	3	Written statement submitted by the Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/132	4	Written statement submitted by the Nazra for Feminist Studies, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/133	3	Written statement submitted by the Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/134	4	Written statement submitted by the Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/135	3	Written statement submitted by the Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/136	3	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/137	10	Written statement submitted by the Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/138	6	Written statement submitted by the Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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A/HRC/34/NGO/140	4 Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/141	2 Written statement submitted by the Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/142	3 Written statement submitted by the IDPC Consortium, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/143	4 Written statement submitted by the Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/144	2 Written statement submitted by the International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/145	3 Exposición escrita presentada por la Association Miraisme International, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/34/NGO/146	4 Written statement submitted by the ODHIKAR: Coalition for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/147	2 Written statement submitted by the Pax Christi International, International Catholic Peace Movement, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/148	3 Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/149	3 Exposé écrit présenté par Dreparvie, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/34/NGO/150	7 Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/151	2 Written statement submitted by the Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/152	4 Written statement submitted by the Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/153	3 Joint written statement submitted by the International Catholic Child Bureau, Association

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	Points-Coeur, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development: VIDES, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, Mouvement International d'Apostolate des Milieux Sociaux Independants, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/154	3 Written statement submitted by the Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/155	4 Joint written statement submitted by the World Organisation Against Torture, ODHIKAR: Coalition for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/156	2 Written statement submitted by the Make Mothers Matter: MMM, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/157	3 Written statement submitted by the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/158	4 Written statement submitted by The Palestinian Return Centre, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/159	3 Written statement submitted by the Imam Ali's Popular Students Relief Society, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/160	3 Written statement submitted by the Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/161	10 Written statement submitted by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/162	4 Written statement submitted by the Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/163	3 Written statement submitted by the Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/164	3 Written statement submitted by the Habitat International Coalition, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/165	4 Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/166	3 Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/167 2	Exposición escrita presentada por la Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (Cuban United Nations Association), organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/34/NGO/168 8	Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/169 6	Exposición escrita presentada por la Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/34/NGO/170 5	Exposición escrita presentada por la Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/34/NGO/171 10	Written statement submitted by the Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/172 3	Written statement submitted by the Disability Association of Tavana, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/173 4	Written statement submitted by the Agence pour les droits de l'homme, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/174 3	Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/175 9	Written statement submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/31/NGO/176 3	Written statement submitted by The Article 19: International Centre Against Censorship, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/177 3	Written statement submitted by the Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/178 3	Exposición escrita presentada por la International Federation for Human Rights Leagues, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/34/NGO/179 3	Written statement submitted by the Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/34/NGO/180	7 Written statement submitted by the Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/181	3 Joint written statement submitted by the Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, Women's Human Rights International Association, Edmund Rice International, France Libertes: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/182	3 Exposición conjunta escrita presentada por la Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, organizacion no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/34/NGO/183	3 Joint written statement submitted by the Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Tourner la page, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/184	3 Written statement submitted by the Conectas Direitos Humanos, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/185	2 Written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/186	3 Written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/187	2 Written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/188	2 Written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/189	2 Written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/190	2 Joint written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, ANAJA (L'Eternel a répondu), Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association pour les Victimes Du Monde, Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), Society for Development and Community Empowerment, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/191	7 Written statement submitted by the BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	Refugee Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/192 3	Joint written statement submitted by the Conectas Direitos Humanos, the Center for Economic and Social Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/193 2	Joint written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, ANAJA (L'Eternel a répondu), Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association pour les Victimes Du Monde, Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Tourner la page, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/194 3	Written statement submitted by the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/195 2	Written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/196 9	Written statement submitted by the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/197 2	Joint written statement submitted by Association des étudiants tamouls de France, ANAJA (L'Eternel a répondu), Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association pour les Victimes Du Monde, Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Tourner la page, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/198 2	Written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/199 2	Written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/200 2	Written statement submitted by the Association des étudiants tamouls de France, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/201 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/202 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/203 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/31/NGO/204 6	Exposé écrit présenté par l'Observatoire Mauritanien pour les Droits de l'Homme et la Démocratie, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif special
A/HRC/34/NGO/205 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/206 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/207 1	Written statement submitted by the Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil Conselho Federal, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/208 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/209 4	Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/210 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/211 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/212 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/213 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/214 2	Written statement submitted by Tourner la page, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/215 2	Written statement submitted by Tourner la page, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/34/NGO/216	3	Written statement submitted by Tourner la page, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/217	3	Written statement submitted by Tourner la page, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/218	2	Written statement submitted by Tourner la page, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/219	2	Joint written statement submitted by Tourner la page, Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/220	2	Written statement submitted by Tourner la page, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/221	4	Written statement submitted by the Human Rights League of Horn of Africa, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/222	2	Written statement submitted by Tourner la page, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/223	2	Written statement submitted by Tourner la page, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/31/NGO/224	3, 7	Joint written statement submitted by International-Lawyers.Org, the Arab Organization for Human Rights, the General Arab Women Federation, the Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, the World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/225	4	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/226	3	Written statement submitted by the American Association of Jurists, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/227	4	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/228	3	Written statement submitted by the Federacion de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promocion de los Derechos Humanos, a non-governmental

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/229 3	Exposición escrita presentada por la Federación de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/31/NGO/230 4	Written statement submitted by the Iranian Elite Research Center, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/231 7	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Meezaan Center for Human Rights, Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/232 7	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/233 7	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, Union of Arab Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/234 3	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/235 4	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", non-governmental organizations in special consultative status,

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/236 4	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/237 4	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/238 9	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/239 4	Joint written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Arab Organization for Human Rights, Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru", International-Lawyers.Org, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc., World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/34/NGO/240 2	Joint written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, ANAJA (L'Eternel a répondu), Association Burkinabé pour la Survie de l'Enfance, Association des étudiants tamouls de France, Association pour les Victimes Du Monde, Association Solidarité Internationale pour l'Afrique (SIA), Society for Development and Community Empowerment, Tourner la page, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/241 7	Written statement submitted by the Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/242 10	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/243 9	Exposición escrita presentada por la Auspice Stella, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/34/NGO/244 5	Written statement submitted by the World Wide Fund for Nature International, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/245 3	Written statement submitted by the Prahar, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/246 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/247 4	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/248 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/249 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/250 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/251 2	Written statement submitted by the Association Bharathi Centre Culturel Franco-Tamoul, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/252 3	Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/253 2	Exposición escrita presentada por la Asociacion Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (Cuban United Nations Association), organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/34/NGO/254 3	Written statement submitted by All-Russian public organization “Russian Public Institute of Electoral Law”, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/255 4	Written statement submitted by the Agence pour les droits de l’homme, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/256 3	Written statement submitted by the All-Russian

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	public organization “Russian Public Institute of Electoral Law”, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/257 6	Exposé écrit présenté par le Centre pour les Droits Civils et Politiques : Centre CCPR, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/34/NGO/258 5	Written statement submitted by the European Youth Forum, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/34/NGO/259 5	Written statement submitted by Action contre la faim, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Annex IV

Advisory Committee member elected by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-fourth session and date of expiry of his term of membership

<i>Member</i>	<i>Term expires on</i>
Ion Diaconu (Romania)	30 September 2017

Annex V

Special procedure mandate holders appointed by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-fourth session

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (member from the Arctic)

Laila Susanne Vars (Norway)

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (member from Asia)

Edtami Mansayagan (Philippines)

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (member from North America)

Kristen Carpenter (United States of America)

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (member from the Pacific)

Megan Davis (Australia)

Special Rapporteur on the right to development

Saad Alfarargi (Egypt)

Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

Annalisa Ciampi (Italy)

Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (member from Latin American and Caribbean States)

Luciano Hazan (Argentina)
