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**SUMMARY PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 15 (C) OF THE
ANNEX TO HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTION 5/1**

Costa Rica*

The present report is a summary of 8 stakeholders' submissions¹ to the universal periodic review. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), nor any judgement or determination in relation to specific claims. The information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes and, to the extent possible, the original texts have not been altered. Lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to the absence of submissions by stakeholders regarding these particular issues. The full texts of all submissions received are available on the OHCHR website. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review.

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

I. BACKGROUND AND FRAMEWORK

A. Scope of international obligations

1. A joint submission by 24 organizations (JS1)² indicated that Costa Rica has not yet ratified the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.³ The Defensoría de los Habitantes de la República de Costa Rica (Office of the Ombudsman of Costa Rica) (DHRCR) added that this Convention has not even entered the legislative pipeline⁴ and also reported that the Legislative Assembly has not yet begun discussing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.⁵

B. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

2. The University of Bristol - OPCAT Research Team (UOB) indicated that the Presidential Decree designating DHRCR as a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) under the provisions of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT) was officially published in February 2007. The Decree states that this is a temporary measure until legislation is passed to reinforce the designation. However, as of 20 April 2009, such legislation had not been adopted.⁶ According to DHRCR, a legal provision permanently recognizing it as the National Preventive Mechanism and clarifying the scope of its mandate in line with the Optional Protocol is urgently needed.⁷

3. DHRCR reported that the working budget for the National Preventive Mechanism is insufficient and is scarcely enough to cover basic expenses.⁸ It also indicated that the NPM's access to certain facilities is limited: it is unable to visit psychiatric institutions and other health facilities, holding cells or facilities of the security and intelligence services - places to which it has access as the national human rights mechanism, but not as the national mechanism for the prevention of torture.⁹ UOB indicated that the Act establishing the NPM in Costa Rica does not fully reflect the stipulations of the OPCAT in respect of the notion of "places of deprivation of liberty".¹⁰ It added that Article 18 (13) of the OPCAT obliges States parties to make available the necessary resources for the functioning of their NPM.¹¹

4. DHRCR noted that Costa Rica has adopted an act organizing the Patronato Nacional de la Infancia (National Children's Trust) (PANI) and a code on children and adolescents, which establish a national system for comprehensive protection of the rights of children and adolescents. However, the system's institutions are not fulfilling their assigned responsibilities, resulting in an uncoordinated and ineffectual State response. PANI, the lead agency in the area of children's and adolescents' rights, has strengthened its leadership and, in particular, its interinstitutional and intersectoral coordination.¹²

C. Policy measures

5. DHRCR reported that public policies on the rights of children and adolescents have not yet been established.¹³ It added that public policies on gender equity were finally adopted at the national level in 2008. Some institutions, such as the judiciary and the Ministry of Security, have issued gender equity policies, but those policies have not yet been put into effect.¹⁴

6. JS1 indicated that the State has not yet fulfilled the commitment made at the Durban Conference to design and implement an action plan to combat racism and racial discrimination. Fulfilling that commitment will require a thoroughgoing institutional reorganization, which has not yet taken place.¹⁵

II. PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE GROUND

A. Implementation of international human rights obligations

1. Equality and non-discrimination

7. DHRCR reported that female prisoners do not enjoy the same opportunities for communication and interaction with family members as their male counterparts because the process of regionalizing women's prisons has stalled. DHRCR viewed the justification for this situation - the small size of the female prison population - as a violation of the rights of female prisoners, and pointed out that there are prisons for men in each of the provinces, but only two prisons for women in the entire country.¹⁶

8. According to JS1, racist stereotypes persist and are deeply ingrained in behaviours and social representations in Costa Rica. These stereotypes can be found in the mass media, textbooks, public entertainment, and other media and places in which they are a constant.¹⁷

9. JS1 highlighted the climate of xenophobia and discrimination in which persons of Nicaraguan origin live and the absence of a comprehensive policy to combat this situation. It also noted that there are no legal provisions that criminalize racist and xenophobic violence; that xenophobic crimes are classified as homicides, verbal and physical attacks, property crimes or offences without a specific motive; and that there are no specific penalties or sanctions for this type of violence.¹⁸ JS1 also highlighted the role of the media in exaggerating the participation of the immigrant population in crime, drug trafficking and poverty, which contributes to and reinforces negative stereotypes and racial profiling.¹⁹

10. According to the Sexual Rights Initiative (SRI),²⁰ there are regulations and standards that do not respect the personal identity of the transgender population. For example, when female transgender individuals applying for identity cards, they are not allowed to be photographed wearing make-up or to enter their chosen name in the "Known as" section.²¹ SRI also reported that lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender persons experience violations of their labour rights and are subject to psychological and physical abuse when they appear in public places in Costa Rica.²² In addition, SRI indicated that transgender persons are denied services in public facilities, including hospitals and schools, and that they are particularly vulnerable to arbitrary detention by the police.²³ SRI recommended, inter alia, that public security officials should receive training on issues relating to sexual orientation and gender identity or expression.²⁴

11. JS1 indicated that the public has not been educated to interact with people with disabilities. It added that, in the past, such people were viewed as defective human beings and were kept hidden and that such ideas persist in some remote and rural areas of the country.²⁵ DHRCR reported that the Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities Act was adopted in 1996, but that its provisions are not always enforced. DHRCR noted the need to carry out educational activities aimed at eliminating biases and discriminatory attitudes towards people with disabilities. It also mentioned the need to strengthen the involvement of people with disabilities in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of policies, plans, programmes and activities of the public sector and the need to allocate budgetary resources for such plans and programmes and to implement the required periodic evaluation mechanisms.²⁶

12. JS1 stated that only 10 per cent of buses in Costa Rica are equipped to meet the needs of people with disabilities, although by law 100 per cent should be.²⁷ DHRCR added that in Costa Rica

mass transit is a public service that the Government contracts out to private companies and that in 2006 the Legislative Assembly amended the law, extending to 2014 the deadline for ensuring that the entire fleet of buses is accessible to all members of the population.²⁸

13. According to DHRCR, the establishment of institutional disability commissions marked a step forward. The aim of these commissions is to raise awareness and adapt public services to meet the needs of people with disabilities. DHRCR highlighted the efforts undertaken to meet special educational needs through, among other things, the adaptation of school curricula and school infrastructure.²⁹

14. DHRCR reported that Costa Rica also has a law recognizing the rights of older persons. However, there continue to be problems with regard to the provision of services and the operation of centres for older adults, where there are infrastructure deficiencies and where the user population has suffered mistreatment. DHRCR added that older people also suffer discrimination and mistreatment when they use public transport and that their right to effective participation in the social and political life of the country remains unrealized.³⁰

2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

15. JS1 noted that in many cases, police detention entails beatings, abuse and threats. It added that the practice of evicting families from makeshift housing also often involves violence.³¹

16. DHRCR reported having received repeated complaints about the lack of adequate medical care and proper food for detainees, including special diets for persons with chronic illnesses, which are not provided because of lack of resources. DHRCR also noted overcrowding, particularly at the Preventive Detention Centre, and complaints of abuses by prison officials and security personnel in the searches to which family visitors of detainees are subjected.³²

17. DHRCR reported that women continue to be victims of femicide and that the number of deaths of women is rising each year.³³ According to JS1, the most frequent manifestations of violence against women in Costa Rica are sexual violence and violence in the context of family relationships, especially intimate-partner relationships.³⁴

18. The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) noted that in Costa Rica, laws relating to domestic violence deal with sexual violence and include various types of economic violence, such as measures taken by the aggressor to wipe out the victim's economic means of subsistence and/or damage property that may belong to both or just to the victim.³⁵ However, DHRCR reported that many people opposed the adoption of the Criminalization of Violence against Women Act, and a year after the law went into effect, two of its articles were contested before the Constitutional Court and rescinded. Based on statistics of complaints lodged by victims, those two articles were the Act's most important provisions for the protection of women.³⁶

19. DHRCR noted that Costa Rica has a law against harassment in the workplace and in educational settings. However, that law is in urgent need of reform in order to adapt it to the current situation, as it is outdated and does not guarantee the right of women to freedom from violence in their work and education.³⁷

20. DHRCR indicated that sexual exploitation of children persists, despite reforms to the Criminal Code and the adoption of the Law on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors, among other measures.³⁸ According to Defensa de Niñas y Niños Internacional Defence for Children International (DNI), the criminal offences relating to human trafficking cover only sexual and

labour exploitation, not the sale of organs or servitude and other slavery-like practices. The law does not recognize deception as an aggravating circumstance, either. DNI considered the law on commercial sexual exploitation to be deficient because the increased penalties when the victim is a minor are too lenient.³⁹ JS1 and DNI both said that stronger legislation against child pornography distributed by electronic means is also needed.⁴⁰

21. According to DNI, conservative estimates indicate that over 100,000 people aged 5 to 17 have to work in order to meet their basic needs. In addition, hundreds of children and adolescents live on the streets, completely abandoned, and the response to their situation has been inadequate. In particular, there has been a serious lack of response to the problems associated with addiction.⁴¹

3. Administration of justice and the rule of law

22. IACHR noted that Costa Rica has special domestic violence courts, four in San José and one in each of the remaining provincial capitals. A Secretariat for Gender Affairs has been established within the judicial branch of government, and a Women and Child Protective Services Programme within the police.⁴² In addition, the judicial branch has a Violence Commission working in coordination with the National Judicial School to provide training programmes for justice officials, including a specialized programme on the subject of domestic violence.⁴³ However, JS1 noted that women continue to experience discrimination in access to legal remedies against violence.⁴⁴ JS1 added that judicial officials misrepresent the Domestic Violence Act, establishing conciliation processes between women and their aggressors, which forces the women to negotiate from a position of disadvantage and to enter into agreements that are unfavourable to them.⁴⁵

23. JS1 noted many problems in respect of access to justice, forms of redress for victims and punishment of rights violators. It added that there are no real protective institutions to which victims can submit complaints and that there are unjustified delays in the administration of justice.⁴⁶ DNI and JS1 recommended that special attention should be paid to improving judicial proceedings, which are currently lengthy and cumbersome, both for minor victims and for minors in conflict with the law.⁴⁷

24. JS1 also reported that within the judiciary there are police forces that are more or less secret and that employ “ultrarepressive” practices, including the presence of covert agents at demonstrations, political protests, bars, concerts and other places frequented by young people, student leaders and others. Despite having been banned by the Constitutional Court, raids continue to be carried out.⁴⁸

4. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

25. JS1 indicated that the ability of migrant families to exercise their right to family reunification is threatened, irregular immigration status and lack of documentation being among the main obstacles.⁴⁹

26. According to the Centro de Investigación y Promoción para América Central de Derechos Humanos (Central American Centre for Human Rights Research and Promotion (CIPAC)), discrimination against lesbians, gays and bisexuals is evident in measures such as the sanction against homosexuality among persons over 17 years of age when it is practised “in a scandalous manner”, the term “scandalous manner” being left open to interpretation by the police and judges. CIPAC also mentioned the Housing Programme, which requires people to have a traditional

heterosexual nuclear family in order to obtain Government-funded housing. Furthermore, in succession proceedings, if a person in a same-sex union dies without a will or an express statement of intent, neither the union nor the rights of the surviving partner are recognized.⁵⁰

5. Freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

27. JS1 identified serious problems with the criminalization of social protest, for which several social leaders are currently being prosecuted. JS1 added that there have been reports of persecution, surveillance and other practices aimed at intimidating union and student leaders who oppose Government policies.⁵¹

28. IACHR reported that in 2004, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights declared that Costa Rica had violated the right to freedom of thought and expression of a journalist,⁵² who was found guilty by a national court of publishing insults constituting defamation.⁵³ The journalist had partially reproduced press reports attributing illegal acts to a Government representative.⁵⁴ The Inter-American Court decided that the State should nullify the judgement of the national court. It added that within a reasonable period of time, Costa Rica should adjust its domestic legal system to conform to the right to judicial guarantees.⁵⁵ In 2006, the Court declared that it would continue monitoring compliance with the obligations it found pending fulfilment, including of the two above-mentioned decisions. It called on Costa Rica to promptly, effectively and fully comply with the measures of reparation pending compliance ordered by the Court.⁵⁶

29. DHRCR indicated that although the law calls for at least 40 per cent of public offices to be held by women, that level has not been reached. According to DHRCR, reform of the electoral law is being considered by the Legislative Assembly, but parity between men and women, one aspect of the reform, has many opponents.⁵⁷

30. JS1 indicated that the population of African descent is underrepresented in political decision-making bodies.⁵⁸ It noted that in the 2006 presidential election, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal first opposed and then refused to collaborate in making Braille ballots available to the blind and visually impaired in order to enable them to exercise their right to a secret ballot on an equal footing with other citizens.⁵⁹

31. DNI and JS1 said that the Children and Adolescents Code unreasonably restricts minors' right to participate by prohibiting them from forming organizations to express their political views.⁶⁰

6. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

32. In 2007, the IACHR indicated that it had received a petition regarding a worker for the shelters established by the Patronato Nacional de la Infancia (National Children's Trust) (PANI).⁶¹ The petitioners contended that the alleged victim had an excessive, disproportionate working day, which often extended to 24 hours a day for 11 consecutive days. They also alleged that she suffered from gender-based labour discrimination and that her rights to humane treatment, to protection of the family and to privacy and family life had been violated.⁶² The State requested that the petition be declared inadmissible as it considered that domestic remedies had not been exhausted.⁶³ The IACHR decided to declare the petition admissible and initiate the procedure on the merits of the case.⁶⁴

33. In 2006, the IACHR considered admissible a petition alleging that a recently privatized public enterprise had dismissed all union-affiliated workers and then engaged in a series of acts to harass

them. Despite complaints lodged with administrative and judicial authorities, and recommendations issued by the ILO on the matter, the petitioners reportedly have never received an effective response from the State. Costa Rica in turn argued that the company was a private company and that the procedural delay was due to the complexity of the case. It also alleged that the State cannot be said to have taken direct action against the rights of the workers who belonged to the union.⁶⁵

34. JS1 said that there are still numerous legal obstacles to union-organizing in both the public and private sectors, adding that with a few exceptions there are no labour unions in the country's private manufacturing enterprises.⁶⁶ JS1 also reported that a study by the University of Costa Rica had found that only 8.5 per cent of the employed population was unionized in 2005.⁶⁷

35. JS1 noted that union opposition to the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement has given rise to a campaign against trade unionism, including the creation of adverse public opinion, the reinterpretation of laws in order to undermine collective agreements and the arrest of several union leaders for leading or organizing demonstrations and protests in various parts of the country. The latter have faced or are facing charges that could result in prison sentences.⁶⁸

7. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

36. DHRCR reported that the subsidies provided by the current Government have helped to reduce extreme poverty. However, it viewed those subsidies as a targeted and temporary form of assistance that does not address or solve the problem of structural poverty.⁶⁹ DHRCR added that indigenous communities have repeatedly condemned the large gaps in areas such as health, education, housing, security, electricity, telephone, drinking water supply and road infrastructure. Poverty among the indigenous peoples of Costa Rica is the result of a lack of public policies, lack of appropriate technical approaches on the part of the public sector to meet the needs of indigenous communities and lack of involvement of those communities in the design of programmes and activities.⁷⁰

37. According to JS1, the Afro-descendant population has higher poverty rates than any other ethnic group except indigenous peoples, and also lags significantly behind the rest of the population in terms of health indicators.⁷¹ JS1 added that migrants' right to health is limited because of their irregular administrative status.⁷² DHRCR identified the lack of health care for migrants as a serious and persistent problem that represents an impediment to their enjoyment of the right to health and life.⁷³

38. JS1 indicated that although the State permits therapeutic abortion, the procedure is rarely performed, which endangers the health and the lives of women with medical conditions that make it necessary.⁷⁴

39. DNI reported that adolescent girls accounted for 15 per cent of all pregnancies in 1990 and that by 2000 the figure had risen to 21 per cent.⁷⁵ DNI and JS1 both noted a lack of access to sex education programmes in primary and secondary schools.⁷⁶ They also pointed out that current legislation relating to adolescent mothers focuses primarily on protecting their children, ignoring the fact that the mothers are also minors.⁷⁷

40. DHRCR indicated that a significant proportion of the population (16 to 20 per cent) receives water unfit for human consumption. DHRCR reported that surface water quality in the country's 34 watersheds has deteriorated irreversibly as a result of failure to respect the protected areas created by the Forestry Act. Those areas have not, in fact, even been established owing to lack of

compliance-monitoring and failure by the two entities responsible for water resources to carry out their functions.⁷⁸ In the area of environmental protection, DHRCR drew attention to the problems of deforestation, massive unplanned construction in coastal areas, pollution resulting from solid waste management and disposal in landfills, noise pollution and particulate matter (air pollution).⁷⁹

8. Right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community

41. DNI reported that while free and compulsory education from preschool to high school is a constitutional right, in practice only about half of adolescents of secondary-school age actually attend.⁸⁰

42. JS1 indicated that information about the contributions and culture of persons of African descent is virtually absent from the Costa Rican educational system.⁸¹ The Mesa Nacional Indígena de Costa Rica (National Indigenous Council of Costa Rica) (MNICR) pointed out that it has not been possible to develop academic curricula that present an honest and accurate account of the contributions of indigenous communities. In the area of health, traditional cultural practices are not recognized by health institutions owing to scientific bias against such practices.⁸²

43. JS1 also indicated that migrants' right to education is limited because of their irregular administrative status. It added that in order to enter the education system children are required to submit residence permits for their parents and themselves.⁸³

9. Minorities and indigenous peoples

44. MNICR highlighted the lack of public policies that address the real situation of indigenous peoples.⁸⁴ It added that Government policies continue to focus narrowly on the idea that most indigenous people are poor⁸⁵ and are rooted in the myth that all indigenous people are the same and all are marginalized.⁸⁶ However, in the vast majority of Latin American countries, including Costa Rica, indigenous people live in both urban and rural areas, and among those living in rural areas there are differences: some indigenous people own a great deal of land, others own very little, and some have no land at all on which to live. Similarly, some communities are entirely self-sufficient, while others live in dire conditions.⁸⁷

45. DHRCR said that achieving the social inclusion of indigenous peoples will require proactive action by the Costa Rican State and that such action must be based on recognition and increased awareness of the existence of indigenous communities and of their culture, rights and needs. It will thus be possible to tailor the State's response to the specific characteristics of indigenous peoples and to take account of those characteristics in the country's development plans.⁸⁸ MNICR recalled that more than 15 years after the adoption of International Labour Organization Convention No. 169, the political system still does not provide for a consultation process that ensures the involvement of indigenous peoples in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of development plans and programmes at the national, regional and local levels.⁸⁹

46. JS1 noted the State's inability to enforce laws, especially with regard to the unlawful usurpation of indigenous lands. It also noted that in some areas as much as 70 or 80 per cent of indigenous land is illegally occupied by non-indigenous people.⁹⁰ MNICR indicated that it was unaware of any Government strategies for carrying out administrative or judicial procedures to recover lost or usurped indigenous lands. While there have been some important court rulings that have contributed to the recovery of land, they have come in response to actions initiated by indigenous communities themselves; there is no information on any State efforts to support them.⁹¹

On the contrary, indigenous peoples have encountered serious obstacles put up by public institutions when they have attempted to institute proceedings for the defence and recovery of their land, as the Costa Rican system does not recognize traditional organizations as valid entities in such proceedings.⁹²

47. MNICR noted that the occupation of indigenous lands by non-indigenous people and interests has led to an obvious deterioration of natural resources, especially soil, water, plants and animals and cultural elements, and a general loss of the biodiversity associated with indigenous ways of life. MNICR indicated that since the 1970s the State has created “indigenous reserves” and that in theory all the natural resources within these reserves passed into indigenous hands. However, in recent years numerous legal provisions have been put in place that limit to some extent indigenous peoples’ access to these resources.⁹³ MNICR added that, with the recent approval of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA), there has been increased interest in exploiting the biodiversity resources in indigenous territories by appropriating indigenous knowledge through patenting of indigenous species and wisdom.⁹⁴

48. According to MNICR, proposed legislation on the autonomous development of indigenous peoples, put forward by indigenous communities, has been under discussion by the legislature for 15 years.⁹⁵ This legislation would establish a new relationship between indigenous peoples and the State,⁹⁶ ensuring the inclusion of the former in the organs of State power⁹⁷ and establishing mechanisms for the formulation, jointly with indigenous peoples, of a policy responsive to their needs.⁹⁸ MNICR recommended that this law be adopted as soon as possible.⁹⁹ However, DHRCR indicated that its enactment by the Legislative Assembly is not yet in sight.¹⁰⁰

10. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

49. DHRCR indicated that the new Migration and Aliens Act criminalizes migration and breaches Costa Rica’s international obligations. It also indicated that there is a need for updated legislation that addresses the overall issue of migration and that a bill for comprehensive reform has been under discussion in the Legislative Assembly for several years but has not been adopted.¹⁰¹

50. DHRCR also said that it was concerned about the existence of the Holding Centre For Foreigners In Transit, a detention centre to which foreigners are transferred while procedures are being instituted to return them to their country of origin or to the country from which they entered Costa Rica. DHRCR reported that this is a closed administrative detention centre, in which detainees are held in custody under the conditions that generally prevail in such establishments. It added that there are serious restrictions with regard to detainees’ communication, food and personal contact needs. In addition, they are often held in overcrowded conditions, which is a violation of the human rights of migrants with irregular status who are subject to immigration control processes. DHRCR noted that by not meeting the necessary requirements to enable them to obtain authorization to stay in the country, such persons have violated only regulations of an administrative nature, and their administrative detention should therefore not deprive them of their fundamental rights or of the safeguards that protect those rights.¹⁰²

51. JS1 reported that Costa Rican authorities had provided to the Government of Colombia a list of Colombian nationals residing in Costa Rica as refugees, which had put the lives of those individuals at risk and violated both international law and Costa Rica’s responsibilities as a country of refuge.¹⁰³

52. DHRCR mentioned the case of indigenous families from the Ngöbe Bugle region of Panama who migrate to Costa Rica to work in order to meet some of their basic needs. However, the

cultural, working and housing conditions they encounter in the areas in which they work exacerbate their vulnerability and undermine their quality of life. DHRCR was of the view that these people's dual status as migrant workers and indigenous persons placed them in a state of extreme social exclusion, a situation which should be addressed comprehensively by the country's authorities.¹⁰⁴

III. ACHIEVEMENTS, BEST PRACTICES, CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

53. DHRCR identified several noteworthy achievements with regard to the rights of children and adolescents, including the decline in infant mortality, the expansion of education coverage through a policy of incentives aimed at reducing dropout rates and the adoption of a law prohibiting corporal punishment.¹⁰⁵

IV. KEY NATIONAL PRIORITIES, INITIATIVES AND COMMITMENTS

N/A.

V. CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

N/A.

Notes

¹ The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at www.ohchr.org. (Two asterisks denote a national human rights institution with "A" status).

Civil society

CIPAC	Centro de Investigación y Promoción para América Central de Derechos Humanos, San José, Costa Rica
DNI	Defensa de las Niñas y Niños Internacional, San José Costa Rica
JS1	Joint Submission submitted by 24 organizations, San José, Costa Rica (Joint submission)
MNICR	Mesa Nacional Indígena de Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica
SRI	Sexual Rights Initiative
UOB	University of Bristol - OPCAT Research Team, Bristol, UK

National human rights institution

DHRCR	Defensoría de los Habitantes de la República de Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica**
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Regional intergovernmental organization

IACHR	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Washington D.C., USA.
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² Joint Submission 1: AAJ Asociación Americana de Juristas; Alianza Por Tus Derechos; Asociación Demográfica Costarricense; Asociación Proyecto Caribe (APC); Asociación Servicio de Promoción Laboral (ASEPROLA); Centro de Derechos Sociales de las Personas Migrantes (CENDEROS); Centro Feminista de Información y Acción (CEFEMINA); Centro por la Justicia y el Derecho Internacional (CEJIL); Comisión Costarricense de Derechos Humanos (CODEHU); Defensa de Niñas y Niños Internacional (DNI-Costa Rica); Foro por los Derechos Humanos de las Personas con Discapacidad; Frente Nacional de Pueblos Indígenas (FRENAPI); Fundación Acceso; Fundación Maikol; Fundación para los Derechos Humanos de Centroamérica (FUNDEHUCA); Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas de la Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad de Costa Rica; Liga Internacional de Mujeres Pro Paz y Libertad (LIMPAL); Mesa Nacional Indigenista; Movimientos Diversidad; Fundación PANIAMOR; Programa Jurídico de la Iglesia Luterana Costarricense (ILCO); Red Costarricense de Personas Cero-positivas al VIH (REDCOR+); Servicio Paz y Justicia (SERPAJ); Visión Mundial.

³ JS1, p. 2.

⁴ DHRCR, p. 4.

⁵ DHRCR, p. 3.

⁶ UOB, pp. 1-2.

⁷ DHRCR, pp. 4-5.

⁸ DHRCR, p. 5.

⁹ DHRCR, p. 4.

¹⁰ UOB, p. 2.

¹¹ UOB, p. 3.

¹² DHRCR, p. 1.

¹³ DHRCR, p. 1.

¹⁴ DHRCR, p. 1.

¹⁵ JS1, p. 1.

¹⁶ DHRCR, p. 4.

¹⁷ JS1, p. 1.

¹⁸ JS1, p. 2.

¹⁹ JS1, p. 2.

²⁰ SRI: Action Canada for Population and Development; Creating Resources for Empowerment and Action (CREA), India; Mulabi - Espacio Latinoamericano de Sexualidades y Derechos; and other organizations.

²¹ SRI, pp. 1-2.

²² SRI, p. 2.

²³ SRI, pp. 2-3.

²⁴ SRI, p. 4.

²⁵ JS1, p. 3.

²⁶ DHRCR, p. 2.

²⁷ JS1, p. 3.

²⁸ DHRCR, p. 2.

²⁹ DHRCR, p. 2.

³⁰ DHRCR, pp. 2-3.

³¹ JS1, p. 5.

³² DHRCR, p. 4.

³³ DHRCR, p. 1.

³⁴ JS1, p. 2.

³⁵ IACHR, Annex 7, p. 105.

³⁶ DHRCR, p. 1.

³⁷ DHRCR, p. 1.

³⁸ DHRCR, p. 2.

³⁹ DNI, p. 2.

⁴⁰ DNI, p. 2; JS1, p. 3.

⁴¹ DNI, p. 4.

⁴² IACHR, Annex 7, pp. 98-99.

⁴³ IACHR, Annex 7, p. 101.

⁴⁴ JS1, p. 2.

⁴⁵ JS1, p. 2.

⁴⁶ JS1, p. 5.

⁴⁷ JS1, p. 3; DNI, p. 3.

⁴⁸ JS1, p. 5.

⁴⁹ JS1, p. 2.

⁵⁰ CIPAC, p. 2.

⁵¹ JS1, p. 5.

⁵² IACHR, Annex 6, p. 91.

⁵³ IACHR, Annex 6, p. 2.

⁵⁴ IACHR, Annex 6, p. 2.

⁵⁵ IACHR, Annex 6, p. 91.

⁵⁶ IACHR, Annex 5, pp. 12-13.

⁵⁷ DHRRCR, p. 1.

⁵⁸ JS1, p. 1.

⁵⁹ JS1, p. 3.

⁶⁰ DNI, p. 2; JS1, p. 3.

⁶¹ IACHR, Annex 3, p. 293.

⁶² IACHR, Annex 3, p. 293.

⁶³ IACHR, Annex 3, pp. 299-300.

⁶⁴ IACHR, Annex 3, p. 303.

⁶⁵ IACHR, Annex 1.

⁶⁶ JS1, p. 4.

⁶⁷ JS1, p. 4.

⁶⁸ JS1, pp. 4-5.

⁶⁹ DHCRC, p. 5.

⁷⁰ DHRRCR, p. 3.

⁷¹ JS1, p. 1.

⁷² JS1, p. 2.

⁷³ DHRRCR, p. 3.

⁷⁴ JS1, p. 2.

⁷⁵ DNI, p. 3.

⁷⁶ JS1, p. 3; DNI, p. 3.

⁷⁷ DNI, p. 2; JS1, p. 3.

⁷⁸ DHCRC, p. 5.

⁷⁹ DHCRC, p. 5.

- ⁸⁰ DNI, p. 4.
⁸¹ JS1, p. 1.
⁸² MNICR, p. 8.
⁸³ JS1, p. 2.
⁸⁴ MNICR, p. 8.
⁸⁵ MNICR, p. 2.
⁸⁶ MNICR, p. 8.
⁸⁷ MNICR, p. 7.
⁸⁸ DHRCR, p. 3.
⁸⁹ MNICR, p. 8.
⁹⁰ JS1, p. 4.
⁹¹ MNICR, p. 6.
⁹² MNICR, p. 12.
⁹³ MNICR, p. 13.
⁹⁴ MNICR, p. 14.
⁹⁵ MNICR, p. 4.
⁹⁶ MNICR, p. 6.
⁹⁷ MNICR, p. 4.
⁹⁸ MNICR, p. 10.
⁹⁹ MNICR, p. 15.
¹⁰⁰ DHRCR, p. 3.
¹⁰¹ DHRCR, p. 4.
¹⁰² DHRCR, p. 4.
¹⁰³ JS1, p. 5.
¹⁰⁴ DHRCR, p. 3.
¹⁰⁵ DHRCR, p. 2.
