



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

World Population Policies 2017

Abortion laws and policies —
A global assessment



Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Population Division

World Population Policies 2017

Abortion laws and policies – A global assessment



United Nations

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The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat is a vital interface between global policies in the economic, social and environmental spheres and national action. The Department works in three main interlinked areas: (i) it compiles, generates and analyses a wide range of economic, social and environmental data and information on which States Members of the United Nations draw to review common problems and take stock of policy options; (ii) it facilitates the negotiations of Member States in many intergovernmental bodies on joint courses of action to address ongoing or emerging global challenges; and (iii) it advises interested Governments on the ways and means of translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, helps build national capacities.

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The term “country” as used in this report also refers, as appropriate, to territories or areas.

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PREFACE

The 2017 edition of *World Population Policies*, a report published biennially since 2001, provides an overview of the laws and policies relating to induced abortion. It includes consideration of the various legal grounds for abortion and selected requirements for induced abortion, including gestational limits, the number of personnel required to authorize an abortion, mandatory third-party consent, and compulsory counselling and waiting periods.

World Population Policies 2017: Abortion laws and policies – A global assessment presents data gathered in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) during 2017 and 2018, using a questionnaire that was cross-checked by public health and legal experts and sent to countries for review.¹ The data have been updated based on official Government responses on legal grounds for abortion collected in the United Nations Twelfth Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development (the “Twelfth Inquiry”) during 2018 and 2019.² The Population Division has been implementing the Inquiry every five years since 1963 as part of its mandate to monitor population policies at the global level.

Responsibility for *World Population Policies* rests with the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Preparation of *World Population Policies 2017: Abortion laws and policies – A global assessment* was facilitated by the cooperation of Member States and non-member States of the United Nations, the regional commissions of the United Nations and other partners. Specifically, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) assisted in gathering Government responses to the module on Fertility, Family Planning and Reproductive Health (module II) of the Twelfth Inquiry.

¹ See Questionnaire for the Global Abortion Policies Project, available at: www.un.org/development/desa/pd/themes/population-policies

² See the *United Nations Twelfth Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development*, available at: www.un.org/development/desa/pd/themes/population-policies/inquiry12.

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

The following symbols have been used in the tables throughout this report:

A minus sign (-) before a figure indicates a decrease or negative number.

A full stop (.) is used to indicate decimals.

Use of a hyphen (-) between years, for example, 1995-2000, signifies the full period involved, from 1 July of the first year to 1 July of the second year.

An em dash (—) indicates that the magnitude is not zero, but less than half of the unit employed (i.e. is rounded to 0, when in fact it is not 0)

A 0 or 0.0 indicates that the magnitude is zero

Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not reported separately

Numbers and percentages in this table do not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

References to regions, subregions, development groups, countries and areas:

The designations employed in this publication and the material presented in it do not imply the expression of any opinions whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The term “country” as used in this report also refers, as appropriate, to territories or areas.

In this publication, data for countries and areas are often aggregated in six continental regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern America, and Oceania. Further information on continental regions is available from <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/>. Countries and areas have also been grouped into geographic regions based on the classification being used to track progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations (see: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/regional-groups/>).

The designation of “more developed” and “less developed”, or “developed” and “developing”, is intended for statistical purposes and does not express a judgment about the stage in the development process reached by a particular country or area. More developed regions comprise all countries and areas of Europe and Northern America, plus Australia, New Zealand and Japan. Less developed regions comprise all countries and areas of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan), Latin America and the Caribbean, and Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand.

The group of least developed countries (LDCs) includes 47 countries, located in sub-Saharan Africa (32), Northern Africa and Western Asia (2), Central and Southern Asia (4), Eastern and South-Eastern Asia (4), Latin America and the Caribbean (1), and Oceania (4). Further information is available at <http://unohrrls.org/about-ldcs/>.

The group of Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) includes 32 countries or territories, located in sub-Saharan Africa (16), Northern Africa and Western Asia (2), Central and Southern Asia (8), Eastern and South-Eastern Asia (2), Latin America and the Caribbean (2), and Europe and Northern America (2). Further information is available at <http://unohrrls.org/about-lldcs/>.

The group of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) includes 58 countries or territories, located in the Caribbean (29), the Pacific (20), and the Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Sea (AIMS) (9). Further information is available at <http://unohrrls.org/about-sids/>.

The classification of countries and areas by income level is based on gross national income (GNI) per capita as reported by the World Bank. These income groups are not available for all countries and areas Further information is available at:

<https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>.

* For country notes, please refer to <https://population.un.org/wpp/Download/Metadata/Documentation>

List of abbreviations

AIMS	Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean Sea and South China Sea
DESA	Department of Economic and Social Affairs
GNI	Gross national income
HIV	Human immunodeficiency viruses
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
LDCs	Least developed countries
LLDCs	Landlocked developing countries
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small island developing states
STI	Sexually transmitted infection
WHO	World Health Organization

KEY FINDINGS

Since the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, the legal grounds for obtaining an abortion have become less restrictive in many countries. Between 1996 and 2017, the percentage of countries permitting abortion increased gradually for all legal grounds, while the percentage of countries not permitting abortion on any grounds declined. As of 2017, only four countries did not permit abortion under any circumstances.

Nearly all countries allow abortion to save a woman's life. In 2017, 98 per cent of countries permitted abortion for the purpose of saving a pregnant woman's life. All countries in Central and Southern Asia, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia, Northern Africa and Western Asia, Oceania, and sub-Saharan Africa allowed abortion to save a woman's life, either explicitly or under the general criminal law principles of necessity.

Preserving a woman's health is the second most common legal justification for induced abortion. In 2017, 72 per cent of countries permitted abortion as a means of preserving a woman's *physical* health, and 69 per cent identified *mental* health as a legal justification for abortion. There are, however, pronounced regional differences in the share of countries allowing abortion on health grounds. In Europe and Northern America, nearly all countries permitted abortion for preserving a woman's physical or mental health (91 per cent and 89 per cent, respectively). By contrast, slightly more than half of the countries in Oceania and in Latin America and the Caribbean permitted abortion to safeguard a woman's health.

There has been a marked increase in the proportion of countries permitting abortion in cases of foetal impairment. Sixty-one per cent of countries allowed abortion in cases of foetal impairment in 2017, up from 41 per cent in 1996. While the overall number of countries permitting abortion in such cases increased, large regional differences remain. In 2017, 9 out of 10 countries in Europe and Northern America (89 per cent) permitted abortion on grounds of foetal impairment, compared to 25 per cent in Oceania and 39 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The proportion of countries allowing abortion in cases of rape or incest has increased rapidly in recent decades. Globally in 2017, 95 countries specifically mentioned rape in their legislation, while 57 countries made explicit reference to incest as a legal justification for abortion. The proportion of countries recognizing rape and incest as legal grounds for abortion rose from 43 per cent in 1996 to 61 per cent in 2017. Like foetal impairment, there are considerable regional differences in the prevalence of laws authorizing abortion in cases of rape or incest.

Legal provisions for abortion on economic or social grounds, or on request, vary widely across regions. In 2017, 85 per cent of countries in Europe and Northern America authorized abortion for economic or social reasons, and 80 per cent permitted abortion on request. Conversely, in 2017 Oceania had the lowest share of countries authorizing abortion on economic or social grounds, or on request (6 per cent for both), followed by sub-Saharan Africa (10 per cent for both), and Latin America and the Caribbean (18 per cent for economic or social reasons, and 12 per cent on request).

For an unlawful abortion, most countries have explicit provisions for bringing criminal charges against those involved. In 2017 the provider of an illegally induced abortion could be held criminally liable in 95 per cent of countries; in 71 per cent, the woman undergoing the unlawful abortion could be criminally charged; and in 65 per cent of countries, a person who helped a woman to obtain an unlawful abortion could be held criminally culpable.

Nearly half of all countries specify the most advanced stage of pregnancy at which an induced abortion may lawfully be performed. In 2017, 54 per cent of countries had gestational limits for induced abortion, with Europe and Northern America, and Central and Southern Asia recording the highest share of countries with such limits (83 per cent and 71 per cent, respectively). Gestational limits are not, however, uniformly applied across all legal grounds. The broader legal grounds for obtaining an abortion, such as abortion on request or for economic or social reasons, tend to have more stringent gestational limits than the narrower legal justifications, such as for saving a woman's life or safeguarding health, or in cases of rape or incest or foetal impairment.

Two thirds of countries require the authorization of a health-care professional for obtaining an induced abortion. In 2017, 65 per cent of countries required at least one health-care professional to authorize the act of performing an induced abortion. Half of these countries required the authorization of two or more health-care professionals; around a quarter required the authorization of one health-care professional; and the remaining quarter of countries did not specify the number of required authorizations. Concerning professional qualifications, 21 per cent of countries required authorization by a specialist doctor; 56 per cent did not indicate a required specialization for the doctor; 6 per cent allowed authorization by other health-care professionals, such as a nurse or a midwife; while 17 per cent did not specify the qualifications required for authorizing an induced abortion.

Requirements for third-party consent vary according to the age and marital status of the person seeking an abortion. In 2017, 42 per cent of countries required parental consent for a minor to obtain an induced abortion. Thirty per cent permitted an adult other than a parent to provide consent in such cases if a parent was not available. Requiring spousal consent for a married woman to obtain an induced abortion was less common, reported by 14 per cent of countries in 2017.

Mandatory waiting periods and counselling are less common as requirements for an induced abortion. In 2017, 13 per cent of countries required compulsory waiting periods prior to an induced abortion. In two thirds of these countries, the minimum mandatory waiting period for an abortion was between two and four days (68 per cent). Twelve per cent of countries required compulsory counselling prior to an induced abortion.

INTRODUCTION

The Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), held in Cairo in 1994, laid the foundation for improving the sexual and reproductive health of women and men worldwide. Specifically, it emphasized the rights of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children, the right to information and access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of family planning of their choice, as well as the right of access to appropriate health-care services to ensure a safe and healthy pregnancy and childbirth. It underscored the importance of preventing and managing unsafe abortions³ and of providing services for safe abortion where it is not against the law.

The Programme of Action also called upon all Governments and relevant organizations to “deal with the health impact of unsafe abortion”, stating that “[i]n all cases, women should have access to quality services for the management of complications arising from abortion”. It stressed that where abortion is not against the law, abortions should be safe, and that in all cases, women should have access to quality services for the management of complications arising from abortion. The Programme of Action further noted that expanded and improved family planning services would help to reduce or eliminate the need for abortion.

The goals related to reproductive health were integrated, two decades later, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular in Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 and 5, which are aimed, respectively, at improving health and well-being for all and at achieving gender equality and women’s empowerment. Indeed, the SDGs include specific commitments to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, as reflected in SDG targets 3.7 and 5.6.

Unsafe abortions remain a major concern due to their detrimental effects on maternal health and mortality, as well as the associated social and financial strains placed on women, families, and health-care systems. Globally, an estimated 25.1 million unsafe abortions take place each year, of which 97 per cent are in developing countries (Ganatra and others, 2017). Every year, at least 22,800 women die from complications related to abortion (Singh and others, 2018). The annual cost of providing post-abortion care in developing countries is estimated at US\$ 232 million (Singh and others, 2018).

Since the Cairo conference in 1994, many Governments have modified their legal provisions concerning abortion and strengthened programmes to provide safe abortion services and post-abortion care, and have adopted a variety of policies and programmes to improve reproductive health-care services and outcomes. This report provides an overview of the laws and policies on induced abortion for all 193 Members States, 2 Observer States (the Holy See and the State of Palestine) and 2 non-member States (Niue and Cook Islands) of the United Nations. This overview includes consideration of the various legal grounds for abortion and other requirements, including gestational limits, the number and cadre of personnel required to authorize an abortion, mandatory third-party consent, and compulsory counselling and waiting periods. The report also presents country-specific laws and policies on abortion for 197 countries (see country profiles in Annex III).

The data for this report were gathered in collaboration with the World Health Organization during 2017-2018, using a questionnaire that was cross-checked by public health and legal experts and sent to countries

³ Unsafe abortion is defined as a procedure for terminating an unwanted pregnancy either by persons lacking the necessary skills or in an environment lacking minimal medical standards or both.

for review. The data have been updated considering information on legal grounds for abortion collected during 2018-2019 in the module on fertility, family planning and reproductive health (module II) of the United Nations Twelfth Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development. Data on legal grounds were recoded to be comparable with information published in previous editions of the World Population Policies database (see definitions in Annex I).

I. ABORTION LAWS AND POLICIES

Every year, at least 22,800 women die from complications related to abortion (Singh and others, 2018). Most of these deaths are due to unsafe abortions. Complications from unsafe abortion are believed to account for the largest proportion of hospital admissions for gynaecological services in developing countries (Singh, 2006). Almost all deaths and morbidity from unsafe abortion occur in countries where abortion is severely restricted in law or in practice (Grimes and others, 2006; Haddad and Nour, 2009). Maternal mortality ratios (number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births) due to complications of unsafe abortion, for instance, are higher in regions with restrictive abortion laws than in regions with no or few restrictions on access to safe and legal abortion (United Nations, 2014; Shah and Ahman, 2009). According to the World Health Organization (2012), restricting legal access to abortion does not decrease the need for abortion, but it is likely to increase the number of women seeking illegal and unsafe abortions.

Given the nexus between legal and regulatory frameworks on the one hand and unsafe abortion and maternal mortality on the other, having a comprehensive overview of countries' laws and policies related to induced abortion is essential. Yet, categorizing abortion laws and policies in a comparable fashion is far from straightforward. Provisions relating to abortion vary widely, reflecting, in part, different legal systems. Countries that adhere to civil law, for instance, generally incorporate provisions relating to induced abortion into their criminal codes or criminal laws, specifying the legal grounds under which abortion is permitted, and who may be prosecuted if an unlawful abortion is performed. Most countries in Europe, including Belgium, France, Portugal and Spain and their former colonies adhere to a civil law system. Among these countries are those of Latin America, as well as the francophone and lusophone countries of sub-Saharan Africa.

In countries that adhere to common law, abortion is generally governed by court determinations and rulings made by judges. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and most of the countries once under its colonial rule adhere to common law. Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Singapore and the United States of America, as well as many anglophone countries in Africa, the Caribbean and Oceania follow common law.

In countries that adhere to Islamic law, known as *Shariah*, laws and policies on abortion are often influenced by the interpretation of religious scholars. Although Islamic jurisprudence does not encourage abortion, there is no direct prohibition in the *Qur'an*. Thus, many countries that adhere to Islamic law permit induced abortion for particular instances or during specific stages of gestational development (Shapiro, 2014). Islamic law, which is based primarily on the text of the *Qur'an*, is applied in many countries where the majority of the population is Muslim, including in countries of Northern Africa and Western Asia, as well as in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia and Pakistan.

While legal systems can be broadly categorised into these different groups, in practice, only rarely does the law of an individual country conform exactly to one of the above models. Most legal systems contain elements of more than one model.

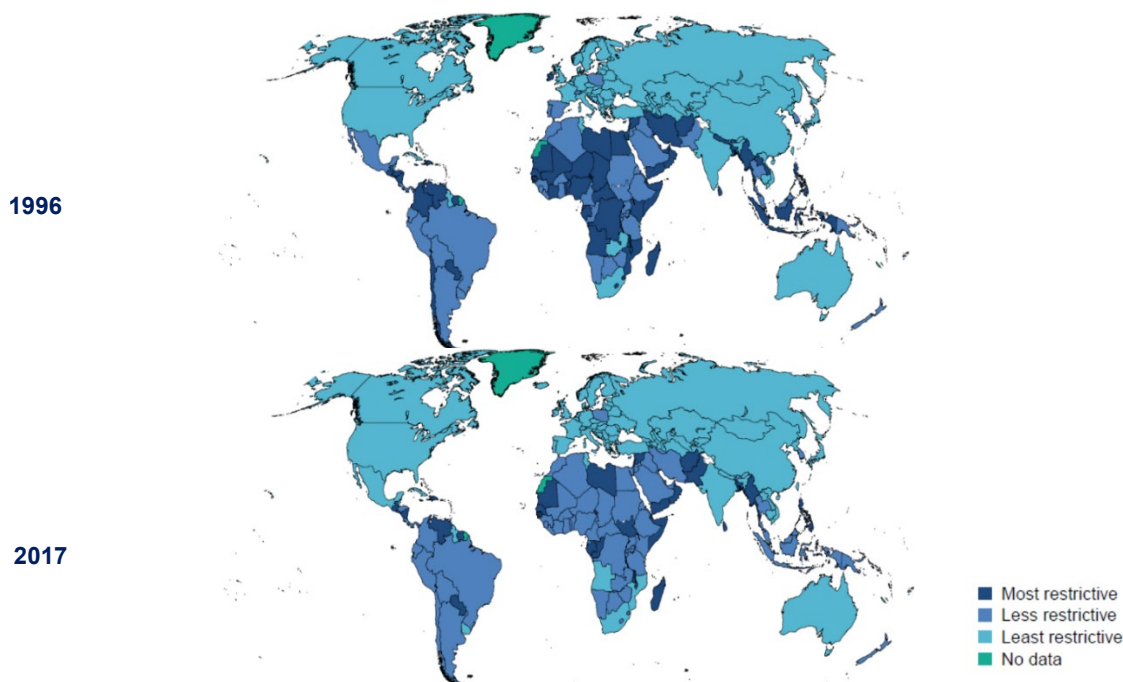
The existence of multiple laws for a given country is an additional aspect that contributes to the complexity of comparing abortion laws across countries. Some countries, for example, have enacted special, dedicated abortion laws, while others have developed public health codes or medical ethics codes containing certain provisions that clarify how to interpret an abortion law. Examples of the former are the Termination of Pregnancy Act in Zambia and the Law and Regulation on Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy in Cabo Verde. Examples of the latter are the National Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines

in Nepal and the Abortion Guidelines and Standards from the Ministry of Health in Burundi. In some cases, the provisions of these special laws and codes conflict with other laws. In addition, some countries have plural legal systems, with distinct laws applying to specific ethnic or religious groups. Further, owing to the federal nature of certain countries, individual sub-jurisdictions — usually states or provinces — can have their own separate laws. Examples of countries where abortion laws vary by jurisdiction include Australia, Canada, Mexico, Nigeria and the United States of America. Hence even within countries, more than one abortion law may be in effect. This chapter provides an overview of abortion laws and policies, focusing on the legal grounds under which induced abortion is permitted and on criminal culpability for unlawful abortions.

A. LEGAL GROUNDS FOR ABORTION

The circumstances in which an induced abortion is permitted fall into five broad categories, namely: (1) to save the life of the pregnant woman; (2) to preserve a woman’s health, be it physical health, mental health, or both; (3) in cases of foetal impairment; (4) in cases of rape or incest; and (5) for economic or social reasons or on request. Generally, laws where abortion is permitted on request are viewed as the least restrictive, while laws that allow abortion only to save a woman’s life are considered the most restrictive. The number of countries permitting abortion on all of these legal grounds has increased between 1996 and 2017 (map I.1), in some cases gradually, in others rapidly (figure I.1). As of 2017, only four countries did not permit abortion on any grounds.

Map I.1. Restrictiveness of legal grounds on which abortion is permitted, 1996 and 2017

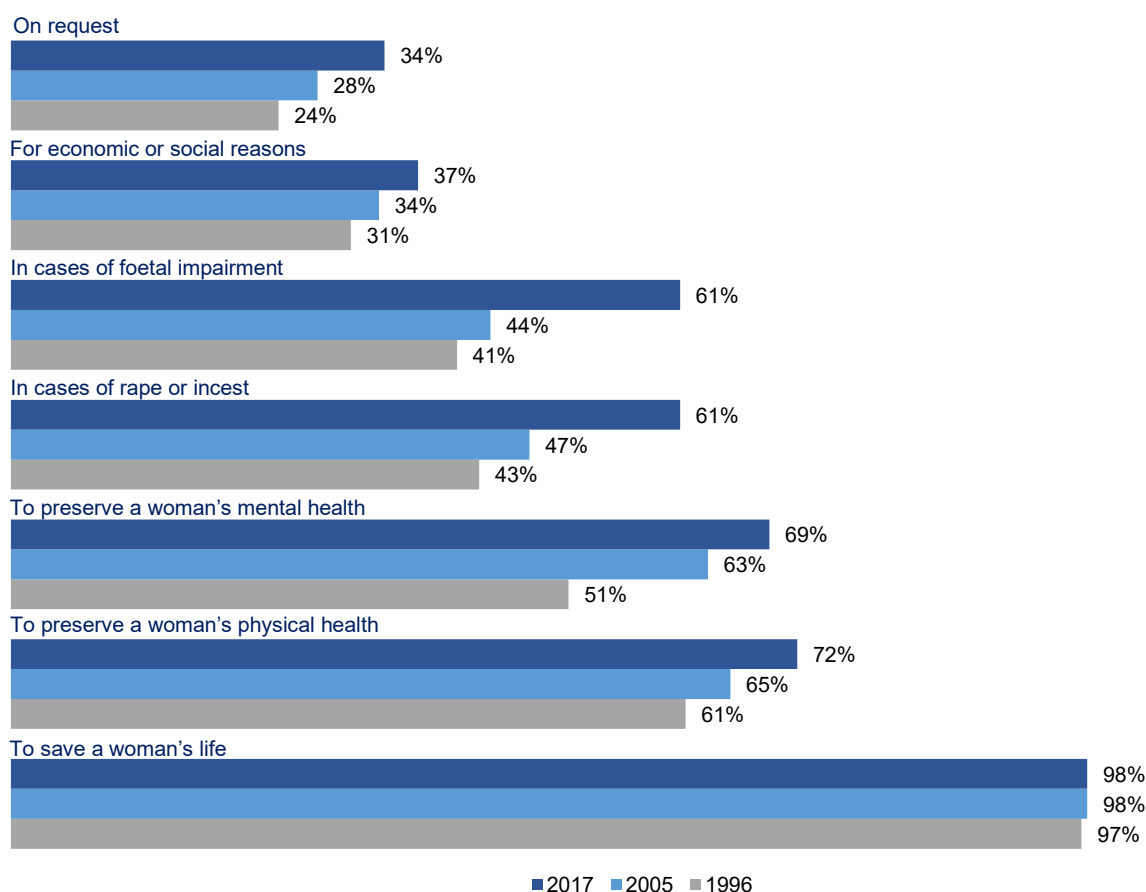


Sources: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a, 1996).

Notes: “Most restrictive” refers to countries that do not permit abortion on any grounds or permit abortion only to save a woman’s life; “less restrictive” refers to countries that permit abortion to preserve a woman’s physical or mental health, or in case of rape or incest, or because of foetal impairment; “least restrictive” refers to countries that permit abortion for economic or social reasons or on request.

Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material on these maps do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

Figure I.1. Percentage of countries where abortion is permitted on specific grounds, 1996, 2005 and 2017



Sources: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 1996, 2005, 2019a).

Note: Based on 197 countries. See Annex table 1.

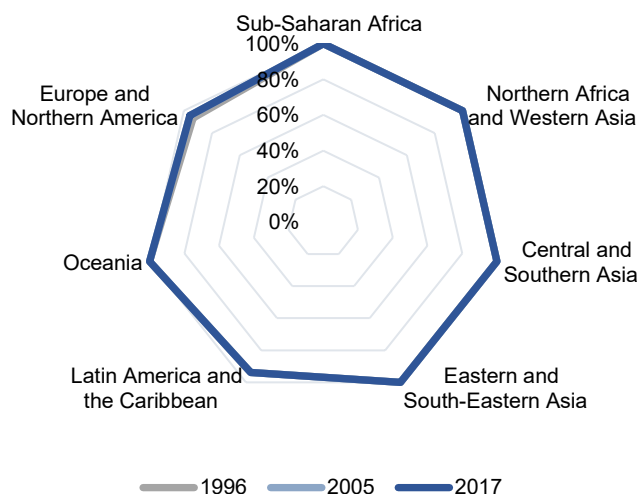
1. To save the life of the pregnant woman

Abortion is most commonly permitted on the grounds of saving the life of the pregnant woman. Although some countries provide detailed lists of what they consider life-threatening situations, in general, these situations are not specified but left to the judgement of the physician or physicians performing or authorizing the abortion. Countries that allow abortions to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman either do so explicitly or under the general criminal law principles of necessity (Davies, 1938; United Nations, 2014). Countries where the general criminal law principles of necessity are upheld to justify abortion to save the life of a pregnant woman include Antigua and Barbuda, Marshall Islands, the Philippines, and Trinidad and Tobago (United Nations, 2001a, 2001b, 2002).

Globally, nearly all countries allow abortion to save a woman's life. The proportion of countries allowing abortion to save the life of a pregnant woman has changed little between 1996 and 2017, rising from 97 per cent in 1996 to 98 per cent in 2017. There is also relatively little difference between regions in terms of the proportion of countries that allow abortion on the grounds of saving the life of a pregnant woman. All countries in Central and Southern Asia, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia, Northern Africa and

Western Asia, Oceania, and sub-Saharan Africa, allow abortion to save a woman's life, either explicitly, or under the general criminal law principles of necessity (figure I.2).

Figure I.2. Percentage of countries where abortion is permitted on the grounds of saving the life of the pregnant woman, by region, 1996, 2005 and 2017



Sources: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 1996, 2005, 2019a).
Note: Based on 197 countries. See Annex table 1.

2. To preserve a woman's physical or mental health

Preserving a woman's health is the second most common legal justification for induced abortion. In 2017, 72 per cent of countries permitted abortion as a means of preserving a woman's health. In around one third of these countries, the law did not specify whether the term "health" encompassed both physical and mental health, but merely indicated that an abortion was permitted to avert a risk of injury. In addition, 24 countries, while not explicitly referring to this justification in their law, permitted it implicitly since they authorized abortion on request (see below).

Of the 72 per cent of countries where abortion was permitted to preserve the physical health of a pregnant woman, two thirds made explicit reference to the concept of physical health, while the rest did not.⁴ The term "physical health" is defined in different ways. In some countries, the definition is narrow, encompassing a detailed list of the conditions required for the performance of an induced abortion on grounds of health, while in others it is broadly defined, allowing more room for interpretation. An example of the latter is the Comoros, where abortion can be performed for "serious medical reasons." Likewise, in Mongolia, an abortion is allowed if a pregnant woman suffers from an illness that is seriously threatening her health. By contrast, both Bulgaria and Georgia have a detailed list of medical conditions deemed to endanger the health of a pregnant woman.

Many laws explicitly provide for the performance of abortion in cases involving a threat to the mental health of a pregnant woman. Mental health is identified as a legal justification for abortion in 69 per cent of countries, and in nearly 60 per cent of these, there is an explicit reference in the law. What constitutes a threat to "mental health", however, varies significantly across countries. In some countries, no definition is provided, while in others, a detail list of indications is given. In Algeria and Tunisia, for instance, abortion

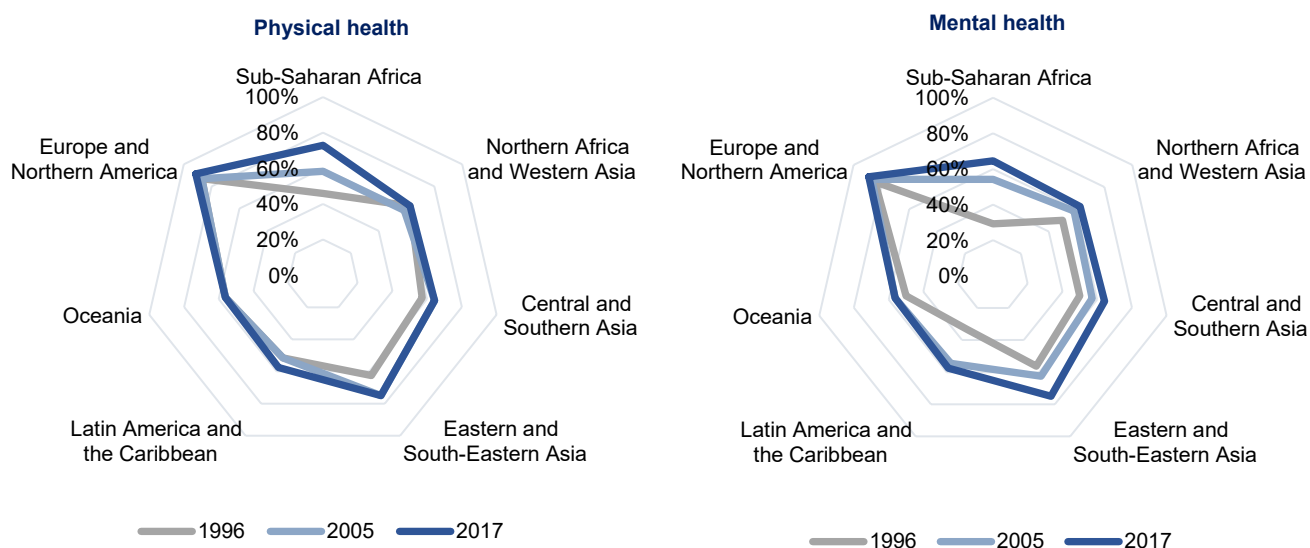
⁴ These include cases where abortion is permitted on request.

on mental health grounds is permitted when the mother’s psychological equilibrium risks being compromised by the continuation of the pregnancy, while in Uzbekistan the law provides a detailed list of mental health conditions that can be used to justify an abortion.

The number of countries allowing abortion for health reasons has changed significantly in recent decades. The proportion of countries allowing abortion to preserve the physical health of a woman rose from 61 per cent in 1996 to 72 per cent in 2017, while those allowing abortion to preserve the mental health of a woman increased from 51 per cent to 69 per cent over the same period (figure I.1).

There are pronounced regional differences in the share of countries allowing abortion on grounds of health. In Europe and Northern America, nearly all countries permitted abortion to preserve a woman’s physical or mental health (91 per cent and 89 per cent, respectively). By contrast, slightly more than half of the countries in Oceania, and Latin America and the Caribbean permitted abortion for reasons of health (figure I.3 and annex table 1). Furthermore, while in some regions there had been little change over the past two decades in the proportion of countries allowing abortion to preserve a woman’s physical or mental health, some regions, especially sub-Saharan Africa, have experienced a pronounced increase during this period. In sub-Saharan Africa, the share of countries recognizing physical health as a legal justification for induced abortion rose from 46 per cent in 1996 to 73 per cent in 2017, while the share of countries recognizing mental health in this context rose from 29 per cent in 1996 to 65 per cent in 2017. Like sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean also witnessed a sharp increase in the share of countries permitting abortion on grounds of mental health, which rose from 33 per cent in 1996 to 58 per cent in 2017, whereas the proportion of countries permitting abortion for reasons of physical health changed much less, moving from 52 per cent in 1996 to 58 per cent in 2017.

Figure I.3. Percentage of countries where abortion is permitted to preserve a woman’s physical or mental health, by region, 1996, 2005 and 2017



Sources: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 1996, 2005, 2019a).
 Note: Based on 197 countries. See Annex table 1.

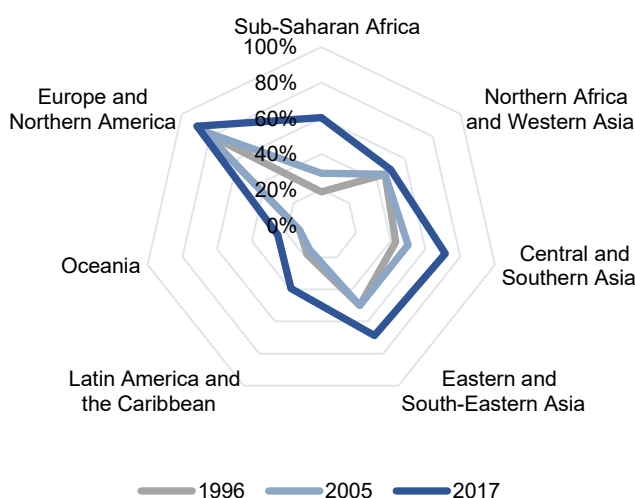
3. In cases of foetal impairment

Abortions are often permitted on grounds of foetal impairment. The laws of several countries specify the type and level of foetal impairment necessary to justify an abortion. For instance, Honduras and Portugal

permit abortion in cases where the unborn child is expected to suffer from a serious illness or congenital malformation. In Uruguay, abortions are allowed for foetal malformations incompatible with extrauterine life, while in Brazil, abortions on grounds of foetal impairment are only permitted in the case of an anencephalic foetus.⁵

At the global level, there has been a marked increase in the number of countries permitting abortion in cases of foetal impairment. Sixty-one per cent of countries allowed induced abortion in such situations in 2017, up from 41 per cent in 1996. While the overall number of countries permitting abortion in cases of foetal impairment has increased, pronounced regional differences remain. In 2017, 9 out of 10 countries in Europe and Northern America (89 per cent) permitted abortion for this reason, compared to 25 per cent of countries in Oceania and 39 per cent of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. Some regions, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Central and Southern Asia experienced a striking increase between 1996 and 2017 in the share of countries permitting abortion on grounds of foetal impairment. In sub-Saharan Africa, the share rose from 19 per cent in to 60 per cent over this period. Likewise, in Central and Southern Asia the share increased from 43 per cent to 71 per cent during the same period. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the share of countries recognizing foetal impairment as a justification for induced abortion rose from 18 per cent in 1996 to 39 per cent in 2017.

Figure I.4. Percentage of countries where abortion is permitted on the grounds of foetal impairment, by region, 1996, 2005 and 2017



Sources: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 1996, 2005, 2019a).

Note: Based on 197 countries. See Annex table 1.

4. In cases of rape or incest

Permitting abortions to be performed in cases of rape or incest is a common provision in the laws of many countries. Even in countries with relatively restrictive abortion legislation, abortion is often allowed on these grounds. Globally, 95 countries specifically mentioned rape in their legislation, while 57 countries made explicit reference to incest as a legal justification for abortion. Other countries refer to these as cases in which the pregnancy is the result of a “criminal offence”, with no specification of

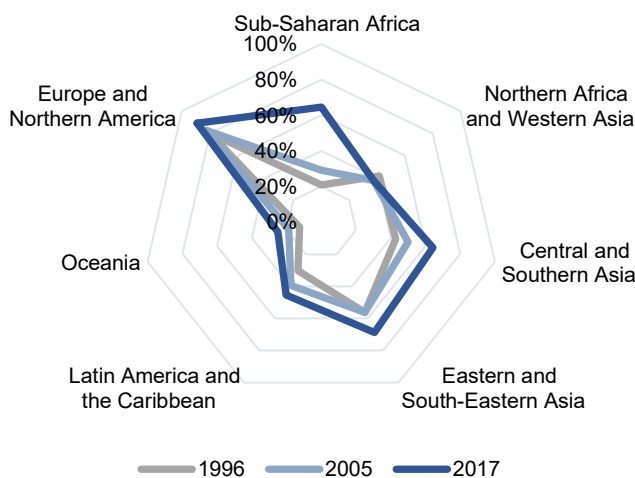
⁵ Anencephaly refers to the absence of a major portion of the brain, skull and scalp that occurs during embryonic development.

the nature of the offence. Overall, 61 per cent of countries in 2017 either referred to one or both grounds in their law or did so implicitly since they permitted abortion on request.

Procedural requirements for abortion in cases of rape or incest vary. Some countries require the case to be brought to court or reported to the police or judicial authorities before permission for an abortion can be granted on the grounds of rape or incest (see also chapter II). In others, it is sufficient for the pregnant woman to report that the pregnancy was the result of rape or incest.

The proportion of countries allowing abortion in cases of rape or incest rose from 43 per cent in 1996 to 61 per cent in 2017. Europe and Northern America had the highest proportion of countries permitting abortion in cases of rape or incest (89 per cent), while Oceania (25 per cent) and Northern Africa and Western Asia (38 per cent) had the lowest proportions. In these three regions, the share of countries authorizing abortion for rape or incest changed little over the past decades. By contrast, sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia, and Central and Southern Asia experienced a pronounced increase (figure I.5). In sub-Saharan Africa, the share of countries allowing abortion in cases of rape or incest rose from 21 per cent in 1996 to 65 per cent in 2017; in Eastern and South-Eastern Asia, it rose from 56 per cent in 1996 to 69 per cent in 2017; while in Central and Southern Asia, it rose from 43 per cent in 1996 to 64 per cent in 2017.

Figure I.5. Percentage of countries where abortion is permitted on the grounds of rape or incest, by region, 1996, 2005 and 2017



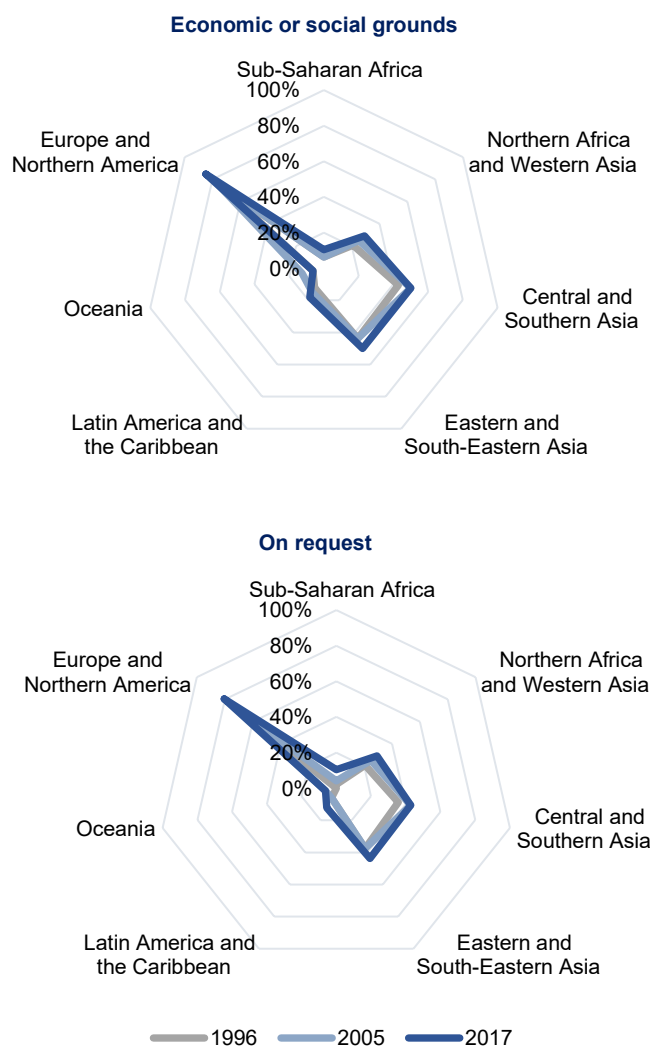
Sources: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 1996, 2005, 2019a).
 Note: Based on 197 countries. See Annex table 1.

5. On economic or social grounds or on request

In 2017, 37 per cent of countries permitted abortion for economic or social reasons (annex table 1). The wording of laws authorizing induced abortion on these grounds varies widely. Some countries specifically mention economic or social conditions while others only imply them. For example, in Barbados, the abortion law specifies that, in determining whether the continuation of the pregnancy would involve a risk of injury to the health of the pregnant woman, the medical practitioner must consider the “pregnant woman’s social and economic environment, whether actual or foreseeable”. In Belarus, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, the social circumstances stipulated in law are quite detailed and include the age and marital status of the pregnant woman, and the number of children she already has. In Iceland, the permissible social

reasons for obtaining an abortion include a history of giving birth to many children at short intervals and inability to take care of the child in a satisfactory manner. Most laws that permit induced abortion for economic or social reasons are interpreted quite liberally and, in practice, differ little from laws that allow abortion on request.

Figure I.6. Percentage of countries where abortion is permitted on economic or social grounds or on request, by region, 1996, 2005 and 2017



Sources: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 1996, 2005, 2019a).

Note: Based on 197 countries. See Annex table 1.

In 2017, 34 per cent of countries allowed abortion to be performed on request. In many countries, a pregnant woman seeking an abortion on this basis is not required to justify her rationale under the law. In others, however, such as in Belgium and France, a pregnant woman may be required to state that she is in a situation of crisis or distress. This requirement is generally viewed as a formality and the decision to have the abortion rests with the woman. Countries that allow abortion on request often establish gestational limits for performance of the abortion, usually within the first trimester. After this stage of pregnancy, the woman must present documentation citing additional reasons for the abortion to be authorized (see also chapter II).

In 2017, 37 per cent of countries permitted abortion for economic or social reasons, up from 31 per cent in 1996; while the proportion of countries permitting abortion upon request increased from 24 per cent in 1996 to 34 per cent in 2017. In 2017, 85 per cent of countries in Europe and Northern America authorized abortion for economic or social reasons and 80 per cent permitted abortion on request. By contrast, Oceania had the lowest share of countries authorizing abortion on economic or social grounds or on request in 2017 (6 per cent for both), followed by sub-Saharan Africa (10 per cent for both), and Latin America and the Caribbean (18 per cent for economic or social reasons and 12 per cent on request). Compared to other legal grounds, the share of countries permitting abortion on economic or social grounds or on request showed relatively little change across all regions during the period from 1996 to 2017.

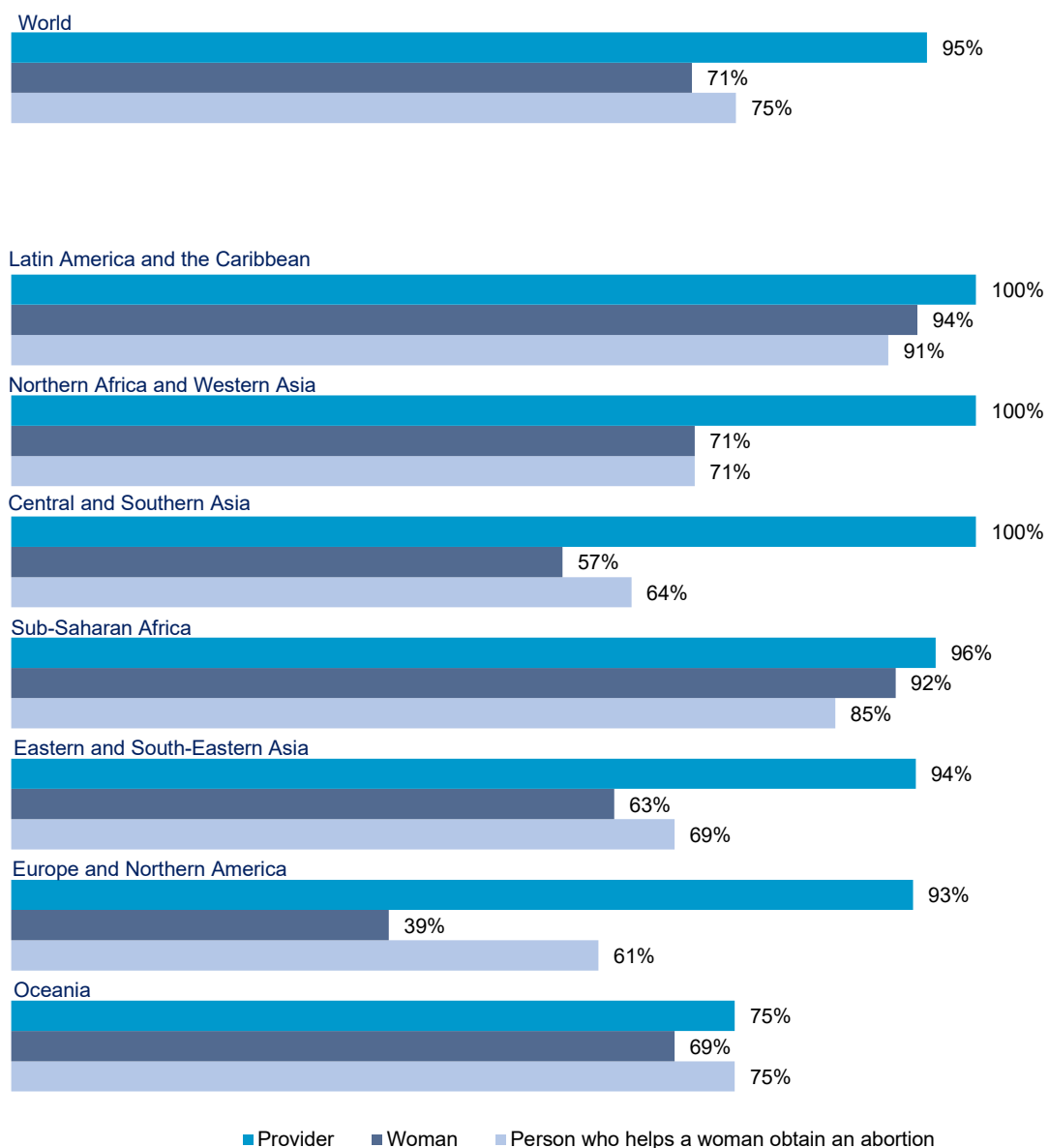
B. CRIMINAL CULPABILITY FOR UNLAWFUL ABORTIONS

When an abortion is performed unlawfully, criminal charges may be brought against those involved. Prosecution of the woman undergoing the abortion may be sought, or alternatively the provider or another person who assists the woman in obtaining an abortion may be held criminally culpable. In 2017, 95 per cent of countries indicated that the provider of an unlawful abortion could be held criminally liable; 71 per cent of countries indicated that a woman undergoing an unlawful abortion could be criminally charged; while 65 per cent of countries indicated that a person who helped a woman to obtain such an abortion could be held criminally culpable.

In all countries in Central and Southern Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Northern Africa and Western Asia, providers could be criminally charged for performing illegal abortions (figure I.7). Latin America and the Caribbean (94 per cent) had the highest share of countries reporting that the woman can be criminally liable for an unlawful abortion, followed by sub-Saharan Africa (92 per cent). Latin America and the Caribbean (91 per cent) also had the highest share of countries where a person who assists a woman in obtaining an unlawful abortion could be criminally charged.

While the majority of countries may criminally charge persons involved in an unlawful abortion, many have stipulated mitigating circumstances that need to be taken into consideration in sentencing. In Ethiopia, for instance, where the pregnancy has been terminated on account of extreme poverty, it must be considered a mitigating circumstance by the courts. In Peru, an abortion is criminalized in cases of pregnancy resulting from rape but carries a reduced sentence of three months in prison, well below the minimum of one year or the maximum of five years when an abortion is obtained for other reasons.

Figure I.7. Percentage of countries where the provider, the pregnant woman or another person who assists her in obtaining an unlawful abortion may be criminally charged, by region, 2017



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on 197 countries. The order of the regions is determined by the share of countries in which the provider may be criminally charged for an illegal abortion. See Annex table 2.

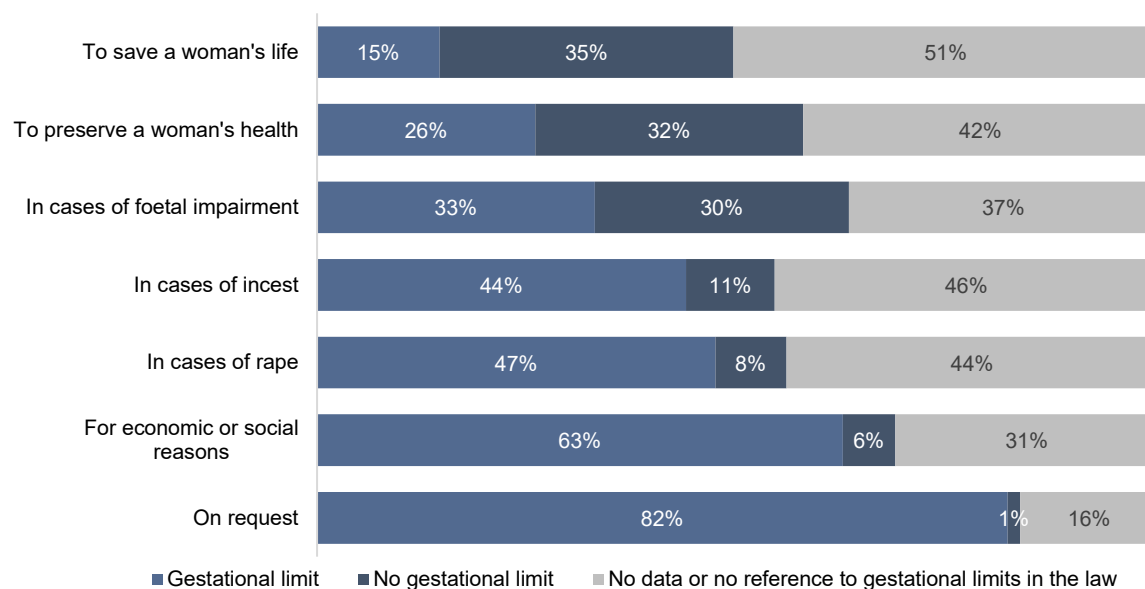
II. REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION

In addition to the legal grounds and criminal culpability, countries often stipulate additional requirements and regulations for performing abortions under their jurisdiction. These can be used to more clearly outline the specific instances under which an induced abortion is permissible, as well as to determine the process to obtain authorization for a lawful abortion. A country might, for example, impose gestational limits for an abortion performed for a particular reason. Other common types of requirements relate to the number and cadre of personnel required to authorise an abortion, mandatory third-party consent and various other requirements including mandatory counselling and waiting periods.

A. GESTATIONAL LIMITS

By applying a gestational limit, Governments specify the most advanced stage of pregnancy in which an induced abortion may legally be performed given the legal justification for the procedure. In 2017, 54 per cent of countries had gestational limits for induced abortion, with Europe and Northern America, and Central and Southern Asia recording the highest shares of countries with such limits (83 per cent and 71 per cent, respectively) (annex table 3). Gestational limits are not, however, uniformly applied across all legal grounds (figure II.1). The least restrictive legal grounds for obtaining an abortion, such as abortion on request or for economic or social reasons, tend to have more stringent gestational limits than the narrower legal justifications, such as for saving a woman’s life or safeguarding health, or in cases of rape or incest or foetal impairment. Of the 67 countries that allowed abortion on request in 2017, all but 12 (82 per cent) specified a gestational limit. Likewise, nearly two thirds of the countries that explicitly recognized economic or social reasons as legal grounds for induced abortion imposed a gestational limit in such cases. Conversely, for abortions to save a woman’s life, only 15 per cent of countries specified a gestational limit, while for abortions to preserve a woman’s health, 26 per cent of countries had such a requirement.

Figure II.1. Percentage of countries imposing a gestational limit, among those permitting abortion, by legal grounds, 2017



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on 197 countries. The order of the regions is determined by the share of countries imposing a gestational limit for each legal justification.

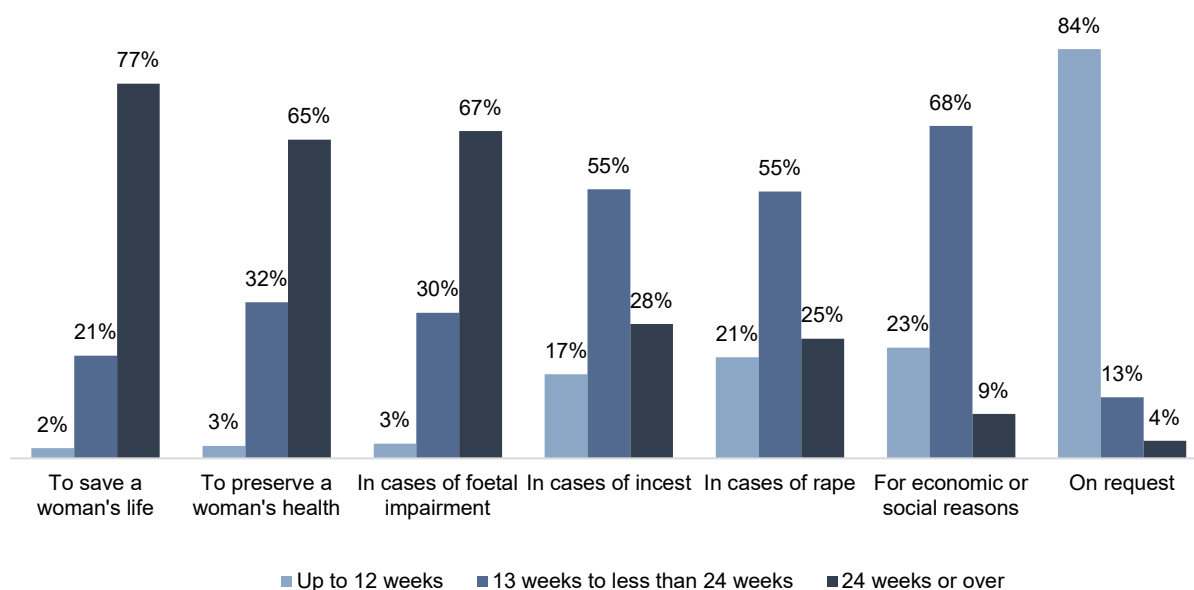
Box II. 1. Gestation: Definition and related terminology

The gestation of a pregnancy refers to its duration and is usually expressed in weeks, starting from the first day of a woman's last menstrual period. Whilst inherently variable, the duration of a human pregnancy is typically around 40 weeks (WHO, 2012).

As a pregnancy progresses, there comes a point at which a foetus could potentially survive independently of its mother; this is often termed the point of "viability". Although many believe that viability begins at 24 weeks of gestation, the advent of new medical technologies capable of supporting premature babies born earlier than that has fuelled debate (Rysavy and others, 2015). The concept of viability has influenced the gestational restrictions on induced abortion that exist in many countries.

There tends to be an inverse relationship between the length of a gestational limit and the restrictiveness of the corresponding legal grounds for abortion (figure II.2). In many countries, induced abortions were permitted later in pregnancy to save the life of a pregnant woman or to preserve her health, as well as in cases of foetal impairment. For instance, 77 per cent of countries that allowed abortion for the purpose of saving a woman's life and which had information on gestational limits in the law indicated that an abortion to save a woman's life was legal at a gestation of 24 weeks or longer. Likewise, 65 per cent of countries permitting induced abortion to preserve a woman's physical or mental health and 67 per cent in cases of foetal impairment allowed abortions on such grounds at this later stage. Earlier gestational limits were more commonly seen for abortion on request, with 84 per cent of countries reporting a limit of less than 12 weeks in such situations. For abortion in cases of rape or incest, as well as for economic or social reasons, the majority of countries had gestational limits between 13 weeks and 24 weeks.

Figure II.2. Percentage of countries imposing a gestational limit, among those with information on gestational limits, by legal grounds and duration of the gestational limit, 2017



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on countries with information on gestational limits for each legal justification. The number of countries varies by legal grounds. Cases with no gestational limit were included in the group "24 weeks or over".

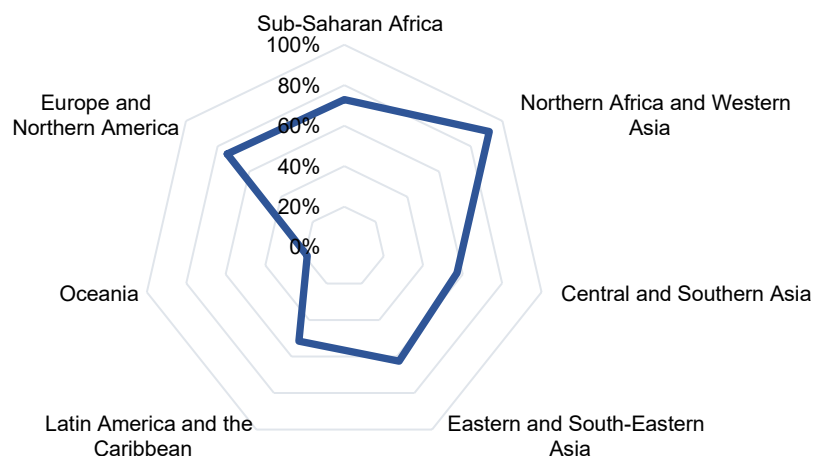
B. AUTHORIZATIONS BY A THIRD PARTY

For an abortion to be performed legally, countries may require that the procedure be authorized by a specified third party. This restriction may apply to all induced abortions performed in a country or may only be required for abortions in certain situations, such as those resulting from rape or incest. Other countries may require parental or judicial authorization for an induced abortion involving a minor.

1. Authorization by health-care professionals

In 2017, 65 per cent of countries required the authorization of a health-care professional for an induced abortion. There are, however, pronounced differences between regions in this requirement. Northern Africa and Western Asia had the highest share of countries requiring authorization by a health-care professional for an induced abortion (92 per cent), followed by Europe and Northern America (74 per cent) and sub-Saharan Africa (73 per cent) (figure II.3). Oceania had the lowest share of countries requiring such an authorization (19 per cent). In some countries, including Mozambique, Portugal and Spain, the authorizing health-care professionals must be different from those who perform the procedure.

Figure II.3. Percentage of countries requiring authorization by a health-care professional for an induced abortion, by region, 2017



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on 197 countries. See Annex table 3.

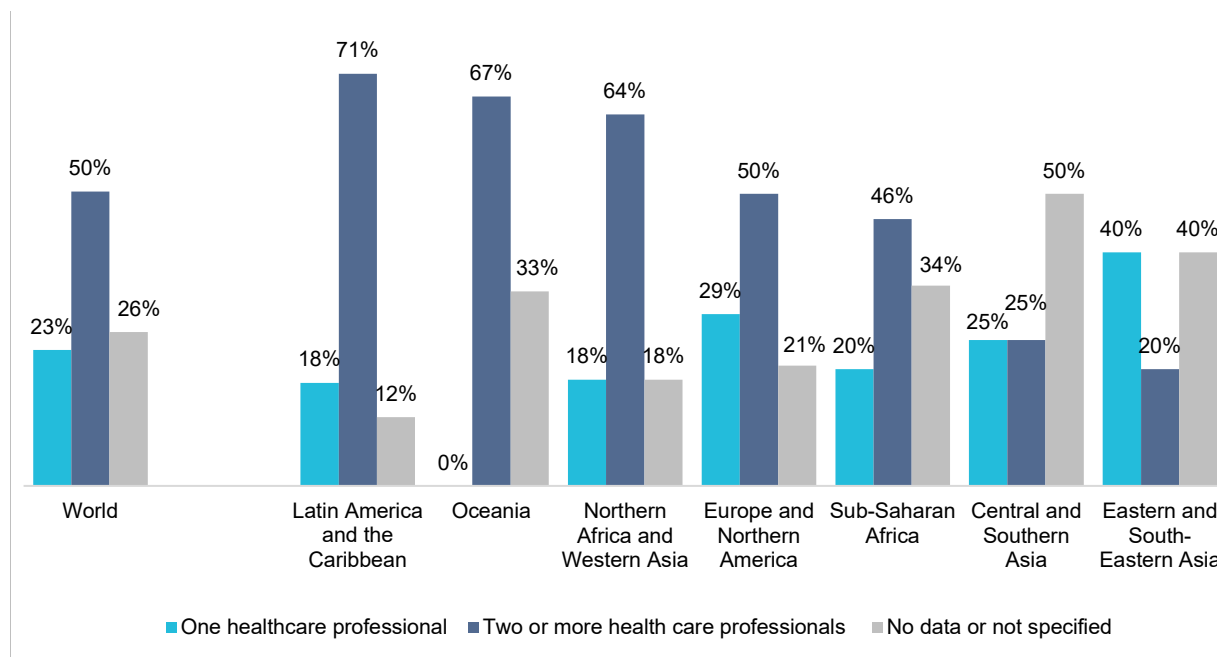
2. Number of authorizations required

The number of health-care professionals required to fulfil authorization requirements differs across regions. Globally, 50 per cent of countries required authorization by two or more health-care professionals, 23 per cent required the authorization of just one health-care professional, and the remaining 26 per cent did not specify a required number of authorizations (figure II.4). Latin America and the Caribbean had the highest share of countries requiring authorization by two or more health-care professionals (71 per cent), followed by Oceania (67 per cent) and Northern and Western Asia (64 per cent). Required authorization by a single health-care professional was most prevalent in Eastern and South-Eastern Asia (40 per cent).

In some countries the number of health-care professionals required varies by legal justification and gestational stage. In Belgium, for instance, pregnancies after 12 weeks of gestation can only be terminated

in cases of serious risk to the woman's health or foetal impairment, and the authorization of two doctors is required. Before 12 weeks, only one doctor is required, and the authorization is limited to assessing the woman's situation of distress and ensuring informed consent. Likewise, in Albania, the number and cadre of professionals authorizing an abortion depend on the grounds for which an abortion is sought as well as the gestation of the pregnancy. For abortions after 12 weeks performed for medical reasons, the authorization of three doctors is needed. For abortions in cases of rape prior to 22 weeks of gestation, authorization by one doctor, one social worker and one legal expert is required.

Figure II.4. Percentage of countries, among those requiring the authorization of a health-care professional for an induced abortion, by number of health-care professionals required and region, 2017



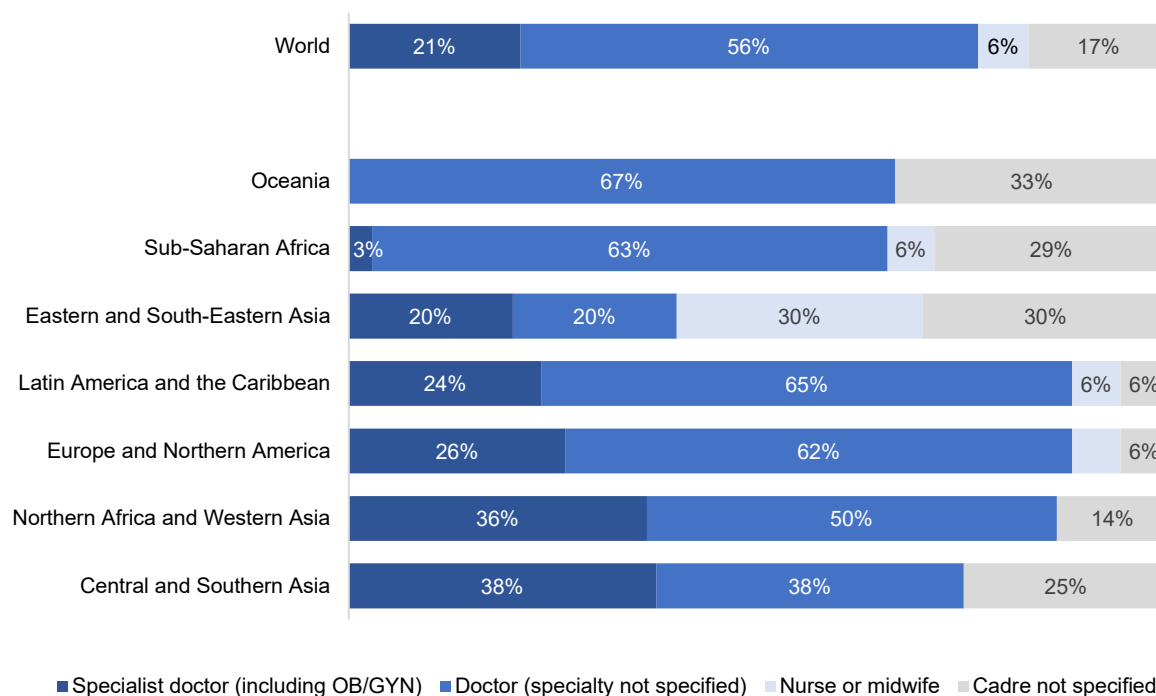
Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on 129 countries that require an authorization by a health-care professional for an induced abortion. Does not include countries where the requirement for an authorization by a health-care professional for an induced abortion varies by jurisdiction. The order of the regions is determined by the share of countries requiring two or more health-care professionals for the authorization for an induced abortion.

3. Cadre of authorizations

Amongst countries requiring a health-care professional's authorization for legal abortion, 21 per cent specified that the doctor must have, at a minimum, a specialization including in obstetrics and gynecology (OB/GYN), while 56 per cent did not indicate a required specialization for the doctor (figure II.5). Europe and Northern America, and Latin America and the Caribbean had the highest shares of countries (88 per cent each) requiring health-care professionals to be, at a minimum, doctors or specialist doctors in order to authorize an induced abortion. Central and Southern Asia had the highest share requiring that the authorizing health-care professional be a specialist doctor, including OB/GYN (38 per cent). Conversely, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia had the highest share of countries allowing a lower cadre of health-care professionals, such as a nurse or a midwife, to provide the required authorization (30 per cent).

Figure II.5. Percentage of countries, among those requiring the authorization of a health-care professional for an induced abortion, by minimum cadre of health-care professional required and region, 2017



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on 129 countries that require authorization by a health-care professional for an induced abortion. Does not include countries where the required authorization by a health-care professional varies by jurisdiction. “Other provider” is included in the category “Nurse or midwife” when no other cadre is specified. The order of the regions is determined by the share of countries requiring a specialist doctor for authorization of an induced abortion.

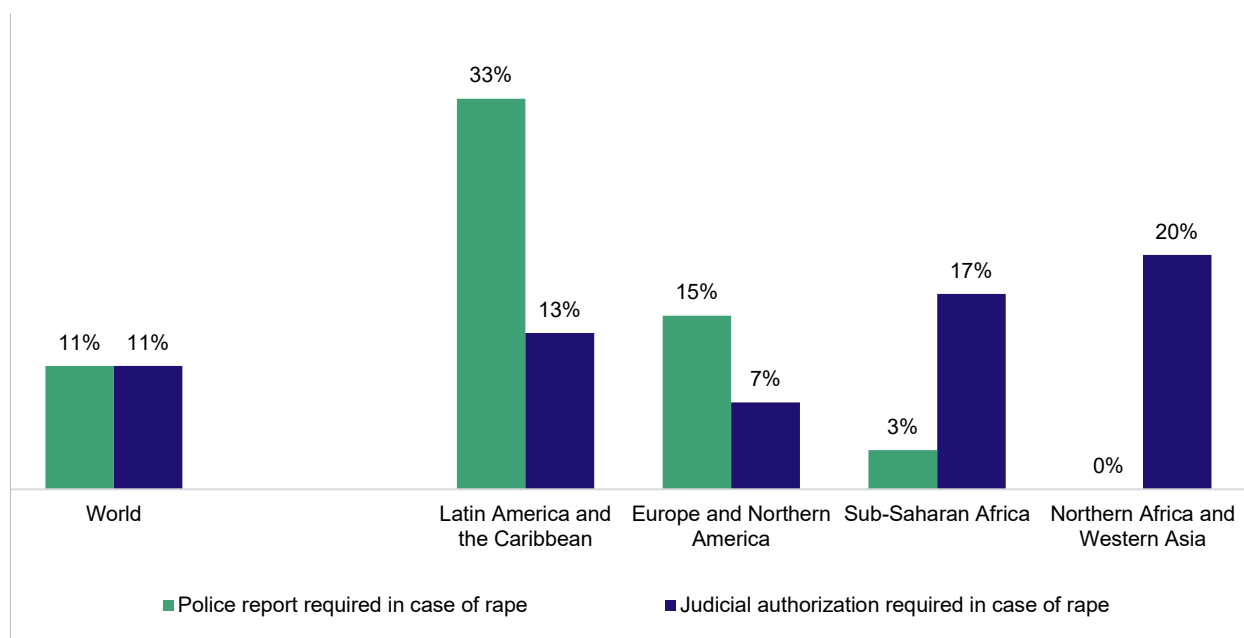
4. Judicial authorization and police report in cases of rape

For abortions performed in cases of pregnancy due to rape, judicial authorization may also be required. Of the 95 countries in which rape was explicitly identified as a legal justification for induced abortion, 11 per cent required judicial authorization (figure II.6). Eleven per cent also required a police report for such abortions to be authorized. Latin America and the Caribbean had the highest share of countries requiring a police report under such circumstances (33 per cent), followed by Europe and Northern America (15 per cent). Northern Africa and Western Asia had the highest share of countries requiring judicial authorization in cases of rape (20 per cent), followed by sub-Saharan Africa (17 per cent).

In some countries, additional procedures are put in place in cases of rape, especially when there are concerns about the woman’s mental health. In Argentina, for instance, when a pregnancy is the result of rape, the health-care professional treating the woman is required to request proof of an official complaint of rape or, where appropriate, an affidavit from the woman or her legal representative. When the pregnancy is the result of sexual assault on a woman with mental disability, the person who legally represents her is asked to provide proof of a formal complaint about the assault or, where appropriate, an official sworn declaration of her representative. No additional evidence, documentation or information, nor involvement by other people or institutions is required in such cases. Some countries have additional requirements when the rape victim is a minor. In Latvia, for instance, abortion for a woman younger than 16 years of age in the case of a pregnancy resulting from rape is allowed only if there is a confirmation by a council of doctors or

a certification of rape issued by a law enforcement institution, and if at least one of the young woman's parents or her guardian has given written consent.

Figure II.6. Percentage of countries requiring judicial authorization or a police report for performing an induced abortion in cases of rape, among those permitting abortion on this ground, by region, 2017



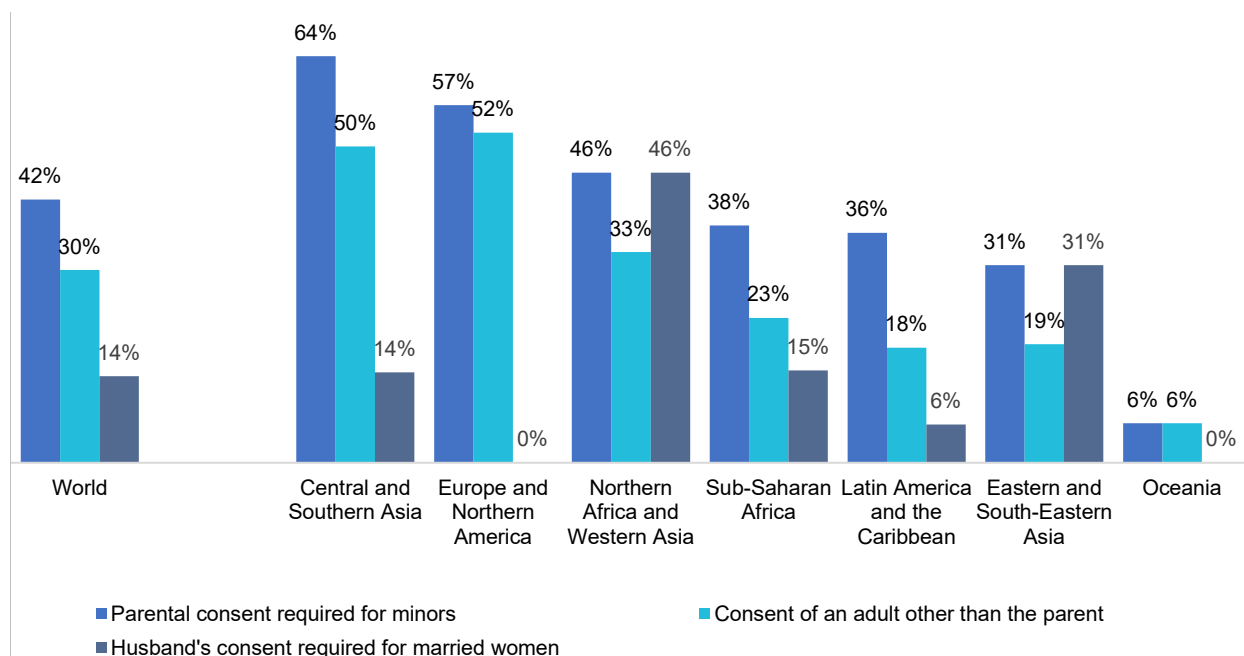
Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on 95 countries where rape is explicitly identified as a legal justification for abortion. The order of the regions is determined by the share of countries requiring a police report for performing an induced abortion in cases of rape. Central and Southern Asia, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia, and Oceania are excluded from the figure due to a lack of data. See Annex table 4.

C. THIRD-PARTY CONSENT

In a number of countries, in addition to the consent of the woman, consent from a third party is required to perform an induced abortion. This restriction may apply to women under the legal age of responsibility. In 2017, 42 per cent of countries required parental consent for abortions in the case of a minor. Central and Southern Asia had the highest share of countries requiring parental consent for minors (64 per cent), followed by Europe and Northern America (57 per cent), while Oceania (6 per cent) had the lowest share (figure II.7).

Thirty per cent of countries permitted an adult other than a parent to give consent for an induced abortion involving a minor if a parent was not available. Europe and Northern America (52 per cent) and Central and Southern Asia (50 per cent) were the regions with the highest shares of countries allowing consent from another adult in such cases. Many countries with a requirement for parental consent for minors also specify the age at which such consent is no longer required. Of the 41 countries with information on the age of parental consent for an induced abortion involving a minor, 12 per cent stipulated that parental consent was required for minors who are 14 years of age or younger, 46 per cent required parental consent up to 16 years of age, while 41 per cent required such consent up to 18 years of age (figure II.8).

Figure II.7. Percentage of countries requiring consent for an induced abortion by a parent or another adult in the case of minors, or requiring consent by a spouse in the case of married women, by region, 2017

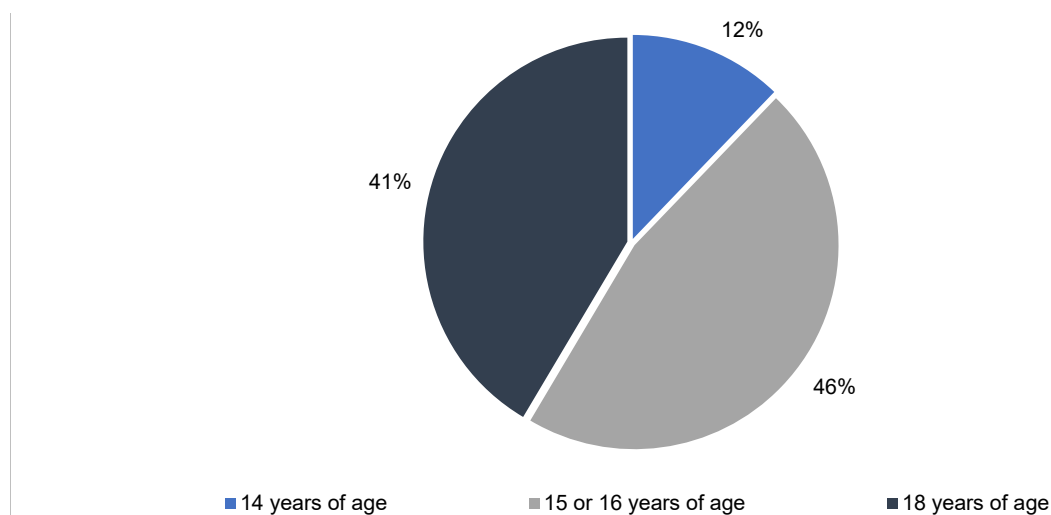
Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on 197 countries. The order of the regions is determined by the share of countries requiring parental consent for an induced abortion involving a minor. See Annex table 4.

Some countries that require parental consent for a minor to have an abortion specify nonetheless the circumstances under which this consent can be waived. In Cuba, for example, parental consent for a pregnancy termination can be waived when there is a risk that obtaining such consent would result in serious conflict and violence. Likewise, in Monaco, parental authorization may be waived in case of an emergency. If parental consent is not obtained, or if the pregnancy is the result of a criminal act, then the procedure can be authorised by the “guardianship judge” or a tribunal of the court of first instance. In Turkey, the requirement of obtaining permission from a parent or from a justice of the peace may be waived when there is danger to the minor’s life or health unless urgent action is taken.

The consent of a husband for a married woman to obtain an induced abortion is somewhat less common, reported by 14 per cent of countries in 2017. There are, nevertheless, marked differences between regions, with nearly half of all countries in Northern Africa and Western Asia (46 per cent) requiring spousal consent for an induced abortion, compared to none of the countries in Europe and Northern America or in Oceania. In some countries, the consent of a husband is required only for an abortion that is justified on particular grounds. In Honduras, for instance, the code of medical ethics of the Honduran Medical Association sets out the exceptional grounds and circumstances in which an abortion for therapeutic purposes can be performed, namely when the life or health of the woman is in danger and all other options have been exhausted. This requires the consent of the woman and her husband or legal representative. In others, the consent of a husband is required only for specific religious or ethnic groups. In Malaysia, for instance, Muslim women require a husband’s consent to obtain an induced abortion, but this legal requirement is not applied to other women.

Figure II.8. Percentage of countries, among those requiring parental consent, by age when parental consent is no longer required, 2017



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on 41 countries requiring consent by a parent for an induced abortion and with information on the age when a woman can obtain induced abortion without parental consent.

D. OTHER MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

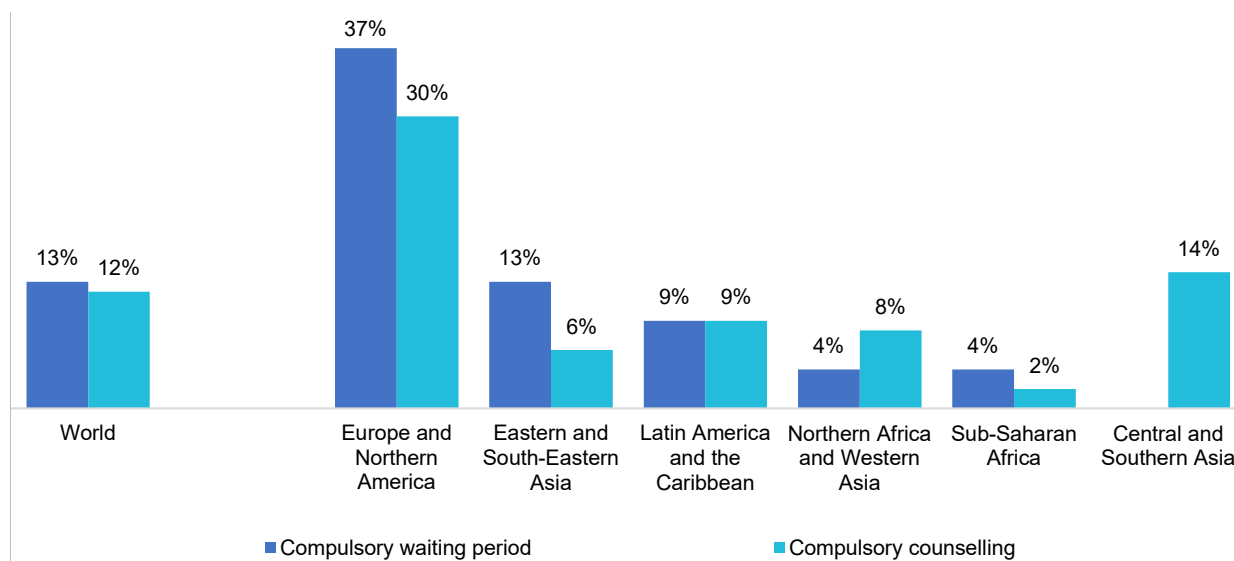
In addition to gestational limits, authorizations and third-party consent, countries often stipulate additional mandatory requirements for obtaining an induced abortion. Such requirements include compulsory waiting periods or counselling for women seeking an induced abortion, testing for human immunodeficiency viruses (HIV) or other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), as well as mandatory ultrasound viewings or heartbeat screenings.

1. Compulsory waiting period

In 2017, 13 per cent of countries had compulsory waiting periods prior to receiving an induced abortion. Europe and Northern America had the highest share of countries with a compulsory waiting period (37 per cent). In all the other regions, the share of countries having a compulsory waiting period was much lower.

In many countries, such as Italy, Saint Lucia and Sao Tome and Principe, the compulsory waiting period begins on the day that a woman first requests an induced abortion. In other countries, however, the waiting period begins after counselling or after a health-care professional has made a written submission requesting the procedure. In Latvia, for example, the waiting period begins from the time of being counselled, while in Germany it starts from the day after counselling. In Slovakia, it begins from the moment when the doctor sends a notification to the National Health Information Center. In some countries, compulsory waiting periods are mandated only for abortions justified on certain grounds. In Portugal, for instance, there is a waiting period of no less than three days from the day of the first consultation for an abortion on request. In Ireland, such abortions require a minimum compulsory waiting period of three days from the date of certification by a medical practitioner.

Figure II.9. Percentage of countries requiring a compulsory waiting period or counselling as part of the abortion procedure, by region, 2017

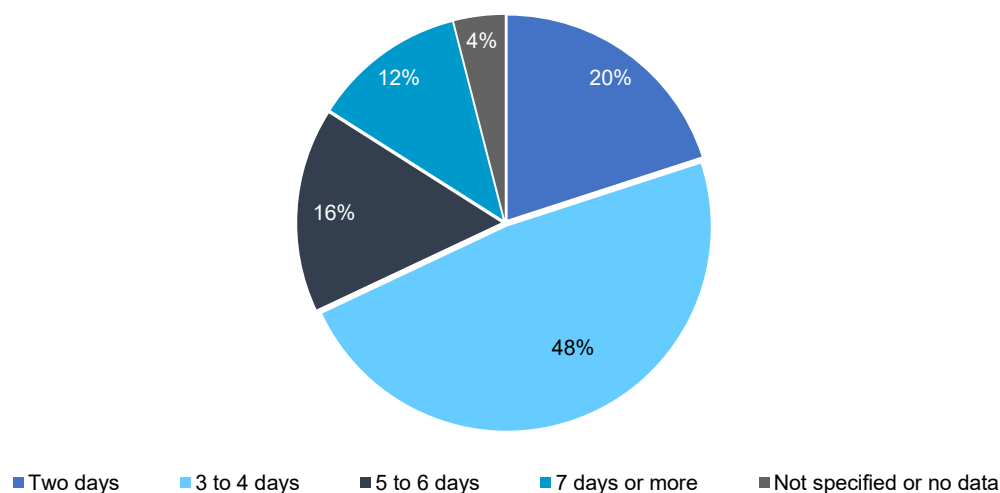


Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on 197 countries. Oceania is excluded from the figure because of lack of data. The order of the regions is determined by the share of countries with a compulsory waiting periods for an induced abortion. See Annex table 5.

The minimum mandatory waiting time in days ranges from a minimum of two days to a maximum of seven days. In nearly half of all countries with information available, the minimum mandatory waiting time for an abortion was between three and four days (48 per cent). In 20 per cent of countries it was two days; in 16 per cent, it was between five and six days; while in 12 per cent, it was seven days (figure II.10).

Figure II.10. Percentage of countries, among those mandating a compulsory waiting period for an induced abortion, by minimum mandatory waiting period, 2017



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (United Nations, 2019a).

Note: Based on 25 countries mandating a compulsory waiting period for induced abortions. Does not include countries where the requirement for a compulsory waiting period for an induced abortion varies by jurisdiction.

2. *Compulsory counselling*

In 2017, 12 per cent of countries required compulsory counselling as part of the procedure for obtaining a legal abortion. Europe and Northern America had the highest proportion of countries requiring compulsory counselling for women seeking to undergo an abortion (30 per cent), followed by Central and Southern Asia (14 per cent). In all other regions, the share of countries requiring compulsory counselling was less than 10 per cent. Where mandatory, the content of such counselling may vary across countries. In Belgium, for instance, the health-care facilities are required to provide detailed information, in particular, on the rights, assistance and other benefits guaranteed by law to families and to unmarried mothers and their children. The woman seeking an abortion is also informed about the possibilities offered by the adoption of an unborn child, and when requested by the doctor or the woman, she is assisted and counselled on the means to which she may have recourse to solve the psychological and social problems posed by her situation.

3. *Mandatory tests or screenings*

Other, though less prevalent, requirements are for the woman to be screened for HIV or other sexually-transmitted infections (STIs). One country (the Russian Federation) required HIV testing prior to authorizing an induced abortion, while four countries (Cambodia, Ethiopia, Lithuania and Serbia) required testing for other STIs. These requirements varied by jurisdiction in Australia and in Bosnia and Herzegovina. One country (North Macedonia) required the woman to view an ultrasound or hear the foetal heartbeat before obtaining an induced abortion. In Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the United States of America, this requirement varied by jurisdiction.

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ANNEX I. DEFINITIONS OF SELECTED POLICY VARIABLES

Variable	Definition and response categories
Age when a woman can obtain induced abortion without parental consent	Expressed in years.
Another adult consent in place of a parent	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No.
Authorization by a health-care professional	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Authorized in specially licensed facilities only	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Broad types of legal grounds on which abortion is permitted	“Most restrictive” refers to countries that do not permit abortion on any grounds or permit abortion only to save a woman’s life; “less restrictive” refers to countries that permit abortion to preserve a woman’s physical or mental health, or in case of rape or incest, or because of foetal impairment; “least restrictive” refers to countries that permit abortion for economic or social reasons or on request.
Cadre of health-care professionals required	Response categories for this variable are: Doctor (specialty not specified); Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN; Nurse; Midwife / Nurse-midwife; Other (specify).
Compulsory counselling	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Compulsory waiting period	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Criminal culpability for abortion	Response categories for this variable are: Woman; Provider; Person who helps a woman obtain abortion; Not applicable.
Gestational limit by legal grounds for abortion	Expressed in weeks.
HIV test required	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Husband’s consent required for married women	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Judicial authorization required for minors	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Judicial authorization required in case of rape	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Legal grounds for abortion	Indicates legal provisions under which the Government permits induced abortion in the country. Induced abortions are those initiated by deliberate action taken with the intention of terminating pregnancy; all other abortions are considered spontaneous. Seven grounds on which abortion is permitted are distinguished: (1) to save a woman’s life; (2) to preserve a woman’s physical health; (3) to preserve a woman’s mental health; (4) because of foetal impairment; (5) in case of rape or incest; (6) for economic or social reasons; and (7) on request. Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction. Data on legal grounds were recoded to be comparable with data published in previous editions of the <i>World Population Policies Database</i> . The recoding scheme used is as follows: (a) in cases where abortion was permitted on request, all legal grounds that were not specified were recoded "Yes"; (2) in cases where abortion was permitted to preserve a woman's health and the legal grounds to save a woman's life was not specified, the latter was recoded "Yes"; (3) in cases where abortion was permitted to preserve a woman's health and the legal grounds to

Variable	Definition and response categories
	preserve a woman's physical health was not specified, the latter was recoded "Yes"; (4) in cases where abortion was permitted to preserve a woman's health and the legal grounds to preserve a woman's mental health was not specified, the latter was recoded "Yes"; (5) in cases where abortion was permitted to preserve a woman's physical health and the legal grounds to preserve a woman's health was not specified, the latter was recoded "Yes". In cases where legal grounds vary by jurisdiction, the less restrictive justification was used.
Other STI test(s) required	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Parental consent required for minors	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Police report required in case of rape	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.
Woman required to view ultrasound images and/or listen to foetal heartbeat	Response categories for this variable are: Yes; No; Varies by jurisdiction.

ANNEX II. TABLES

ANNEX TABLE 1. PERCENTAGE OF COUNTRIES THAT PERMITTED ABORTION, BY LEGAL GROUNDS AND BY REGION, 1996, 2005 AND 2017

	To save a woman's life	To preserve a woman's physical	To preserve a woman's mental health	In cases of foetal impairment	In cases of rape or incest	For economic or social reasons	On request
1996							
World	97	61	51	41	43	31	24
Sub-Saharan Africa	100	46	29	19	21	6	2
Northern Africa and Western Asia	100	63	50	46	42	21	21
Central and Southern Asia	100	57	50	43	43	43	36
Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	100	63	56	50	56	44	38
Latin America and the Caribbean	94	52	33	18	30	12	6
Oceania	100	56	50	13	13	6	0
Europe and Northern America	93	87	85	83	80	76	63
2005							
World	98	65	63	44	47	34	28
Sub-Saharan Africa	100	58	54	29	29	6	4
Northern Africa and Western Asia	100	58	58	46	38	25	25
Central and Southern Asia	100	64	57	50	50	50	43
Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	100	75	63	50	56	44	38
Latin America and the Caribbean	94	52	55	15	39	15	6
Oceania	100	56	56	13	19	13	6
Europe and Northern America	96	87	87	85	83	78	70
2017							
World	98	72	69	61	61	37	34
Sub-Saharan Africa	100	73	65	60	65	10	10
Northern Africa and Western Asia	100	63	63	50	38	29	29
Central and Southern Asia	100	64	64	71	64	50	43
Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	100	75	75	69	69	50	44
Latin America and the Caribbean	94	58	58	39	45	18	12
Oceania	100	56	56	25	25	6	6
Europe and Northern America	96	91	89	89	89	85	80

ANNEX TABLE 2. PERCENTAGE OF COUNTRIES WHERE THE WOMAN, PROVIDER OR PERSON ASSISTING IN OBTAINING AN ABORTION MAY BE CRIMINALLY CHARGED FOR AN ILLEGAL ABORTION, BY REGION, 2017

	Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion		
	Woman	Provider	Person who helps a woman to obtain an abortion
World	71	95	75
Sub-Saharan Africa	92	96	85
Northern Africa and Western Asia	71	100	71
Central and Southern Asia	57	100	64
Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	63	94	69
Latin America and the Caribbean	94	100	91
Oceania	69	75	75
Europe and Northern America	39	93	61

ANNEX TABLE 3. PERCENTAGE OF COUNTRIES WITH GESTATIONAL LIMITS, OR REQUIRING THE AUTHORIZATION OF HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONALS, BY REGION, 2017

	Gestational limits or requiring the authorization of health-care professionals for legally induced abortions	
	Gestational limits	Authorization of health-care professional(s) required
World	54	65
Sub-Saharan Africa	40	73
Northern Africa and Western Asia	54	92
Central and Southern Asia	71	57
Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	69	63
Latin America and the Caribbean	39	52
Oceania	19	19
Europe and Northern America	83	74

ANNEX TABLE 4. PERCENTAGE OF COUNTRIES REQUIRING THIRD-PARTY CONSENT OR JUDICIAL AUTHORIZATIONS FOR INDUCED ABORTION, BY REGION, 2017

	Third-party consent or judicial authorizations for legally induced abortions					
	Parental consent required for minors	Judicial authorization required for minors	Consent of an adult other than a parent	Husband's consent required for married women	Judicial authorization required in case of rape	Police report required in case of rape
World	42	11	30	14	5	5
Sub-Saharan Africa	38	2	23	15	10	2
Northern Africa and Western Asia	46	21	33	46	4	0
Central and Southern Asia	64	14	50	14	0	0
Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	31	19	19	31	0	0
Latin America and the Caribbean	36	12	18	6	6	15
Oceania	6	6	6	0	0	0
Europe and Northern America	57	11	52	0	2	7

ANNEX TABLE 5. PERCENTAGE OF COUNTRIES WITH OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION, BY REGION, 2017

	Other requirements for legally induced abortions				
	Compulsory counselling	Compulsory waiting period	HIV test required	Other STI test(s) required	Required to view ultrasound and/or listen to foetal heartbeat
World	12	13	1	2	1
Sub-Saharan Africa	2	4	0	2	0
Northern Africa and Western Asia	8	4	0	0	0
Central and Southern Asia	14	0	0	0	0
Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	6	13	0	6	0
Latin America and the Caribbean	9	9	0	0	0
Oceania	0	0	0	0	0
Europe and Northern America	30	37	2	4	2

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ANNEX III. COUNTRY PROFILES

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Afghanistan

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Afghanistan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ¹	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

Notes:

The designations employed in this publication and the material presented in it do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Albania

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	22
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	3 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	7 ²
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Albania

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ³
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	—

Notes:

The designations employed in this publication and the material presented in it do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. The number and cadre of professionals authorizing an abortion depends on the ground on which an abortion is sought. For abortions after 12 weeks and for medical reasons, the authorization of three doctors is needed. For abortions in case of rape below 22 weeks of gestation, the authorization of a doctor, a social worker and a jurist is needed. A doctor, a social worker and a jurist, after examination and consultation, judges that the pregnancy is the result of rape or another sexual crime.

2. At time of first request. The waiting period may be shortened to two days by the doctor if otherwise the time periods in the law pertaining to gestational ages would be exceeded. After the 7 day waiting period, a woman must submit a written confirmation of request to the physician who will be doing procedure.

3. A facility must be a state or private health institution that meets the conditions set in the respective guidelines of the minister of Health and Environmental Protection.

4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Algeria

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Algeria

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Andorra

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Andorra

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. With prescription only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Angola

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	16
To preserve physical health	Yes	16
To preserve mental health	Yes	16
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	24
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	10
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ²
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Angola

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ³	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁴	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ⁵
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Pregnancy which is the result of a crime against freedom and sexual self-determination.
2. From the day the woman requests an abortion.
3. Official or authorized health facility.
4. Provider acting under the direction or supervision of a physician.
5. In an official or authorized health facility and in accordance with the state of medical knowledge and experience.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Antigua and Barbuda

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	— ²	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Antigua and Barbuda

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman. As a rule abortion must be performed within the first 16 weeks of gestation, although it can be performed later under exceptional circumstances.

2. Abortion for therapeutic purposes requires the authorization of a panel of physicians.

3. For non-gynaecological indications only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Argentina

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	Yes	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	Yes		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	14	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12-14
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	22
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	22
Misoprostol only	Yes	22
Other method(s)	Yes ⁴	12-14

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Argentina

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁵	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	No	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁶	Yes

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. When the pregnancy is the result of rape, the health professional treating women should request proof of the official complaint of rape or, where appropriate, an affidavit of the woman or her legal representative. When the pregnancy is the result of an indecent assault of a woman with a mental disability with or without judicial declaration, the person who legally represents her is asked for proof of the complaint of indecent assault or where appropriate, the official sworn declaration of her representative. It should not require any other evidence, documentation or information, or any involvement of other people or institutions.

3. In cases in which the parents of a girl under the age of 14 unjustifiably refuse to consent to the abortion she wishes to have, the Technical Guideline can make alternative provisions.

4. Dilation and curettage.

5. For gynaecological indications.

6. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Armenia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	No	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	18

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Armenia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The gestational limit for medical indications is 22 weeks.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. With prescription only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Australia

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	—
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	—
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Varies by jurisdiction	Spousal consent	Varies by jurisdiction
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Varies by jurisdiction
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Varies by jurisdiction
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Varies by jurisdiction
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	Varies by jurisdiction
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Varies by jurisdiction	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Varies by jurisdiction	HIV test	Varies by jurisdiction
In case of rape	Varies by jurisdiction	Other STI test(s)	Varies by jurisdiction
Police report in case of rape	Varies by jurisdiction	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	Varies by jurisdiction

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Varies by jurisdiction	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Australia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	—	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion
Doctors (speciality not specified) —	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN —	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse —	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife —	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s) —	Other type of coverage —

Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion —	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care —	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services —	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care —	Other facility/provider requirements —

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Austria

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	14	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	9
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Austria

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—	
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	—	—	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
Other settings or facilities	—	—	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion		
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities		
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	—
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	—	—	
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	—	

Notes:

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1. If the girl was below the age of 14 when getting pregnant.
2. For gynaecological indications.
3. With prescription only.
4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Azerbaijan

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	—		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	Yes
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Azerbaijan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bahamas

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bahamas

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Any act which is done, in good faith and without negligence, for the purposes of medical or surgical treatment of a pregnant woman is justifiable, although it causes or is intended to cause abortion or miscarriage, or premature delivery, or the death of the child. Abortions are reportedly performed on the grounds of foetal deformity and rape or incest, as well as on health grounds.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bahrain

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	3 ²	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bahrain

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	Yes ⁴
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is unlawful if carried out by a pregnant woman on herself without the knowledge or counselling of a physical, or if carried out by another person without consent of the woman.

2. In the case that a pregnant woman suffers complications due to a medical or surgical problem that jeopardizes her health, a specialist doctor must be consulted.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. With prescription only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bangladesh

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	10
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	9
Misoprostol only	Yes	—
Other method(s)	Yes ³	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bangladesh

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁵	Yes ⁶

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁷	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁸

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁹	Yes

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. Menstrual regulation is available on request for women with a last menstrual period of 10 weeks or less.

3. Dilation and curettage.

4. For gynaecological indications.

5. Government medical colleges or family planning unit.

6. For menstrual regulation, government medical institutes such as BSMMU, MFSTC, MCHTI and ICMH; mother and child welfare centres; MCH-FP clinic at health complexes, Union health and family welfare centres.

7. Menstrual regulation is permitted and can be performed on an outpatient basis by a paramedic or in health care centres from primary level upwards by other trained health professionals.

8. The Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guideline states that menstrual regulation using vacuum aspiration (VA) can be performed in all the services centres of DGFP, medical college hospitals, district hospitals and NGOs and private clinics, with a setting equivalent to a basic outpatient procedure room, or a minor or major operation theatre.

9. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Barbados

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	—
On request	—	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	2 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	No	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	No		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Barbados

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ³	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	—

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1. An abortion before 20 weeks of gestation requires two authorisations. After 20 weeks three authorisations are required.

2. Indications not specified.

3. Medical practitioner.

4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Belarus

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	7
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Belarus

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ¹	—

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1. Public-sector providers only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Belgium

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1 ²	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	6 ³
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Belgium

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ⁴
Misoprostol	Yes ⁵	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	Yes
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁶	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁷

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁸	—

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1. An abortion can be performed when a woman is in a state of distress, as assessed by a doctor.

2. After 12 weeks of gestation, the pregnancy can only be terminated in case of serious risk to the woman's health or foetal impairment, and with the authorization of two doctors (no specialisation mentioned). Before 12 weeks only one doctor (no mention of a specialisation) is required for the abortion to take place, but his authorization is not necessary beyond assessment of the woman's situation of distress and informed consent to go ahead with the abortion.

3. After first consultation with the doctor in the facility where the abortion will take place.

4. With prescription only.

5. For gynaecological indications.

6. Health care facility where there is an information service to accommodate the pregnant woman and give her detailed information, in particular on the rights, aids and benefits guaranteed by laws and decrees to families and unmarried mothers and their children, as well as the possibilities offered by the adoption of the unborn child and where, at the request of either the doctor or the woman, she shall be assisted and counselled on the means to which she may have recourse to solve the psychological and social problems posed by her situation. Medico-psycho-social support centre for unwanted pregnancy.

7. Abortions must be practiced under good medical conditions, in a care facility where there is an information service that will accommodate the pregnant woman and give her detailed information.

8. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Belize

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	Yes	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	Yes ¹		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	No		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	—
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Belize

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ²	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ³	—

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1. Registered medical practitioner.

2. Registered medical practitioners.

3. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Benin

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1 ²	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	14 or over
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	14 or over
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	20
Misoprostol only	Yes	10
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Benin

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	No
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁴	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for minors in cases where this would negatively impact their development.

2. The practitioner must consult at least two other doctors chosen for their competence, who, after review of the case, should jointly make a decision. A copy of the report of the consultation should be given to the patient and a copy kept by each of the two consultants. Also a memorandum of the decision that does not mention the name of the patient must be sent by registered mail to the Council.

3. Indications not specified.

4. Psychologist, though medical role is unspecified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bhutan

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ¹	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bhutan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Pharmacological induction with Mifepristone and Prostaglandin, dilation and curettage after pre-treating cervix with prostaglandin, vaginally or intracervical.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	Yes	22
To preserve mental health	Yes	22
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	22
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	22
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	No
In case of rape	Yes	Other STI test(s)	No
Police report in case of rape	Yes	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	20
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ³	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	No	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	Yes

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1. Abduction not followed by marriage.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. Must be a comprehensive health centre, and comply with and enforce the Regulations, Standards and Clinical protocols.

4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bosnia and Herzegovina

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION					
Authorizations required			Consent required		
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes		Spousal consent	Varies by jurisdiction	
Number of authorizations	3 ²		Parental consent for minors	Yes	
Cadre of health care professional			Consent by another adult	—	
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		Other requirements		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes		Gestational age limits	Varies by jurisdiction	
Nurse	—		Compulsory counselling	Varies by jurisdiction	
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		Compulsory waiting period	Varies by jurisdiction	
Other providers	Yes ³		Length of waiting period (days)	—	
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes		Mandatory screening test		
Judicial authorization			HIV test	Varies by jurisdiction	
For minors	Varies by jurisdiction		Other STI test(s)	Varies by jurisdiction	
In case of rape	Varies by jurisdiction		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	Varies by jurisdiction	
Police report in case of rape	Varies by jurisdiction				

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Varies by jurisdiction	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bosnia and Herzegovina

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. After 10 weeks of pregnancy, special authorization is required by a commission composed of a gynaecologist or obstetrician, a general physician or a specialist in internal medicine, and a social worker or a psychologist. This requirement applies to the Republika Srpska.

3. Social worker or a psychologist.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Botswana

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	16
To preserve health	Yes	16
To preserve physical health	Yes	16
To preserve mental health	Yes	16
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	16
In cases of incest	Yes	16
In cases of rape	Yes	16
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	16
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	12
Misoprostol only	Yes	12
Other method(s)	Yes ¹	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Botswana

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
Other settings or facilities	—	Yes ²
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Curettage.

2. Mine hospitals and clinics.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Brazil

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	22
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	No	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	20
Other method(s)	Yes ²	20

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Brazil

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
		Yes ⁴
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortions in cases of foetal impairment are only permitted in the case of anencephalic foetus.

2. Dilatation and curettage (after foetal expulsion).

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. Materials and equipment necessary for the service are the same needed for an outpatient room in gynaecology and obstetrics.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Brunei Darussalam

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	Yes ¹		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	No
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Brunei Darussalam

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ²	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Medical practitioner, not specified.

2. Medical practitioner, cadre not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bulgaria

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	20
To preserve physical health	Yes	20
To preserve mental health	Yes	20
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	— ²	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	Yes ³	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	12 or over
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ⁴	12 or over

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Bulgaria

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. When pregnancy results from an act of violence, proven by the competent authorities. No gestational limit is specified for abortion in the case of pregnancy resulting from an act of violence.

2. Authorisation is required for gestational ages of more than twelve weeks. The Commission providing the authorization consists of four members: the Head of Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, an obstetrician-gynaecologist, a specialist in the relevant medical condition, and a secretary. In cases of foetal congenital anomalies, the Commission also comprises a genetics specialist.

3. Secretary.

4. Saline, rivanol, balloon catheter and medication (type not specified).

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Burkina Faso

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	10
In cases of rape	Yes	10
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Burkina Faso

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ²	Yes

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

2. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Burundi

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Burundi

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Abortion is exempted from criminal punishment when the pregnancy was interrupted by a licensed physician, with the written consent of the pregnant person and assent of a second medical practitioner, in order to obviate a danger which cannot be otherwise obviated and which threatens the life of the mother or seriously threatens her health with grave and permanent impairment.

2. For non-gynaecological indications only.

3. With prescription only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cabo Verde

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	Yes ²	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cabo Verde

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	—

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1. To prevent the transmission of a grave hereditary or contagious illness.

2. Director of the health institution.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. Health Institutions with the necessary technical capacity designated by the Ministry of Health.

5. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cambodia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	No limit
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	2 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	Yes ²	Compulsory waiting period	No
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	Yes
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	13 or over
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	9
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ³	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cambodia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	Yes
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁵	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁶

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The Law on Abortion states that the decision on whether the conditions for lawful abortion are met requires an approval from a group of 2 to 3 doctors and also consent from the concerned person.

2. Medium medical practitioner.

3. Dilation and curettage.

4. For gynaecological indications.

5. Medical assistants.

6. Technical capability in providing emergency medical treatment for any consequence which may result from abortion; means of transportation to a hospital, if necessary.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cameroon

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cameroon

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Canada

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	—
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	No	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Varies by jurisdiction
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Varies by jurisdiction
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	24
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	7
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ⁴	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Canada

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ⁵
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only No
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion Yes
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. There are no legal restrictions on abortion, including no gestational limit. Abortion services form part of medically required health services provision and are regulated as such. The Canada Health Act outlines coverage for abortion services. Access however in practice varies depending on the availability of public facilities, and gestational limits vary at province level.

3. The legal right to make health care decisions depends on decision-making ability rather than age; in other provinces the age of consent is consistent with the age of majority.

4. Other methods may be allowed, depending on the province. For instance, in British Columbia, abortion by use of Methotrexate and Misoprostol is allowed for pregnancies up to the 49th day of gestation.

5. With prescription only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Central African Republic

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	8
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	8
In cases of rape	Yes	8
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	8
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Central African Republic

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. If a minor finds herself in a state of grave distress.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Chad

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	— ³	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	No		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Chad

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The law states that abortion is legal "when the unborn child has been diagnosed with a particularly grave disorder." The law does not specify which disorders are meant.

2. Sexual assault.

3. The authorisation for an abortion is issued by the public prosecutor after a doctor has certified the facts.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Chile

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	12
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Other providers	Yes ²	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	14

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	14
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	12-22
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	24
Misoprostol only	Yes	24
Other method(s)	Yes	12-22

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Chile

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	Yes ⁴
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	Yes	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes	Yes

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1. Abortion is permitted in the case of rape during the first 18 weeks of pregnancy, if the woman is under 14 years of age.

2. Surgeon.

3. For non-gynaecological indications only.

4. Tertiary level.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

China

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	No limit
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	Yes ¹

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	10
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	7
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ²	27

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

China

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	No

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁵	Other type of coverage	Yes ⁶

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	Yes
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁷

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Use of ultrasonography or other techniques to identify foetal sex for non-medical purposes is strictly prohibited.

2. Rivanol for mid-trimester abortion, induction of labour, dilation and curettage.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. For abortions after 12 weeks of gestation, they must take place in hospital.

5. Must pass the examination of the administrative department of public health under the people's government at or above the county level, and obtain a corresponding qualification certificate.

6. Couples of reproductive age who practise family planning enjoy, free of charge, the basic items of technical services specified by the State.

7. Places performing medical abortions must have access to emergency curettage, oxygen, infusion, transfusion (blood transfusion- if no conditions of the unit must have the nearest referral conditions) region, above the county level medical units and family planning services or institutions. The family planning technical service personnel must carry out family planning technical services in accordance with the approved service scopes and items and categories of surgery, and abide by the profession-related laws, regulations, rules, general technical norms, professional ethical norms and management systems.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Colombia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	No limit
In cases of rape	Yes	No limit
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1 ²	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	No
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	No
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	No
In case of rape	No	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	No
Police report in case of rape	Yes		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	15
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	15 or over
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	10
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Colombia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	Yes ⁴
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	Yes
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion Yes
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	No	Minimum number of beds Yes
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ⁵
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	No	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁶	Yes

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1. The pregnancy is the result of a criminal act of unwanted artificial insemination or unwanted implantation of a fertilized ovum.

2. The setting up of Commissions and boards to decide on access to legal and safe abortion is prohibited, as it is considered an unacceptable obstacle which could delay a woman or girl's access to safe abortion services to which they are entitled by law.

Although a health professional has to "certify" the indication (e.g. health risk), the woman is the one entitled to decide whether to continue or terminate the pregnancy. Health institutions or any other actor or professional cannot decide for the woman about the continuation or interruption of the pregnancy.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. With prescription only.

5. Minimum requirements for health service providers and for the provision of gynaecological health services, including periodic professional clinical and human rights training.

6. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Comoros

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Comoros

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortions can be performed for "serious medical reasons." The Penal Code does not indicate whether these reasons may relate to mental health as well as to physical health. It does not specify a gestational limit.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Congo

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	—		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	—
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Congo

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

2. Indications not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cook Islands

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cook Islands

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion
Doctors (speciality not specified) —	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN —	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse —	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife —	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s) —	Other type of coverage —

Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion —	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care —	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services —	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care —	Other facility/provider requirements —

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Surgical operation performed in good faith and with reasonable care and skill upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Costa Rica

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Costa Rica

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion		Allowed to object
Health-care facilities	—	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Women who have caused their own abortion may be granted a judicial pardon if the pregnancy was the result of rape.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Côte d'Ivoire

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2 ²	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Côte d'Ivoire

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ³	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	—

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	Yes

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1. Under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman. In addition, the country ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, better known as the Maputo protocol. The Maputo Protocol explicitly guarantees the right to legal abortion to "protect the reproductive rights of women by authorizing medical abortion in cases of sexual assault, rape, incest, and where the continued pregnancy endangers the mental and physical health of the mother or the life of the mother or the fetus."

2. The authorization of two doctors is required. However, if there is only one doctor in the district, authorization by only one doctor is sufficient.

3. Surgeons.

4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Croatia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	No limit
In cases of rape	Yes	No limit
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	10
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	Yes	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Croatia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	Yes
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ²	Yes

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1. In case of a minor older than 16 years of age and not yet married, if the abortion may cause serious consequences or the gestational age is more than 10 weeks, a special commission is required to make the decision and inform the parents.

2. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cuba

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	22
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	35
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	7
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	12
Other method(s)	Yes ²	27-35

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cuba

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. When a minor accesses menstrual regulation during the first 45 days of pregnancy, she must have parental consent or consent from her legal guardian unless there is a risk that obtaining such consent would result in serious conflict and violence, in which case this can be waived.

2. Foetal intra-cardiac injection of potassium chloride.

3. For non-gynaecological indications only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cyprus

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	19
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	Yes ²	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	No		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Cyprus

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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- Sexual abuse of an adult, a minor or a woman with a mental illness or disability.
- Registered medical practitioner.
- Indications not specified.
- Organised nursing unit.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Czechia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	24
To preserve health	Yes	24
To preserve physical health	Yes	24
To preserve mental health	Yes	24
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	24
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	24
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	—	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION					
Authorizations required			Consent required		
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes		Spousal consent	No	
Number of authorizations	1	¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes	
Cadre of health care professional			Consent by another adult	Yes	
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		Other requirements		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes		Gestational age limits	Yes	
Nurse	—		Compulsory counselling	No	
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		Compulsory waiting period	No	
Other providers	—		Length of waiting period (days)	—	
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No		Mandatory screening test		
Judicial authorization			HIV test	—	
For minors	—		Other STI test(s)	—	
In case of rape	—		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—	
Police report in case of rape	—				

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Czechia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ²
Misoprostol	Yes ³	Yes ⁴
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only No
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	Yes

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1. Abortions at gestational ages of more than 12 weeks need to be authorized.
2. With prescription only.
3. For gynaecological indications.
4. With prescription only.
5. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Dem. People's Republic of Korea

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	—
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	No	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Dem. People's Republic of Korea

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Democratic Republic of the Congo

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Democratic Republic of the Congo

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ²	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman. In addition, the country ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, better known as the Maputo protocol. The Maputo Protocol explicitly guarantees the right to legal abortion to "protect the reproductive rights of women by authorizing medical abortion in cases of sexual assault, rape, incest, and where the continued pregnancy endangers the mental and physical health of the mother or the life of the mother or the foetus."

2. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Denmark

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	No limit
In cases of incest	Yes	No limit
In cases of rape	Yes	No limit
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	Yes	No limit
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	Yes ²	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	18

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Denmark

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—	
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	—	—	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
Other settings or facilities	—	—	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion		
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities		
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	—
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	—	—	
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	—	

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1. Young age or immaturity therefore not able to care for the child in a proper way.

2. Specialist in psychiatry/social medicine; director or colleague with equivalent training at a maternity aid institution.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Djibouti

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	—		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	—
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Djibouti

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ²	Yes

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes. The grounds that constitute therapeutic purposes are not specified.

2. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Dominica

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		
Nurse	—	Other requirements	
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Gestational age limits	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Judicial authorization		Length of waiting period (days)	—
For minors	—	Mandatory screening test	
In case of rape	—	HIV test	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Dominica

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

2. For non-gynaecological indications only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Dominican Republic

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	—		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	—
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Dominican Republic

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—
Nurse	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—
Other provider(s)	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

2. Indications not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Ecuador

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12-14
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Ecuador

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortions may be performed on the ground of rape only when the woman suffers from mental disability. Abortions may be performed on the ground of intellectual or cognitive disability of the woman only when the pregnancy was the result of rape.
2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Egypt

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	2 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	Yes	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Egypt

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The Code of Medical Ethics specifies a requirement of "a written certificate from two specialist physicians."

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

El Salvador

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	No	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

El Salvador

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Equatorial Guinea

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	—
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Equatorial Guinea

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Eritrea

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1 ²	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	Yes	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Eritrea

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Termination performed on a girl under the age of 18.

2. For physical or mental health grounds.

3. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Estonia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	22
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	22
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3 ²	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	Yes ³	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Estonia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ⁴
Misoprostol	Yes ⁵	Yes ⁶

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	Yes ⁷

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁸

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁹	—

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1. The woman is below the age of 15 or over the age of 45.

2. Abortions undertaken between 12 and 22 weeks of gestation require the approval of three doctors, including two gynaecologists. For some grounds, a social worker is also involved in the decision.

3. A social worker.

4. With prescription only.

5. Indications not specified.

6. With prescription only.

7. The woman has to pay 30 per cent of the price of an induced abortion on request with anaesthesia at her own request and 50 per cent of the price of a medical abortion.

8. Facility should be licenced for gynaecological care.

9. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Eswatini

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	—
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1 ²	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Eswatini

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—
Nurse	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—
Other provider(s)	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Unlawful sexual intercourse with a mentally disabled female.

2. Certification by a doctor is needed for abortions on medical and therapeutic grounds.

3. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Ethiopia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	28
To preserve health	Yes	28
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	28
In cases of incest	Yes	28
In cases of rape	Yes	28
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	28
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	— ³
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	No	Other STI test(s)	Yes
Police report in case of rape	No	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	24
Misoprostol only	Yes	—
Other method(s)	Yes ⁴	12

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Ethiopia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁵	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	Yes	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁶	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. In the case of grave and imminent danger which can be averted only by an immediate intervention.

2. Where the pregnant woman, owing to a physical or mental deficiency she suffers from, or her minority, is physically as well as mentally unfit to bring up the child.

3. A woman who is eligible for pregnancy termination should obtain the service within three working days. This time is used for counselling and diagnostic measures necessary for the procedure.

4. Dilation and curettage only where vacuum aspiration is not available.

5. For gynaecological indications.

6. Health officers.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Fiji

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	20
In cases of rape	Yes	20
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	Yes	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	16

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Fiji

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ¹	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ²	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. For gynaecological indications.

2. For procedures performed after 20 weeks, the facility must be approved by the Minister for Health.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Finland

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	20
To preserve health	Yes	20
To preserve physical health	Yes	20
To preserve mental health	Yes	20
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	12
In cases of rape	Yes	12
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	Yes	12
On request	—	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1 ³	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	Yes ⁴	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	Yes		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Finland

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁵	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁶	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The Law on Abortion states that an abortion may not be performed after the twelfth week of pregnancy on any grounds other than a disease or physical defect in the woman. If the woman was not yet 17 years of age at the time of conception or there are other exceptional reasons, abortion is lawful at a later stage of pregnancy, although not after the 20th week.

2. Abortion is permitted if the delivery and care of the child would place a strain on the woman, given the living conditions of the woman or her family. Abortion is also permitted if: (a) the woman is under 17 of age or over 40, (b) the woman already has four children, and (c) when owing to disease or mental illness one or both parents are unable to care for the child.

3. One or two physicians or national authority, depending on ground. An authorization is required for abortion after twelve weeks of gestation.

4. Investigation by midwife, health sister or equivalent in the case where the birth and care of the child would be significantly burdensome for the woman.

5. For gynaecological indications.

6. Termination of pregnancy is to be carried out in a hospital which has been approved for the purpose by the State Medical Board (abortion hospitals).

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

France

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION					
Authorizations required			Consent required		
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes		Spousal consent	—	
Number of authorizations	2 ¹		Parental consent for minors	No	
Cadre of health care professional			Consent by another adult	—	
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		Other requirements		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes		Gestational age limits	Yes	
Nurse	—		Compulsory counselling	No	
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		Compulsory waiting period	Yes	
Other providers	—		Length of waiting period (days)	7 ²	
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes		Mandatory screening test		
Judicial authorization			HIV test	—	
For minors	—		Other STI test(s)	—	
In case of rape	—		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—	
Police report in case of rape	—				

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	14
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	9
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

France

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	No	
Misoprostol	Yes ³	No	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	Yes	—	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	Yes ⁵	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—
Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁶
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	Yes ⁷	—	
Health-care providers	Yes ⁸	Yes	

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1. Medical authorisation not required for terminations until 12 weeks pregnancy. For terminations after 12 weeks of gestation, authorisation requirements vary by abortion ground.

2. From the first request by the woman for an abortion.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. Abortion may only take place in a public or private health facility or within the framework of an agreement concluded between such a facility and a practitioner, a centre for family education or family planning, or a health centre under conditions determined by a decree of the State Council. Medical abortions may be provided in Centres for Family Planning or Family Education. Doctors may provide medical abortions outside of health establishments up to five weeks of gestation.

5. Health centres providing primary care.

6. Public and private facilities must have the capacity to manage abortion complications.

7. Private facilities only.

8. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Gabon

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Gabon

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Gambia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Gambia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Georgia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	Yes	22
To preserve mental health	Yes	22
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	12
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	22
For economic or social reason	Yes	12
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	— ²	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	—		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	Yes		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	Yes
		Compulsory counselling	Yes
		Compulsory waiting period	Yes
		Length of waiting period (days)	5 ³
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	14	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	7
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	12 or over
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	22
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ⁴	12

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Georgia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁵	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The woman is below the age of 15 or over the age of 49. Abortion for expanded medical and social indications can be performed beyond 22 weeks of gestation if considered necessary by the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs.

2. Physician Committee at Medical Facility, to include the gynaecologist, a lawyer and a medical specialist. An authorisation is required for an abortion above 12 weeks of gestation.

3. From the moment of admission.

4. Dilation and curettage is also listed as a method, but not preferred (up to 12 weeks).

5. Surgical procedures to terminate pregnancies of more than seven weeks of gestation must occur in inpatient medical facilities. Ambulatory services for pregnancy up to 12 weeks of gestation.

6. For pregnancy of more than 12 weeks of gestation, abortions must be carried out in an obstetric practice with the right type of in-patient medical facility.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Germany

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	12
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	No	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ²
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	9
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Germany

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—	
Misoprostol	Yes ³	No	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	—	—	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
Other settings or facilities	—	—	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion		
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	No
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	Yes
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities		
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁴
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	—	—	
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	—	

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1. The pregnant woman was the victim of an illegal act falling under paragraphs 176 to 179 of the Criminal Code (child sexual abuse; sexual assault, rape, sexual abuse of persons incapable of resistance) or there are pressing reasons for believing that pregnancy was caused by such an act.

2. The day after counselling.

3. Indications not specified.

4. Facilities that can provide post-abortion care.

5. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Ghana

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	28
To preserve health	Yes	28
To preserve physical health	Yes	28
To preserve mental health	Yes	28
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	28
In cases of rape	Yes	28
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	28
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	No
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	No		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	28
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	28
Misoprostol only	Yes	28
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Ghana

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	Yes
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ³	Yes ⁴
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁵	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ⁶
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁷	Yes

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.
2. For gynaecological indications.
3. In a place approved for the purpose by legislative instrument made by the Secretary.
4. Community level health institution.
5. Community Health Officer trained in midwifery or medical assistant trained in midwifery (only medical abortion).
6. Trained service provider and licensed facility.
7. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Greece

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	19
In cases of rape	Yes	19
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	24
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1 ²	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Greece

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ³
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	Yes ⁵

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁶	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁷

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁸	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. The pregnancy results from sexual intercourse with a minor female or intercourse with a woman who is incapable of resisting, provided that the duration of the pregnancy does not exceed 19 weeks.

2. Health care professionals are required to provide medical certificates attesting to the unavoidable risk to the life of the pregnant woman and of serious and permanent harm to her physical or mental health in order to proceed with an abortion on these grounds.

3. With prescription only.

4. For non-gynaecological indications only.

5. With prescription only.

6. Terminations of pregnancy must be carried out in a comprehensive care unit.

7. Well organized blood bank, anaesthesia gas and oxygen, fully equipment with the necessary instruments, sufficient space, staffed by at least two midwives and necessary nursing staff.

8. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Grenada

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Grenada

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Any act which is done, in good faith and without negligence, for the purposes of medical or surgical treatment of a pregnant woman is justifiable, although it causes or is intended to cause abortion or miscarriage, or premature delivery, or the death of the child.

2. For non-gynaecological indications only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Guatemala

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	12-20
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	20
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Guatemala

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Guinea

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	— ³	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Guinea

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	Yes

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.
2. Termination performed on a girl under the age of 18.
3. A panel of medical specialists, the number is not specified.
4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Guinea-Bissau

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Guinea-Bissau

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Guyana

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	16
In cases of incest	Yes	16
In cases of rape	Yes	16
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	16
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	8
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	2 ³	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	2 ⁴
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ⁵	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Guyana

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁶	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁷	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁸	—

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- Regarding pregnancies of more than eight weeks of gestation, the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act stipulates that doctors must take into consideration the future and actual economic and social circumstances of the woman requesting an abortion.
- Where the pregnant woman is known to be HIV positive; or where there is clear evidence that the pregnancy resulted in spite of the use in good faith of a recognized contraceptive method by the pregnant woman or her partner.
- To terminate a pregnancy of no more than 16 weeks, the authorization of two medical practitioners is needed. For terminations after 16 weeks of gestation three medical practitioners need to deem the termination necessary.
- When the woman has made a request while being counselled.
- Menstrual regulation, intra-amniotic prostaglandin, suction curettage or hysterectomy.
- Approved institution (for terminations after 8 weeks of gestation).
- Medical practitioner (for terminations for not more than 8 weeks duration). Authorised medical practitioner (for terminations of more than 8 weeks duration).
- Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Haiti

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Haiti

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	Yes
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. With prescription only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Holy See

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	No	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	—	Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Holy See

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Honduras

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Honduras

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The Penal Code makes no exceptions to the general prohibition on the performance of abortions. However, the Norms for Maternal and Neonatal Care allows abortion for therapeutic purposes to preserve the woman's health or save the woman's life. According to the Code abortion can be performed when the product has congenital malformations that are incompatible with life and when the pregnancy has been the result of a non-consensual relationship or a non-consensual fertilization. The Code of Medical Ethics of the Honduran Medical Association also sets out the exceptional grounds and circumstances abortions in which abortion for therapeutic purposes can be performed, namely when the life or health of the woman is in danger and all other options have been exhausted, and there are at least two other doctors who provide their written agreement with the conclusion that her life and health are in danger and that this is the only option left. This requires the consent of the woman and her husband/legal representative.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Hungary

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	18
To preserve physical health	Yes	18
To preserve mental health	Yes	18
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	18
In cases of rape	Yes	18
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	24
For economic or social reason	Yes	12
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	— ²	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ³
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Hungary

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—	
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	—	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	—	—	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
Other settings or facilities	—	—	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion		
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities		
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁵
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	—	—	
Health-care providers	Yes ⁶	—	

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1. Abortion on request is permitted when the pregnant woman is in a severe crisis situation.

2. Depends on indication.

3. From the date of the first counselling.

4. Indications not specified.

5. A range of specific requirements are specified on the protection of the foetus. Abortions after 18 weeks of gestation can be performed only in the county level hospitals.

6. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Iceland

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	Yes	—
On request	Yes	22
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2 ¹	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Iceland

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	No
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	—

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Authorisation by two doctors required for terminations after 22 weeks.

2. For non-gynaecological indications only.

3. With prescription only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

India

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	20
To preserve health	Yes	20
To preserve physical health	Yes	20
To preserve mental health	Yes	20
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	20
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	20
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	20
For economic or social reason	Yes	20
On request	—	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	No	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	No		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	Yes

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	20
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	7
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ²	20

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

India

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁵

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. One or two depending on gestational age.

2. Extra-amniotic instillation.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. A place approved for the purpose by Government or a District Level Committee constituted by that Government with the Chief Medical officer or District Health officer as the Chairperson of the said Committee.

5. Various requirements (infrastructure, essential equipment, drugs and supplies) relating to particular abortion methods.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Indonesia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	6
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Other providers	Yes ¹	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Indonesia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ²	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Health personnel who have expertise and authority and have certificate stipulated by the minister.

2. Health personnel, speciality not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	16
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	16
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. With prescription only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Iraq

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Iraq

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ²
Misoprostol	Yes ³	Yes ⁴
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.
2. With prescription only.
3. For gynaecological indications.
4. With prescription only.
5. Public-sector providers only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Ireland

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	Yes ²	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ³
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	Yes	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	16

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Ireland

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	Yes	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	Yes

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1. One or two depending on indication. Two medical practitioners are required where there is a serious risk to the life or health of a pregnant woman, or there is a condition affecting the foetus that is likely to lead to the death of the foetus either before, or within 28 days of birth.

2. An appropriate medical practitioner.

3. For abortions on request in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy, a period of not less than 3 days must have elapsed from the date of certification by the medical practitioner.

4. For gynaecological indications.

5. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Israel

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3 ²	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	Yes ³	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	7
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Israel

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	No	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	No	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	No	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	No	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁵	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
		Yes ⁶
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
		—
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁷	—

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1. The woman is under the age of marriage (17 years old) or over the age of 40. The pregnancy is the result of extramarital relations.

2. The committee should be composed of: (a) a qualified physician who holds the title of specialist in obstetrics and gynaecology; (b) an additional qualified physician who practices one of the following specializations: obstetrics and gynaecology, internal medicine, psychiatry, family medicine, public health; (c) a person registered as a social worker. At least one of the committee's members should be a woman. When gestational age is greater than 24 weeks, the decision will be made by a separate late-term Abortion Committee.

3. A social worker.

4. For gynaecological indications.

5. Authorized hospitals and clinics.

6. A termination of pregnancy that is performed in accordance with the law and with the approval of the Pregnancy Termination Committee is included in the Health Basket and is funded by the HMOs for all women up to 33 years of age or in the following cases: (a) a pregnancy that arises from relations that are forbidden by criminal law as the result of rape or incest, (b) a situation in which the foetus is liable to have a physical or mental abnormalities, and (c) a situation in which continuation of the pregnancy is liable to endanger the woman's life or cause her physical or emotional damage. The Service Basket includes coverage for abortion on medical grounds and abortion for non-medical reasons for teenage pregnancies under 18 years of age.

7. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Italy

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	13
For economic or social reason	Yes	13
On request	Yes	13
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	7 ²
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	18

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	7
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Italy

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—	
Misoprostol	Yes ³	Yes ⁴	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	Yes	—	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
Other settings or facilities	—	—	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion		
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities		
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	—
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	—	—	
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	—	

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1. In cases where an abortion is sought due to the woman's family circumstances or the circumstances in which conception occurred, the gestational limit is 90 days.

2. From the date of the first visit.

3. For non-gynaecological indications only.

4. With prescription only.

5. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Jamaica

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Jamaica

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman. Jamaica also follows the holding of the 1938 English *Rex v. Bourne* decision in determining whether an abortion can be performed for health reasons.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Japan

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	Yes	22
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION					
Authorizations required			Consent required		
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes		Spousal consent	Yes	
Number of authorizations	—		Parental consent for minors	No	
Cadre of health care professional			Consent by another adult	—	
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		Other requirements		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		Gestational age limits	Yes	
Nurse	—		Compulsory counselling	No	
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		Compulsory waiting period	No	
Other providers	—		Length of waiting period (days)	—	
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No		Mandatory screening test		
Judicial authorization			HIV test	—	
For minors	No		Other STI test(s)	—	
In case of rape	—		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—	
Police report in case of rape	—				

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Japan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—	
Misoprostol	Yes ¹	Yes ²	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	—	—	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
Other settings or facilities	Yes ³	—	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion		
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities		
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	No	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁴
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	—	—	
Health-care providers	—	—	

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. For non-gynaecological indications only.

2. With prescription only.

3. Only designated OB/GYN doctors may induce abortion at medical institutions designated by prefectural medical associations.

4. Only at medical institutions designated by prefectural medical associations.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Jordan

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	Yes ¹	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Jordan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ³	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Hospital director.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. Abortion is permissible in a specialized clinic or maternity hospital if it is necessary to avert a danger to the life or health of a pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Kazakhstan

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	3 ²	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	Yes ³	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Kazakhstan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The social indications stipulated in law are: death of husband during pregnancy; the woman or her husband are in prison; the woman and her husband recognized as officially unemployed; the woman is unmarried; presence of a court decision on the deprivation or restriction of parental rights; women who have the status of refugee or IDP; the presence of a child with a disability; dissolution of marriage during pregnancy; many children (4 or more).

2. Committee of experts. Authorisation is required in cases where there are medical indications that threaten the life of a woman.

3. In addition to a gynaecologist, the Committee should have an expert in the medical indication the woman is claiming (this includes mental illnesses) and the head of the health institution.

4. Second trimester abortions can only be provided in perinatal centres, maternity homes and multi-regional hospitals.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Kenya

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Kenya

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. A person is not criminally responsible for performing in good faith and with reasonable care and skill a surgical operation upon any person for his benefit, or upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time, and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Kiribati

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Kiribati

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁴	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Surgical operation performed in good faith and with reasonable care and skill upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. With prescription only.

4. Qualified medical practitioner. A registered pharmacist acting on instruction from a registered medical practitioner.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Kuwait

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	16
To preserve health	Yes	16
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	16
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	3 ¹	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Kuwait

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. In government hospitals, authorized by a committee of three doctors (one of which is an obstetrician gynaecologist).

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Kyrgyzstan

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Kyrgyzstan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. Abortion for medical reasons may be performed regardless of gestational age. There is a spousal consent requirement for abortions on social grounds.

3. Indications not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Lao People's Democratic Republic

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	—
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	—
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	—
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ¹	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Lao People's Democratic Republic

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Dilation and curettage.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Latvia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	12
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	— ²	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ³
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	Yes	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	12
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	9
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Latvia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	—

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1. Abortion is permitted in case of illness during pregnancy and medical indications up to 24 weeks of gestation. Termination of the pregnancy for a patient younger than 16 years due to medical indications or in the case of a pregnancy resulting from rape is allowed only if there is a confirmation by the council of doctors or a certificate on a case of rape issued by a law enforcement institution, and if at least one of the patient's parents or her guardian has given written consent.

2. Doctor's Council.

3. From the time of being counselled.

4. For gynaecological indications.

5. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Lebanon

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Lebanon

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ¹	Yes ²
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ³	Yes

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1. For gynaecological indications.

2. With prescription only.

3. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Lesotho

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	No
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Lesotho

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ¹	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Registered medical practitioners.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Liberia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2 ³	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Liberia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

2. Pregnancy that results from felonious intercourse, in particular pregnancy that results from illicit intercourse with a girl below the age of sixteen.

3. No abortion shall be performed unless two physicians, one of whom may be the person performing the abortion, shall have certified in writing the circumstances which they believe to justify the abortion. Such certificate shall be submitted before the abortion (a) to the hospital where it is to be performed, or if the abortion is not performed in a hospital, to the Minister of Health, and (b) in the case of abortion following felonious intercourse, to the County Attorney or the police.

4. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Libya

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Libya

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Liechtenstein

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Liechtenstein

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ³
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	Yes ⁵

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁶	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	—

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is not punishable if the pregnancy resulted from rape, sexual coercion or a sexual abuse of a defenceless or mentally impaired person.

2. The pregnant woman was under age at the time she got pregnant and was not married to the person who impregnated her at the time of conception or afterwards.

3. With prescription only.

4. For non-gynaecological indications only.

5. With prescription only.

6. The abortion is to be performed by a physician unless it is undertaken to save the pregnant woman's life from an immediate danger which cannot be averted otherwise in a situation when medical help cannot be obtained in time.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Lithuania

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	No limit
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION					
Authorizations required			Consent required		
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes		Spousal consent	No	
Number of authorizations	3		Parental consent for minors	Yes	
Cadre of health care professional			Consent by another adult	Yes	
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		Other requirements		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes		Gestational age limits	Yes	
Nurse	—		Compulsory counselling	—	
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		Compulsory waiting period	—	
Other providers	Yes ¹		Length of waiting period (days)	—	
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—		Mandatory screening test		
Judicial authorization			HIV test	No	
For minors	—		Other STI test(s)	Yes	
In case of rape	—		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—	
Police report in case of rape	—				

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	5
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ²	9

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Lithuania

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ³
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	Yes ⁵

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁶	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁷

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Physicians, neurologist and specialist physicians by disease profile.

2. Mifepristone.

3. With prescription only.

4. For gynaecological indications.

5. With prescription only.

6. Specific secondary and tertiary gynaecological services.

7. Pregnancy terminations are done only in gynaecological departments of hospitals and out-patient clinics equipped with operating rooms.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Luxembourg

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	14
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ³
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Luxembourg

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—	
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	Yes ⁵	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	Yes	—	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—	
Other settings or facilities	—	—	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion		
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities		
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	—
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	—	—	
Health-care providers	Yes ⁶	Yes	

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1. Authorisation is required for terminations carried out after 14 weeks from last menstrual period. The law specifies that the authorization is to be provided by two "qualified" physicians.
2. Another adult of choice can accompany the minor (below 18 years of age) during the procedure if consent of the parent or legal guardian is not sought or given. A legal guardian can also provide consent.
3. From the first consultation with the gynaecologist.
4. Indications not specified.
5. With prescription only.
6. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Madagascar

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Madagascar

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	Yes
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Malawi

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	No	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Malawi

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. A person is not criminally responsible for performing in good faith and with reasonable care and skill a surgical operation upon any person for his benefit, or upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time, and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Malaysia

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	Yes	22
To preserve mental health	Yes	22
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1 ³	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	2 ⁴
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	No
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	No
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	No

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	7-19
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	15-20
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	14-22
Misoprostol only	Yes	5-9, 14-22
Other method(s)	Yes ⁵	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Malaysia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁶	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes. Muslim women require husband's consent as per Fatwa, this is not a legal requirement otherwise.

3. In a Government Hospital setting, two doctors, one of whom is a specialist, should concur on the termination of Pregnancy. For mental health reasons, an opinion from a psychologist or psychiatrist is not needed unless it is deemed necessary by the attending doctor i.e. because of severe depression or suicidal risk.

4. After first counselling by the healthcare professional.

5. Gemeprostol or methotrexate with misoprostol.

6. Medical practitioner registered under the Medical Act 1971.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Maldives

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Maldives

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes. According to the Panel Code (Law No. 6/2014), exception to terminate a pregnancy also for pregnancy resulting from sexual assault, including rape, or incest.

2. Indications not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mali

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Varies by jurisdiction
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mali

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁴	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Varies by jurisdiction.
2. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.
3. For gynaecological indications.
4. Surgeons.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Malta

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	No	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Malta

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ¹	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Marshall Islands

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	—
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Marshall Islands

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

2. For non-gynaecological indications only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mauritania

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	No
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mauritania

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mauritius

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	14
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	Yes	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mauritius

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ²	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ³	—

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1. Sexual intercourse with a female under the age of 16 or sexual intercourse with a specified person which has been reported to the police.

2. Must be performed in a "prescribed institution", such as institutions, hospitals, clinics or other places for providing treatment as prescribed by regulations set forth by the Minister.

3. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mexico

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	20
To preserve physical health	Yes	20
To preserve mental health	Yes	20
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	20
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	20
For economic or social reason	Yes	12
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2 ³	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	Yes ⁴	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	12
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	9
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mexico

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ⁵
Misoprostol	Yes ⁶	Yes ⁷

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁸	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes
Nurse	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁹

Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	— ¹¹	Yes

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. The woman claims "unfavourable social, economic or family conditions, such as economic precariousness, being able to study in middle and high school, graduate or postgraduate schools or the dissolution of ties of family affection, among others".

3. Two physicians are required, except in cases of emergency or if a delay increases the risk for the woman. In cases of risk to health (physical or psychological) the authorization of the physician in charge along with that of a specialist related to the pathology is required. In cases of foetal impairment, the diagnosis has to be certified by two specialists.

4. Specialist related to the pathology the woman carries.

5. With prescription only.

6. For gynaecological indications.

7. With prescription only.

8. A medical unit with attention capacity for Legal Interruption of Pregnancy (for terminations up to the twelfth week of gestation).

9. General surgeon.

10. Operating room is required. Trained personnel is required.

11. Only obstetrician gynaecologists and general surgeons can abstain from providing abortion services. Other physicians, nurses and social workers who assist the obstetrician gynaecologist or general surgeon cannot object. There is an obligation to refer the patient, and conscientious objection is not permitted at all if the woman's life is at risk.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Micronesia (Fed. States of)

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	—	Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Micronesia (Fed. States of)

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Monaco

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	12
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	Yes	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Monaco

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	No	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	No	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ³	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	Yes

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1. Authorisation is required from the doctor coordinator of the Prenatal Coordination and Family Support Centre, the treating obstetrician or a doctor designated by him/her and a specialist agreed on by the former two. Two of these have to attest to the concurring view of the group.

2. Parental authorisation may be waived in case of an emergency. If parental consent is not obtained, or if the pregnancy is the result of a criminal act, then the procedure can be authorised by the Tribunal of the first instance. Abortion can be judicially authorised for a minor if parental authorisation is not obtained or if the pregnancy is a result of a criminal act. However, in other circumstances judicial authorisation is not required.

3. Abortion may only be performed in a public hospital.

4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mongolia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	23
To preserve health	Yes	23
To preserve physical health	Yes	23
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	14
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	Yes ³	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	13-22
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	13-22
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ⁴	20 or over

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mongolia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁵	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	No
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	Yes
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. An abortion can be performed during the first three months of pregnancy and later if the pregnant woman suffers from an illness seriously threatening her health. Approval of the family or of the spouse is required.
2. The woman is over the age of 40.
3. Medical Commission.
4. Dilation and curettage. Ethacridine lactate solution.
5. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Montenegro

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	32
To preserve health	Yes	32
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	20
In cases of rape	Yes	20
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	20
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	10
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION					
Authorizations required			Consent required		
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes		Spousal consent	No	
Number of authorizations	3		Parental consent for minors	Yes	
Cadre of health care professional			Consent by another adult	Yes	
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—				
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes		Other requirements		
Nurse	—		Gestational age limits	Yes	
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		Compulsory counselling	—	
Other providers	—		Compulsory waiting period	Yes	
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes		Length of waiting period (days)	3 ³	
Judicial authorization			Mandatory screening test		
For minors	—		HIV test	—	
In case of rape	—		Other STI test(s)	—	
Police report in case of rape	—		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—	

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	Yes ⁴

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Montenegro

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only Yes
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ⁵
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. Abortion in circumstances where the pregnancy or childbirth could lead to difficult personal or family circumstances is permissible up to 20 weeks of gestation.

3. From the point of application (in writing).

4. It is prohibited to use early genetic tests (up to 10 weeks of pregnancy), to determine the sex, except when there are risks of hereditary diseases.

5. Abortion may be carried out only in health institutions which meet the requirements in terms of space, staff and equipment to perform these activities. They must also meet the requirements set out by the State Administration competent for health affairs.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Morocco

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Morocco

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ³	Yes

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mozambique

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	12
To preserve mental health	Yes	12
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	16
In cases of rape	Yes	16
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	24
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	24
Other method(s)	Yes ²	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Mozambique

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	Yes ⁴
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁵	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁶	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁷	—

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1. Medical certificate, written and signed before the intervention by two health professionals different from the one by whom or under whose direction the abortion will be issued.

2. Dinoprost (prostaglandin F2 alpha).

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. With prescription only.

5. Official health establishment, recognized for the provision of services.

6. Health professional, acting under direction of doctor.

7. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Myanmar

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Myanmar

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ¹	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	Yes ²
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. For gynaecological indications.

2. Community level health workers.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Namibia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	No
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	Yes	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Namibia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ¹
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ²	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Facility must be authorised.

2. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Nauru

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Nauru

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Surgical operation performed in good faith and with reasonable care and skill upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Nepal

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	18
In cases of rape	Yes	18
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	No
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	Yes

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	9
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Nepal

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ¹	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes
Other settings or facilities	—	Yes ²
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	Yes	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ³	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	No	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ⁴
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	Yes

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1. Indications not specified.

2. Health facilities which fulfil criteria to be certified as PAC sites.

3. Senior auxiliary nurse midwives.

4. Minimum for manual vacuum aspiration (MVA) service delivery.

5. Public-sector providers only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Netherlands

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	24
To preserve health	Yes	24
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	24
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	5 ³
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	9
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	24
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	9
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Netherlands

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ⁴
Misoprostol	Yes ⁵	Yes ⁶

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁷

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁸	—

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1. An abortion can be performed when a woman is in a state of distress. In exceptional circumstances, abortion may be provided later than 24 weeks of gestation.

2. In general, consent from the parents or guardian is required for minors under 12 year of age. In between 12 and 16 years of age, both the consent of the minor and the parent or guardian are needed. An exception to this is possible to prevent serious disadvantage to the girl or if the girl is sticking to her consent. In these cases it is important that the doctor determines whether the girl understands the consequences of a termination and ensures that the girl is not deciding under pressure of the parent/guardian.

3. After first consultation with the doctor. The waiting period is 5 full days, with the abortion to occur not before the sixth day from the day the woman first consults a doctor about the abortion. This can be reduced if the abortion is undertaken to avert imminent danger to the life or health of the woman and in "serious situations such as direct health risk to the mother, intense pregnancy symptoms, severe psychosocial problems, or foetal abnormalities."

4. With prescription only.

5. For gynaecological indications.

6. With prescription only.

7. Abortion clinics licensed to perform terminations of pregnancy after 13 weeks need to have at least 2 doctors present in the clinic at the time of the abortion.

8. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

New Zealand

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	20
In cases of incest	Yes	20
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	20
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	— ³	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	14-15
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

New Zealand

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	No	
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	No	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	—	—	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁵	Yes ⁶	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion		
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	Yes ⁷
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities		
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁸
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	—	—	
Health-care providers	Yes ⁹	No	

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1. Referring to abortion in cases where the continuance of the pregnancy would result in serious danger (not being danger normally attendant upon childbirth) to the life, or to the physical or mental health, of the woman or girl, the Penal Code states: "The following matters, while not in themselves grounds for any act specified in section 183 or section 186, may be taken into account in determining for the purposes of subsection (1)(a), whether the continuance of the pregnancy would result in serious danger to her life or to her physical or mental health: (a) the age of the woman or girl concerned is near the beginning or the end of the usual child-bearing years; (b) the fact (where such is the case) that there are reasonable grounds for believing that the pregnancy is the result of sexual violation."

2. The pregnancy is the result of sexual intercourse that constitutes an offence against section 131(1) [Sexual conduct with dependent family member].

3. At least one of the two required certifying physicians must be a practising obstetrician or gynaecologist.

4. For non-gynaecological indications only.

5. Abortion before 12 weeks can be carried out in any clinic that has a limited or full licence; abortion after 12 weeks can be carried out in any hospital with a full licence.

6. Post-abortion care is provided in facilities with a license to provide abortions.

7. Women who meet certain income thresholds may apply for travel support if required. Non-residents are not covered under public health care, including seasonal migrant women and international students. Under the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students, international students are required to have health-care coverage, but health-care plans do not, as a general rule, cover induced abortion.

8. Adequate surgical facilities and competent staff to handle complication; adequate counselling facilities available and offered to women.

9. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Nicaragua

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	No	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Nicaragua

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ¹	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Niger

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Niger

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Nigeria

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Nigeria

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes. Nigeria has two laws on abortion: one for the northern states and one for the southern states. Both laws specifically allow abortion to be performed to save the life of a woman. In the southern states, the decision of *Rex v. Bourne* is applied, which allows abortion to be performed on grounds of preserving physical and mental health.

3. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Niue

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Surgical operation performed in good faith and with reasonable care and skill upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

North Macedonia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	No limit
In cases of rape	Yes	No limit
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	Yes	—
On request	Yes	10
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ²
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	Yes	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	Yes
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

North Macedonia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only No
Nurse	Yes	Public health coverage for abortion complications Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Authorisation is required by one doctor for gestational ages below 12 weeks or by a Commission of First Instance if the doctor determines that the termination of the pregnancy is not feasible due to the health condition of the pregnant woman, or that termination of the pregnancy shall jeopardize the life and health of the women, or that more than ten weeks have passed since the conception date.

2. When the woman has been counselled. There is no requirement for a waiting period if the woman is a minor or a woman with abrogated or limited legal incapacity, or if there is a justified medical indication which has to be properly recorded by the doctor in the medical documentation and records.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Norway

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	22
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	22
In cases of incest	Yes	22
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	22
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	Yes ²

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Norway

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	—

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1. The Law on Abortion cites several crimes in addition to rape and incest as grounds for access to abortion.

2. Information on foetal sex before 12 weeks gestation arising from prenatal diagnosis or another investigation of the foetus shall be provided only if the woman is a carrier of a serious sex-linked disease.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. Abortions at more than 12 weeks of gestation can only be performed in hospitals. Procedures performed at less than 12 weeks can be performed in another institution so long as it has been approved by the county medical officer.

5. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Oman

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	— ¹	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	22
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Oman

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	No
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Medical Committee.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Pakistan

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Varies by jurisdiction	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Pakistan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. An abortion can be performed to save a woman's life under the general criminal law principles of necessity. Abortion is legal in Pakistan for expanded indications in early pregnancy, generally accepted by Islamic legal scholars as up to 120 days of pregnancy, when the abortion is caused in good faith to save the woman's life and to provide "necessary treatment". After 120 days of pregnancy, abortion is legal only to save a woman's life. In Pakistan, the provinces have the autonomy to develop their own standards and guidelines on abortion and post-abortion care.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Palau

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Palau

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Panama

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	8
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	24
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	—		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	Yes		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	Yes
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	—
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Panama

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ¹	Yes ²
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	Yes ³
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	—

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1. Indications not specified.
2. With prescription only.
3. Tertiary level hospitals.
4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Papua New Guinea

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Papua New Guinea

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Surgical operation performed in good faith and with reasonable care and skill upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. With prescription only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Paraguay

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	—		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	—
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	—
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Paraguay

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Peru

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	Yes ²		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	Yes
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	22
Other method(s)	Yes ³	22

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Peru

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	Yes ⁵

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	Yes ⁶

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes
Nurse	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—
Other provider(s)	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is criminalized in cases of pregnancy resulting from rape but carries a reduced sentence of three months in prison, instead of the minimum 1 year maximum 5 years when an abortion is obtained for other reasons. To be eligible to be considered for a reduced penalty the rape victim who obtained an illegal abortion must file an official complaint with the police and it must have been investigated and assessed. A reduced sentence of three months is also applicable to cases in which it is likely, based on a medical diagnosis, that the foetus when born would have grave physical or mental defects.
2. Medical Committee of experts.
3. Misoprostol and curettage. Dilation and curettage.
4. For gynaecological indications.
5. With prescription only.
6. Tertiary level health care providers.
7. Operating room, equipment for anaesthesia, Manual Vacuum Aspiration (MVA) and dilation and curettage.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Philippines

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Philippines

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Poland

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	13
In cases of rape	Yes	13
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ³
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Poland

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁵	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only No
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁶	Yes

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1. In case of risk to life or health or foetal impairment, the authorisation of a physician other than the one performing the abortion is needed. In case of a pregnancy resulting from a prohibited act, the statement of a prosecutor is required.
2. Parental consent is required and, if not obtained, judicial authorization of the custody court is required for minors. For girls below 13 years of age, judicial authorization is required in addition to parental consent.
3. From the time of consultation.
4. Indications not specified.
5. Hospital.
6. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Portugal

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	12
To preserve physical health	Yes	12
To preserve mental health	Yes	12
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	24
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	10
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1 ²	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ³
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	10
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	9
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ⁴	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Portugal

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	No
Misoprostol	Yes ⁵	Yes ⁶

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁷	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁸	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	—

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁹	Yes

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- Abortion is permissible when the pregnancy resulted from a crime against freedom and sexual self-determination during first 16 weeks of pregnancy.
- The doctor authorising the abortion must be different from the doctor providing the abortion. In cases where the unborn child will incurably suffer from a serious illness or congenital malformation, the required certification is done by a Technical Committee at the level of the health institution.
- There is a waiting period of no less than three days from the day of the first consultation in the case of abortion on request.
- Dilation and curettage.
- For gynaecological indications.
- With prescription only.
- Official or officially recognized health facility.
- "Under the direction of a doctor", not further specified.
- Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Qatar

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	16
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	16
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	3 ¹	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Qatar

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	No	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	No	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion must be performed in a government hospital on the recommendation of a medical commission composed of three medical specialists, including a specialist in gynaecology and a specialist in obstetrics.

2. Indications not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Republic of Korea

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	24
To preserve physical health	Yes	24
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	24
In cases of incest	Yes	24
In cases of rape	Yes	24
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	Yes

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Republic of Korea

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The woman's spouse suffers from any eugenic or genetic mental disability, physical disease or contagious disease prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Republic of Moldova

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	21
To preserve health	Yes	21
To preserve physical health	Yes	21
To preserve mental health	Yes	21
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	21
In cases of incest	Yes	21
In cases of rape	Yes	21
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	21
For economic or social reason	Yes	21
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	— ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	21
Misoprostol only	Yes	13-21
Other method(s)	Yes ²	12

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Republic of Moldova

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—	
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	Yes	Yes	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	Yes	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	Yes	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion		
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁵	Other type of coverage	—
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities		
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	—
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	—	—	
Health-care providers	—	—	

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1. Abortions after 12 weeks of gestation need to be approved by a Medical Advisory Board of a public health care facility. The Board is composed of a specialist obstetrician gynaecologist, the medical director of the public medical institution, the institution's lawyer and its obstetrics chief and a specialist in internal medicine.

2. Dilation and curettage.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. Women's Health Centers, consultative sections of Perinatal Care Centres and the Reproductive Health section of the National Center for Reproductive Health and Medical Genetics.

5. Residents in obstetrics and gynaecology.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Romania

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	24
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	14
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Romania

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	Yes
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ³	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	Yes

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1. Abortion for therapeutic purposes is permissible until 24 weeks of gestation.

2. Indications not specified.

3. Medical facilities or offices authorized for the purpose of abortion.

4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Russian Federation

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	Yes	12
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	4 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	Yes ²	Length of waiting period (days)	— ³
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	Yes
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	15	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Russian Federation

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁴	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁵	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁶	Yes

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1. For medical reasons and social reasons or rape.
2. Lawyer and social work specialist (for social reasons/rape).
3. From the day of first consultation.
4. Indications not specified.
5. Licensed medical institutions.
6. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Rwanda

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	22
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1 ²	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	No
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	No
In case of rape	Yes	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12-14
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	14-22
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	22
Misoprostol only	Yes	30 or over
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Rwanda

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. When a woman has been subjected to forced marriage.

2. Authorization of a medical doctor is needed in case of for pregnancy termination when pregnancy poses serious risk to the health of the unborn baby or the pregnant woman. This medical doctor should seek advice from one other doctor where possible.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Saint Kitts and Nevis

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Saint Kitts and Nevis

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion
Doctors (speciality not specified) —	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN —	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse —	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife —	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s) —	Other type of coverage —

Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion —	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care —	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services —	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care —	Other facility/provider requirements —

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Follows the holding of the 1938 English Rex v. Bourne decision on the performance of abortion for health reasons.

2. For non-gynaecological indications only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Saint Lucia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	12
In cases of rape	Yes	12
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	2 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	2 ²
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	Yes		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Saint Lucia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁵	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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- One or two depending on the ground. This does not apply when the abortion is needed to save the life of the woman or prevent grave permanent injury to her physical or mental health, then only a single medical practitioner may authorise the treatment.
- From the time the woman made the request.
- For non-gynaecological indications only.
- Abortions must be performed at an approved institution certified by the Minister for health by order in the Gazette.
- Must be performed by a medical practitioner.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2 ²	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	No
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. In determining, whether the continuance of a pregnancy would involve such risk of injury to health, account may be taken of the pregnant woman's actual or reasonably foreseeable environment.

2. The opinion of two medical practitioners and an approved hospital or other establishment shall not apply to the termination of a pregnancy by a registered medical practitioner in a case in which he is of the opinion, formed in good faith, that the termination is immediately necessary to save the life of, or to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of, the pregnant woman.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. Hospital or other establishment approved for that purpose by the Chief Medical Officer.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Samoa

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	20
To preserve health	Yes	20
To preserve physical health	Yes	20
To preserve mental health	Yes	20
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Samoa

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ¹	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Registered medical practitioners.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

San Marino

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

San Marino

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Sao Tome and Principe

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	No limit
In cases of rape	Yes	No limit
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	16
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ¹
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Sao Tome and Principe

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ²	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. From the day the woman goes to a facility to seek abortion.

2. Only in authorized medical facilities.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Saudi Arabia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	16
To preserve health	Yes	16
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Saudi Arabia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion for a 'legitimate reason' that does not include economic hardship may be performed during the first 40 days of pregnancy.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Senegal

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Senegal

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	Yes
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Serbia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	No limit
In cases of rape	Yes	No limit
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	10
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	— ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	No
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	Yes
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	14
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	14 or over
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	24
Misoprostol only	Yes	7
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Serbia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ²	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ³
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	Yes

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1. Authorisation at gestational ages of less than ten weeks need to be authorized by an obstetrician gynaecologist. Between ten and twenty weeks of gestation, the authorization is done by a panel of doctors and after twenty weeks by an ethics committee.

2. Abortion up to 20 weeks of gestation is carried out in a medical institution that has hospital services in gynaecology and obstetrics, emergency room and blood transfusion service. Termination of pregnancy after the age of twenty weeks of pregnancy is carried out in the clinic, institute, Clinical Hospital Center and Clinical Center. Abortion up to ten weeks of gestation can be done in a health centre or doctor's office specialist in gynaecology and obstetrics.

3. Availability of anaesthesiologist (if abortion is done also under general anaesthesia). Abortion up to twenty weeks of gestation is carried out in a medical institution that has hospital services in gynaecology and obstetrics, an emergency room and a blood transfusion service.

4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Seychelles

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	12
To preserve health	Yes	12
To preserve physical health	Yes	12
To preserve mental health	Yes	12
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	—
In cases of incest	Yes	12
In cases of rape	Yes	12
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	12
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	—	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	Yes ²	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	Yes	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Seychelles

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	No	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	No	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	No	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	No	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	—

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1. A person is not criminally responsible for performing in good faith and with reasonable care and skill a surgical operation upon any person for the patient's benefit, or upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all circumstances of the case.

2. The Director of Health Services.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. Victoria Hospital, Mahe.

5. Provider type not specified. Health providers have the right to conscientious object shall not affect any duty to participate in treatment which is necessary to save the life, or to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health, of a pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Sierra Leone

LAWS ON ABORTION

Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion

Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	—
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REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION

Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent

Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—
--	---	--	---

Sex-selective abortion

Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—
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ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES

Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Sierra Leone

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Singapore

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	24
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	2 ²
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Singapore

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ³	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ⁴
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	—

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1. Termination of pregnancy can be carried out after 24 week if "the treatment is immediately necessary to save the life or to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman."

2. From the end of first counselling session.

3. Medical facilities other than hospitals which have been approved by the Ministry of Health.

4. An approved institution must maintain its premises in a reasonable state of cleanliness and to provide a qualified medical practitioner, a nurse, a trained counsellor and, where general anaesthesia is to be induced, an anaesthetist during the termination of a pregnancy.

5. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Slovakia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	24
To preserve physical health	Yes	24
To preserve mental health	Yes	24
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	2 ²
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Slovakia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women No
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ³	—

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1. Conception before the age of 18 or over the age of 40. Contraceptive failure if there is a reasonable suspicion that the woman became pregnant as a result of a crime.

2. From the moment when the doctor sends a notification to the National Health Information Center.

3. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Slovenia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	10
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	3 ²	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	Yes ³	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	Yes ⁴

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Slovenia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁵	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁷	Yes

Notes:

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1. Risk to woman's future motherhood.

2. Authorisation for abortions after 10 weeks of gestation is provided by a Commission of First Instance, which consists of a social worker and two doctors, one of whom must be a specialist in gynaecology and obstetrics. The Commission of First Instance also considers cases of women with pregnancies of less than 10 weeks where medical contraindications to abortion were found by the health care institution to which they have applied for pregnancy termination. Commissions of Second Instance are mandated to review negative decisions by Commissions of First Instance at the woman's request.

3. A social worker.

4. Insemination of an oocyte with a spermatozoon specially selected to determine the child's gender shall not be permitted unless it is intended to prevent a severe gender-related hereditary disease.

5. Indications not specified.

6. Induced abortion is carried out in in general, speciality and clinical hospitals that have a gynaecological and obstetric or surgical department.

7. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Solomon Islands

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Solomon Islands

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Surgical operation performed in good faith and with reasonable care and skill upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. With prescription only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Somalia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	—		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	—
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Somalia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

South Africa

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	20
To preserve physical health	Yes	20
To preserve mental health	Yes	20
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	20
In cases of incest	Yes	20
In cases of rape	Yes	20
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	Yes	20
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	20
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	20
Misoprostol only	Yes	13
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

South Africa

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ¹
Misoprostol	Yes ²	Yes ³

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	Yes	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Private health coverage for induced abortion	Yes
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁴

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	Yes

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1. With prescription only.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. With prescription only.

4. Any facility that meets the requirements indicated in the choice of termination of pregnancy act and is thus a designated facility.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

South Sudan

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

South Sudan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Spain

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	14
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	— ³	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	3 ⁵
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	16	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Spain

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁶	No

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁷	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁸	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	—

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁹	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. The limit of 22 weeks in case of foetal impairment applies when there is a 'risk of serious anomaly in the foetus'. There is no limit of weeks in case of foetal abnormality incompatible with life or an extremely serious and incurable disease of the foetus.

3. Depends on indication. An authorisation by one doctor or specialist is required in case of serious risk to the life or health of the woman, except in case of emergency. Two specialists must issue an opinion in case of risk of serious anomalies in the foetus. Where foetal anomalies are found to be incompatible with life and are recorded in an opinion previously issued by a doctor or specialist or when an extremely serious and incurable disease is detected in the foetus, confirmation by a multidisciplinary Clinical Committee is required. The authorizing doctors or specialists must be different from the person undertaking the abortion procedure.

4. The parents, tutors or guardians must be informed of the decision of the minor. In exceptional circumstances, this requirement can be waived.

5. The mandatory waiting period begins when the woman is given advice about abortion, rights and support.

6. Indications not specified.

7. Abortion is to be provided in public hospitals that fulfil the legal requirements established in the Annex of the Quality of Care Guidelines or in private hospitals that, fulfilling the same requirements, obtain an authorisation from a local authority.

8. Abortion is to be provided directly by a specialist or under their direction.

9. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Sri Lanka

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	—
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	No	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Sri Lanka

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

State of Palestine

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	Yes	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

State of Palestine

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Sudan

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	13
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Sudan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes. The circumstances under which abortions are permitted within 90 days of conception have been temporarily expanded to include rape.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Suriname

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Suriname

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Sweden

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	18
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	— ²	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Sweden

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. An abortion may not be procured after eighteenth week of pregnancy without permission by the National Board of Health and Welfare. Such permission may only be granted if there are special reasons for the abortion. Permission may not be granted if there is reason to suppose that the embryo is viable.

2. National Board of Health and Welfare.

3. Indications not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Switzerland

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Switzerland

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	No
Misoprostol	Yes ³	No

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	No
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	—

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. An abortion can be performed when a woman is in a state of extreme distress. Abortion in cases where the woman alleges she is in distress may be provided in the twelve weeks since the start of the last period.

3. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Syrian Arab Republic

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	2 ²	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	Yes	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Syrian Arab Republic

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. The law on the exercise of health professions allows an abortion to be performed by a medical specialist when continuation of the pregnancy poses a danger to the life of the woman. In this case, the performance of the abortion must also be approved by another physician. Before the operation, a record must be drawn up certifying the necessity of the abortion; and the record must be signed by the two physicians and the patient or her spouse or guardian.

3. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Tajikistan

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	—
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Tajikistan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Thailand

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	No limit
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	—
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Thailand

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ²	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ³
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The limit of 12 weeks gestational period applies to clinics outside hospitals. There is no gestational limit set for abortions done in hospitals. The gestational limit is specific to the site where the abortion is conducted.

2. The physician who performs the therapeutic termination of pregnancy according to this regulation shall be the medical practitioner under the law (according to the Medical Professional Act).

3. The therapeutic termination of pregnancy must be performed in the following medical premises: (1) A government hospital or government agency that provides overnight admission service to patients, or a medical infirmary that has beds for patients for overnight stay in accordance with the Medical Premise Act, these medical premises are allowed to perform appropriate therapeutic termination of pregnancy; (2) A medical clinic in accordance with the Medical Premise Act, is allowed to perform therapeutic termination of pregnancy where the gestational age is not over twelve weeks.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Timor-Leste

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	1 ¹	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Timor-Leste

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	No
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	No	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	No	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion in specific circumstances is not punishable "as long as performed pursuant to authorization and supervision of a medical panel, professional physician or health professional in a public health institution."

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Togo

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	No
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Togo

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

2. Indications not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Tonga

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Tonga

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. However, under the general criminal law principles of necessity, it is allowed to be performed to save the life of the pregnant woman.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Trinidad and Tobago

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	No	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Trinidad and Tobago

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is generally illegal in the country. The common law doctrine of necessity, however, recognizes that an abortion can be lawfully performed by a physician, in a medically appropriate setting, if the procedure is performed in good faith to preserve the life or health (including the mental health), of the mother. It is advisable for the physician performing the procedure to obtain agreement in writing from at least one senior colleague that the procedure is warranted.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Tunisia

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	1	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Tunisia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ³	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. When the mother's psychological equilibrium risks being compromised by the continuation of the pregnancy.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. Health facility or an authorized clinic in the first three months of gestation, after three months gestation in an explicitly authorised institution.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Turkey

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	20
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	10
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	2 ¹	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	Yes	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	18

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Turkey

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ⁴
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Authorisation is needed for abortion at gestational ages of more than ten weeks.

2. Minors need the permission of a parent. In the case of minors under legal guardianship, the consent of the minor and the consent of the legal guardian, as well as the permission of a Justice of the Peace, are required. The requirement of obtaining permission from a parent or from a justice of the peace may be waived if there could be a danger to life or to a vital organ unless urgent action is taken.

3. Indications not specified.

4. Instruments and equipment.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Turkmenistan

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	—		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	Yes
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Turkmenistan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ¹	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortions are to be performed in hospitals that have received a license to perform abortions.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Tuvalu

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ³	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Surgical operation performed in good faith and with reasonable care and skill upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. Only a qualified medical practitioner or person acting under the direction of such a medical practitioner can attend upon, prescribe for, or supply any article as a drug, medicine, instrument or appliance for the purpose of terminating a pregnancy.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Uganda

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	28
To preserve health	Yes	28
To preserve physical health	Yes	28
To preserve mental health	Yes	28
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	28
In cases of rape	Yes	28
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	28
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ²	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Uganda

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	Yes	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	Yes	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁴	Yes

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1. A person is not criminally responsible for performing in good faith and with reasonable care and skill a surgical operation upon any person for his or her benefit, or upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time, and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. Cervical cancer. HIV-positive women.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Ukraine

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	Yes	22
To preserve mental health	Yes	22
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	22
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	22
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	Yes ¹	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	Yes
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	14	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	8
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	7
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ²	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Ukraine

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol	Yes ³	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements Yes ⁵
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. The woman is below the age of 15 or over the age of 49.

2. Dilatation and curettage.

3. Indications not specified.

4. Abortion by aspiration is to be performed in day care Women's Consultation Offices. Abortion by curettage is to be performed in gynaecology department of an accredited health institution. Abortions from 12 to 22 weeks are to be performed in "the gynaecological department of health institution level III hospital providing obstetric gynaecological and neonatal care".

5. Medical abortion can be performed in an accredited health institution of any form of ownership and departmental subordination, in which there are opportunities to provide emergency medical care.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

United Arab Emirates

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	16
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	1 ¹	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

United Arab Emirates

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	—
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	—
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements	—

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Depends on indication.

2. For non-gynaecological indications only.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

United Kingdom

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	Yes	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ³	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	2 ⁴	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Other providers	Yes ⁵	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	No
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	No
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

United Kingdom

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	No
Misoprostol	Yes ⁶	Yes ⁷

Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁸	—

Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	—
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	Yes	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁹	Other type of coverage	—

Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes

Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ¹⁰	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. The Abortion Act 1967 states that in determining whether the continuance of a pregnancy would involve a risk, greater than if the pregnancy were terminated, of injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman or any existing children of her family or whether the termination is necessary to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman, account may be taken of the pregnant woman's actual or reasonably foreseeable environment.

3. Risk of injury to the physical or mental health of any existing children of the family of the pregnant woman.

4. The requirement for authorization by two registered medical practitioners does not apply in an emergency.

5. Registered medical practitioner.

6. For gynaecological indications.

7. With prescription only.

8. Any treatment for the termination of pregnancy must be carried out in an NHS hospital or in a place approved by the Secretary of State for that purpose. This restriction does not apply where a registered practitioner is of the opinion, formed in good faith, that to save the life or prevent grave permanent harm to the health of the pregnant woman it is necessary to carry out the termination in another place.

9. Registered medical practitioners.

10. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

United Republic of Tanzania

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION					
Authorizations required			Consent required		
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes		Spousal consent	Yes	
Number of authorizations	—		Parental consent for minors	Yes	
Cadre of health care professional			Consent by another adult	—	
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—				
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—		Other requirements		
Nurse	—		Gestational age limits	Yes	
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		Compulsory counselling	—	
Other providers	—		Compulsory waiting period	—	
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes		Length of waiting period (days)	—	
Judicial authorization			Mandatory screening test		
For minors	—		HIV test	—	
In case of rape	—		Other STI test(s)	—	
Police report in case of rape	—		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—	

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	7-12
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ¹	7-12

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

United Republic of Tanzania

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol	—	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Dilatation and curettage. Prostaglandin.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

United States of America

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	Yes	—
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Varies by jurisdiction	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	Varies by jurisdiction
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	Varies by jurisdiction
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	Varies by jurisdiction
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	Varies by jurisdiction
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Varies by jurisdiction	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	Varies by jurisdiction	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	Varies by jurisdiction
Police report in case of rape	No		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Varies by jurisdiction	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	—
Misoprostol only	Yes	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

United States of America

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	No
Misoprostol	Yes ³	Yes ⁴
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women No
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁵	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	— ⁶	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. Abortion is governed by the Supreme Court decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, which established a woman's right to terminate her pregnancy. States may impose a variety of limitations on access in the interest of protecting women's health and promoting potential life, and may completely proscribe abortion post-viability as long as there is an exception for the woman's life or health.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. With prescription only.

5. Physician's assistant.

6. The regulations vary by jurisdiction, however the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, of which many states have their own version, stipulates that neutral laws need to be checked for their impact on religious freedoms. Under the auspices of this Act some hospitals and other entities have claimed a right to object to providing abortion services.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Uruguay

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	No limit
To preserve health	Yes	No limit
To preserve physical health	Yes	No limit
To preserve mental health	Yes	No limit
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	14
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	No limit
For economic or social reason	Yes	No limit
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	3 ¹	Parental consent for minors	No
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	Yes ²	Compulsory waiting period	Yes
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	5 ⁴
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	Yes	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	14
Misoprostol only	Yes	14
Other method(s)	Yes ⁵	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Uruguay

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ⁶	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage Yes ⁷
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	Yes	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	Yes ⁸	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁹	Yes

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1. A multidisciplinary team of professionals. The multidisciplinary committee is not required in cases of: rape, severe risk for health, foetal malformations incompatible with extra uterine life.

2. Mental health professional and social worker.

3. There is no general requirement of parental consent for girls and women below 18 years of age. Whether parental consent is required is determined on a case-by-case basis by the multidisciplinary team assessing whether an abortion request can proceed. Judicial authorization is required only in cases where the parents are involved and the parents and the girl or woman under the age of 18 are unable to reach an agreement.

4. After first consultation.

5. Dilation and curettage.

6. For gynaecological indications.

7. Women pay a fee for the first consultation and a regulated fee for the medication. No specification is included regarding costs of surgical abortion.

8. Private facilities only.

9. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Uzbekistan

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	22
To preserve physical health	Yes	22
To preserve mental health	Yes	22
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	Yes	22
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	Yes	22
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	22
For economic or social reason	Yes	22
On request	Yes	12
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	—	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	— ³	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	No
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	No
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	No	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	14	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	12
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	22
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Uzbekistan

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	No	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁴	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions		Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion
Doctors (speciality not specified)	No	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	No	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	No	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services		Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. The social indication comprises the following: the death of her husband during pregnancy; the woman or her husband being in prison; persons deprived of their right to motherhood; four or more existing children; divorce during this pregnancy; pregnancy after rape; pregnancy in adolescents under 17 years of age; women or husband are disabled; the presence of a disabled child in the family; malformations in the foetus confirmed by ultrasound. If the woman has other grounds for non-medical termination pregnancy her case is addressed by a Commission on an individual basis.

3. Decisions on abortion access under medical indications are made by a commission consisting of three people: an obstetrician-gynaecologist, a physician with a specialisation relevant to the woman's health condition and the head of the institution.

4. Medical termination of pregnancy before 9 weeks is carried out in outpatient polyclinic conditions or in gynaecological wards of clinics. Medication abortion from 9 weeks to 22 weeks is carried out in gynaecological wards of clinics. All surgical termination of pregnancy irrespective of gestational age is carried out in hospitals which have operating and intensive care units available.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Vanuatu

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Vanuatu

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Surgical operation performed in good faith and with reasonable care and skill upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ¹	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	22
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	—	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	—	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Other requirements	
Nurse	—	Gestational age limits	Yes
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Other providers	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Judicial authorization		Mandatory screening test	
For minors	—	HIV test	—
In case of rape	—	Other STI test(s)	—
Police report in case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	Yes
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	Yes
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	Yes
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Abortion is permitted for therapeutic purposes.

2. For gynaecological indications.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Viet Nam

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	—	—
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	—	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	—	—
In cases of rape	—	—
In cases of foetal impairment	—	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	Yes	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	—	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION					
Authorizations required			Consent required		
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes		Spousal consent	Yes	
Number of authorizations	—		Parental consent for minors	Yes	
Cadre of health care professional			Consent by another adult	—	
Doctor (specialty not specified)	—				
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—				
Nurse	—				
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—				
Other providers	—				
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes				
Judicial authorization					
For minors	Yes				
In case of rape	—				
Police report in case of rape	—				
			Other requirements		
			Gestational age limits	Yes	
			Compulsory counselling	—	
			Compulsory waiting period	—	
			Length of waiting period (days)	—	
			Mandatory screening test		
			HIV test	—	
			Other STI test(s)	—	
			Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—	

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	Yes	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	Yes ¹

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	6-12
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	13-18
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	Yes	13-22
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Viet Nam

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)			
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores	
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—	
Misoprostol	Yes ²	—	
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care	
Primary health care centres	Yes	—	
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	Yes	—	
Specialized abortion care public facilities	Yes	—	
Private health-care centres or clinics	Yes	—	
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—	
Other settings or facilities	—	—	
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion		
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women	Yes
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only	—
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	Yes	Private health coverage for induced abortion	—
Other provider(s)	Yes ³	Other type of coverage	—
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities		
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	Yes	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility	Yes
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	Yes	Availability of a specialist doctor	Yes
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds	—
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements	Yes ⁴
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility	
Health-care facilities	—	—	
Health-care providers	—	—	

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1. Doctor must not tell the woman about the sex of foetus. Diagnosis for foetal sex selection through measures identifying symptoms, pulse, blood tests, genetic, amniotic fluid cells, ultrasound is restricted.

2. For gynaecological indications.

3. Assistant doctor (Obstetric-Paediatric specialist) can provide manual vacuum aspiration (MVA).

4. Specific kinds of equipment.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Yemen

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	No	—
To preserve physical health	No	—
To preserve mental health	No	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	No	—
In cases of foetal impairment	No	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion			
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes
		Other person who assists the woman	—

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	Yes
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes		
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	Yes		
Nurse	—		
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—		
Other providers	—		
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—		
Judicial authorization			
For minors	—		
In case of rape	—		
Police report in case of rape	—		
		Other requirements	
		Gestational age limits	—
		Compulsory counselling	—
		Compulsory waiting period	—
		Length of waiting period (days)	—
		Mandatory screening test	
		HIV test	—
		Other STI test(s)	—
		Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Yemen

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	No	—
Misoprostol	Yes ¹	—
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ²	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	—	—

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1. Indications not specified.

2. Public health institutions.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Zambia

LAWS ON ABORTION ¹		
Legal grounds for induced abortion ²	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	Yes	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	Yes	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	—	—
In cases of incest	No	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	—	—
On request	—	—
For other reason(s)	Yes ³	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	No
Number of authorizations	3	Parental consent for minors	Yes
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	Yes
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	Yes ⁴	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	Yes	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	No	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	—	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	18	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	No	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	—	—
Dilatation and evacuation	—	—
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	—	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Zambia

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ⁵
Misoprostol	Yes ⁶	Yes ⁷
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	No	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	Yes ⁸	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	Yes ⁹	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	Yes	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ¹⁰	—

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1. Varies by jurisdiction.

2. A person is not criminally responsible for performing in good faith and with reasonable care and skill a surgical operation upon any person for his benefit, or upon an unborn child for the preservation of the mother's life, if the performance of the operation is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time, and to all the circumstances of the case.

3. Risk of injury to the physical or mental health of any existing children of the pregnant woman.

4. Registered medical practitioner registered as such under the provisions of the Medical and Allied Professions Act.

5. With prescription only.

6. Indications not specified.

7. With prescription only.

8. Hospital.

9. Registered medical practitioners.

10. Provider type not specified.

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Zimbabwe

LAWS ON ABORTION		
Legal grounds for induced abortion	Currently permissible in the country	Gestational limit for each legal ground (weeks)
To save life	Yes	—
To preserve health	—	—
To preserve physical health	Yes	—
To preserve mental health	—	—
In cases of intellectual or cognitive disability	No	—
In cases of incest	Yes	—
In cases of rape	Yes	—
In cases of foetal impairment	Yes	—
For economic or social reason	No	—
On request	No	—
For other reason(s)	—	—

Persons who can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion					
Woman	Yes	Provider	Yes	Other person who assists the woman	Yes

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUCED ABORTION			
Authorizations required		Consent required	
Authorization of health care professional(s)	Yes	Spousal consent	—
Number of authorizations	2	Parental consent for minors	—
Cadre of health care professional		Consent by another adult	—
Doctor (specialty not specified)	Yes	Other requirements	
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Gestational age limits	—
Nurse	—	Compulsory counselling	—
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Compulsory waiting period	—
Other providers	—	Length of waiting period (days)	—
Authorized in specially licensed facilities	—	Mandatory screening test	
Judicial authorization		HIV test	—
For minors	—	Other STI test(s)	—
In case of rape	Yes	Ultrasound viewing or listening to heartbeat	—
Police report in case of rape	—		

Age when a woman can obtain an abortion without parental or judicial consent			
Age limit for parental consent (years)	—	Age limit for judicial consent (years)	—

Sex-selective abortion			
Prohibition of sex-selective abortion	—	Restrictions on the methods to detect the sex of the foetus	—

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES		
Methods for induced abortions	Currently allowed in the country	Gestational limit for each method (weeks)
Vacuum aspiration	Yes	13
Dilatation and evacuation	Yes	13
Combination mifepristone- misoprostol	—	—
Misoprostol only	—	—
Other method(s)	Yes ¹	—

Abortion laws and policies, 2017

Zimbabwe

ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES (continued)		
Drugs for inducing abortion	Included in the official list of authorized drugs	Allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores
Mifepristone and/or combination mifepristone-misoprostol	Yes	Yes ²
Misoprostol	Yes ³	Yes ⁴
Settings for providing legal abortion services	Induced abortion	Post-abortion care
Primary health care centres	—	—
Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities	—	—
Specialized abortion care public facilities	—	—
Private health-care centres or clinics	—	—
NGO health-care centres or clinics	—	—
Other settings or facilities	—	—
Health care personnel allowed to provide legal abortions	Types of insurance or other coverage for abortion	
Doctors (speciality not specified)	Yes	Public health coverage for induced abortion for all women —
Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN	—	Public health coverage for induced abortion for poor women only —
Nurse	—	Public health coverage for abortion complications —
Midwife/nurse-midwife	—	Private health coverage for induced abortion —
Other provider(s)	—	Other type of coverage —
Information and guidelines on abortion services	Service delivery requirements for providers or facilities	
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of induced abortion	—	Referral linkage to a higher-level facility —
National guidelines on clinical and service delivery of post-abortion care	—	Availability of a specialist doctor —
Restrictions on public information on legal abortion services	—	Minimum number of beds —
Counselling for contraceptive methods during post-abortion care	—	Other facility/provider requirements —
Conscientious objection to the provision of legally induced abortion	Allowed to object	Required to refer to alternative provider or facility
Health-care facilities	—	—
Health-care providers	Yes ⁵	—

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— Indicates that data are not available, not applicable or not specified.

1. Dilation and curettage.

2. With prescription only.

3. For gynaecological indications.

4. With prescription only.

5. Provider type not specified.

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