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**Human Rights Council**

**Fifty-fourth session**

11 September–6 October 2023

Agenda item 6

**Universal periodic review**

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

Barbados

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its forty-third session from 1 to 12 May 2023. The review of Barbados was held at the 9th meeting, on 5 May 2023. The delegation of Barbados was headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade and Senior Minister Coordinating the Productive Sectors, Kerrie D. Symmonds. At its 16th meeting, held on 10 May 2023, the Working Group adopted the report on Barbados.

2. On 11 January 2023, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Barbados: Gambia, Mexico and Pakistan.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Barbados:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);[[2]](#footnote-3)

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);[[3]](#footnote-4)

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).[[4]](#footnote-5)

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

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation noted that of the 64 supported recommendations emanating from the third cycle of the universal periodic review, Barbados considered that 43 had been fully implemented and 16 partially implemented. That had been accomplished against a backdrop of political change, climate and debt crises and the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and amid the specific challenges the country faced as a small island developing State and a small economy, among other challenges.

6. Those adverse realities also accounted for the marked slowdown in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, which were themselves an expression of the intrinsic human right to the basics of adequate shelter and food, decent work and a healthy and productive environment for all.

7. The climate crisis was set to have dramatic and devastating effects on the citizens of Barbados. Just as the Council supported human rights, it was also called on to support climate justice, given that the two issues were inextricably linked.

8. Barbados had made a historic transition to a parliamentary republic in November 2021. Since attaining independence in 1966, it had ratified several international human rights conventions, the aims and objectives of which it remained committed to upholding. Its commitment to human rights and the preservation of the dignity of all citizens was reflected in national expenditure on education, social services and social security, to which a large part of the national budget was allocated.

9. The challenge confronting Barbados was how to find and direct resources towards highly desirable areas such as fundamental educational reform and enhanced health and social care while also diverting scarce resources to finance adaptation and build resilience, coastal revetment, correction of saltwater intrusion into the country’s aquifers and the creation of subterranean electrical infrastructure.

10. Barbados was currently reviewing its Constitution to ensure that the rights of its citizens were not infringed by laws that were no longer considered relevant for Barbados. The Constitutional reform was aimed at reflecting the contemporary needs of Barbadians, while at the same time respecting and upholding the values that had underpinned Barbadian society and that had served the country well over the years. To that end, public consultations had been held in various forums to gather views, receive proposals and share information on the eventual revision of the Constitution. It was expected that the Constitutional Reform Commission would have a draft Constitution for consideration by the Cabinet by the end of 2023. That document would then be the subject of further public consultation and further refinement before being legislated and enacted.

11. In Barbados, women’s rights had continued to be enforced. Women in Barbados were protected under the law on issues such as domestic violence and discrimination. Women had also made significant gains in areas such as education and political representation.

12. Barbados had a culture of inclusion of women at the highest decision-making levels, as evidenced by the election of its first female Prime Minister, Mia Amor Mottley, and its first female President, Sandra Mason, who had formerly served as the country’s Governor-General. That culture of inclusion was further evident in the high number of ministries and departments throughout the public service that were headed by female senior public officers, as well as the significant proportionate female representation in the judiciary and in the upper house of the legislature.

13. Nevertheless, while much had been accomplished, more remained to be done. The Government had therefore embarked on the development of a national policy on gender, which would, inter alia, address the disproportionate impact on women and girls of the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis.

14. While there was no specific legislation that governed violence against women and children, several laws were in place concerning rape and sex with a minor and safeguarding victims against perpetrators of domestic violence. In addition, the Employment Sexual Harassment (Prevention) Act aimed to protect all employees from sexual harassment in the workplace. As was the case in other countries, Barbados recognized that, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, there had been an increase in domestic violence and abuse. The Government had a zero-tolerance policy on that and would continue to take steps, both legally and socially, to eradicate the scourge of domestic violence.

15. Barbados was committed to amplifying its voice on the international stage to address issues of discrimination and gender-based violence, as underscored by the nomination of V. Eudine Barriteau, a regionally and internationally renowned Caribbean educator, feminist and activist, as the country’s candidate for a seat on the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women for the period 2025–2028.

16. The Child Protection Bill, 2023, had been laid in Parliament on 31 March 2023. Its enactment was expected to bridge several policy gaps and include the legislative and institutional amendments required to provide a holistic approach to the protection of children. Significantly, the Bill would incorporate, within the laws of Barbados, the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

17. The Child Protection Bill would, inter alia, provide for: (a) the mandatory reporting of child abuse; (b) care and protection of children formerly charged with the offence of “wandering” and other similar status offences; (c) therapeutic rehabilitation for those who had been diverted from the criminal justice system and for those children who might come into conflict with the law, but who were below the age of criminal responsibility; and (d) identification and provision of safe spaces for children under the auspices of the Child Protection Agency. In addition, the Bill would address all forms of child abuse, including child labour, cyberabuse and emotional, physical and sexual abuse.

18. In 2013, the Sex Crimes and Trafficking Unit had been established within the Criminal Investigation Division of the Barbados Police Service. In 2016, the Government had passed the Trafficking in Persons Prevention Act, which sought to prevent and deter occurrences of trafficking in persons throughout Barbados. It prohibited both domestic and international forms of trafficking in persons and recommended penalties that were appropriately stringent. People smuggling had been made a separate crime and consequential amendments had been made to the Act. Barbados continued to be a leader on the global stage with regard to remembrance of the slave trade and promoting an honest discourse on the issue of reparations.

19. Barbados had strengthened its approach to establishing mechanisms and implementing initiatives to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities. The National Disabilities Unit, which had ultimate responsibility for engaging in policy development and training for persons with disabilities, continued to collaborate with specialized schools to ensure practical applications of technology to aid the integration of persons with disabilities into society.

20. The Government had assessed the country’s infrastructure and the changes that needed to be made to ensure ease of physical access for persons with disabilities. Legislation had been passed to create priority parking spaces for persons with disabilities in public car parking areas. In addition, the Call-A-Ride Programme had been revamped to provide improved accessible transportation to assist children to get to school and adults to get to medical appointments.

21. Barbados had deposited its instrument of accession to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled, thus reaffirming the country’s commitment to improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities.

22. Regrettably, owing to the many crises faced, the goal of establishing an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) had yet to be achieved. However, the commitment to establishing a national human rights institution remained a high priority. The Office of the Ombudsman served to investigate and settle grievances against government agencies, make recommendations for corrective measures when investigations revealed unlawful or unreasonable administrative procedures, and make recommendations, where appropriate, on improving administrative systems and their operation. Barbados would welcome technical assistance from States with experience in establishing a national human rights institution that would be willing to support it in that endeavour.

23. The head of delegation gave an assurance that the necessary steps would be taken in order to establish a standing national mechanism on implementation, reporting and follow-up.

24. In 2018, following the ruling of the Caribbean Court of Justice, the provision in the Offences Against the Person Act requiring the mandatory imposition of the death penalty for the offence of murder had been deemed to be unconstitutional. It had been amended to remove the mandatory death penalty and the requisite processes were under way to resentence individuals who had previously been sentenced to death. Nevertheless, the death penalty remained a sentencing option subject to judicial discretion. Judges currently had to take into consideration several elements, including aggravation, premeditation and undue delay set out in the amendments to the Offences Against the Person Act and the relevant guidelines in the Penal System Reform Act.

25. Even prior to the legislative amendments abolishing the mandatory imposition of the death penalty, Barbados had in essence, by virtue of not carrying out any death sentences, implemented a de facto moratorium on the death penalty since 1984, when the last execution had been carried out.

26. In December 2022, the Supreme Court of Barbados had ruled that section 9 of the Sexual Offences Act was null and void. That had resulted in the decriminalization of buggery in Barbados. Existing national legislation was in the process of being reviewed in that regard.

27. The Government of Barbados had zero tolerance for any form of violence or discrimination against anyone within the country’s borders, including members of the LGBTQI+ community.

28. The Government recognized that the legal architecture required some amendment and was therefore in the process of determining a road map to begin important discussions on those issues.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

29. During the interactive dialogue, 76 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

30. Nepal encouraged Barbados to work towards the legal abolition of the death penalty. It commended efforts to improve the enjoyment of the right to education for all individuals, including persons with disabilities.

31. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland congratulated Barbados on its recent publication of the Charter of Barbados and commended Barbados on its abolition of the mandatory death sentence and its decriminalization of consensual same-sex activity.

32. The Niger noted the accession of Barbados to the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization and the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled.

33. Nigeria noted the inclusion of more women in high-ranking and decision-making positions, the establishment of a Constitutional Review Commission to prepare to enact a new Constitution and the ratification of the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization.

34. Pakistan welcomed the cooperation of Barbados with United Nations human rights mechanisms. It noted the adoption of the Prevention of Corruption Act, the Employment (Prevention of Discrimination) Act and the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking 2021–2023.

35. Panama noted with appreciation the presentation by the delegation of Barbados of its national report.

36. Paraguay welcomed the processes initiated in Barbados for the transition to a parliamentary republic since 2021 and for the constitutional reform. Paraguay was concerned, inter alia, that the death penalty remained legal.

37. Peru noted the adoption of the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking 2021–2023 and the ratification of the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190).

38. Portugal noted the adoption of the 2020 Employment (Prevention of Discrimination) Act, providing safeguards against discrimination in the workplace.

39. Romania commended the positive developments since the previous review, including the efforts made by Barbados to improve the enjoyment of the right to education.

40. The Russian Federation noted the adoption of new legislation to strengthen the protection of human rights, in particular, legal amendments that prohibited corporal punishment in high schools.

41. Samoa commended Barbados for its whole-of-society approach in the implementation of human rights and sustainable development measures, while recognizing the capacity challenges that Barbados encountered.

42. Saudi Arabia welcomed the accession of Barbados to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled.

43. Serbia welcomed the authorities’ whole-of-society approach to governance to ensure that no one was left behind, the progress made in the inclusion of women in decision-making positions and the increase in the budget of the Child Care Board to combat violence against children.

44. Sierra Leone commended Barbados for becoming a signatory to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and for its efforts to combat corruption, notably through the adoption in 2021 of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

45. Singapore noted the efforts of Barbados to address gender-based violence, including through the establishment of the National Committee on Gender-based Violence and awareness-raising throughout society. It commended Barbados on its robust education system and on its provision of access to education for children with disabilities.

46. Slovenia was concerned that the application of the death penalty remained an option, dependent on judicial discretion. It welcomed the efforts to adopt the Child Protection Bill, which would make it mandatory to report child abuse.

47. South Africa welcomed the ratification by Barbados of the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization and its accession to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled.

48. Spain congratulated Barbados for eliminating the mandatory nature of the death penalty for certain crimes and for advancing women’s rights. However, it noted that death sentences could still be handed down, at the discretion of the courts.

49. Timor-Leste praised Barbados for its progress in upholding human rights, including its adoption of the Employment (Prevention of Discrimination) Act 2020, women’s increased participation in decision-making and its ratification of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

50. Trinidad and Tobago welcomed the progress made by Barbados since its previous review, despite the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters. It commended Barbados on its leadership in reforming the international financial architecture and addressing climate change.

51. Türkiye congratulated Barbados on revising its Constitution and establishing a Commission to that end.

52. Ukraine welcomed the progress achieved by Barbados in implementing the recommendations it had committed to at the previous universal periodic review and its strong support for the Charter of the United Nations.

53. The Kingdom of the Netherlands noted the adoption of the Employment (Prevention of Discrimination) Act, prohibiting discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation. Nevertheless, it also noted that cases of domestic abuse had increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.

54. The United Republic of Tanzania welcomed the progress Barbados had made since its previous review, in particular the policies and programmes designed to ensure economic development and the progress made in the area of women’s empowerment.

55. The United States of America commended Barbados for its support for human rights. Nevertheless, it expressed concern that penalties of up to life imprisonment continued to exist for men convicted of consensual same-sex conduct. It was also concerned about unequal pay for women and the prolonged detention of those awaiting trial.

56. Uruguay welcomed the delegation of Barbados, thanked it for presenting its national report and welcomed the efforts made, including the ratification of the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization.

57. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed appreciation for the significant progress Barbados had made in upholding human rights and its enhanced commitment to the protection of its people by ratifying a number of international conventions and undertaking legislative reforms.

58. Viet Nam welcomed the steps made by Barbados to include more women in decision-making positions, primarily with the election of the country’s first female Prime Minister, and commended its efforts to improve the right to education.

59. Algeria recognized the strong commitment of Barbados to the universal periodic review process and commended its progress in implementing recommendations from the previous review cycle. It also welcomed the implementation of the updated Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan.

60. Argentina welcomed the delegation of Barbados and thanked it for presenting its national report.

61. Australia commended Barbados for its progress on human rights since its previous universal periodic review and particularly welcomed the decision of the High Court of Barbados to declare laws that criminalized consensual same‑sex relations as unconstitutional.

62. Azerbaijan appreciated the wide range of legislative and institutional measures taken by Barbados to improve the promotion and protection of human rights, including policies to combat trafficking in persons and all forms of discrimination.

63. The Bahamas congratulated Barbados on the progress it had made, including its ratification of the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization and the updated Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan.

64. Bangladesh appreciated the fact that Barbados had ratified a number of important human rights conventions and had attained a literacy rate of almost 100 per cent. Bangladesh noted that Barbados continued to face challenges in combating trafficking in persons and ensuring gender equality.

65. Belgium acknowledged the progress made by Barbados since its previous universal periodic review, notably regarding non-discrimination.

66. The Plurinational State of Bolivia appreciated the creation by Barbados of the Social Justice Committee and efforts made towards creating a more equitable society. It also highlighted the efforts made to fight corruption and welcomed the constitutional reform process.

67. Brazil commended Barbados on the adoption in 2021 of the Charter of Barbados, which placed human rights at the forefront of the country’s commitments from an integrated and sustainable development perspective.

68. Cabo Verde congratulated Barbados on its recent achievement in transitioning to a parliamentary republic and hoped that during the constitutional reform process, it would remain committed to constructively codifying the human rights of all people.

69. Canada welcomed the recent decisions to decriminalize consensual same-sex relations by striking the laws against buggery and gross indecency from the Sexual Offences Act.

70. Chile welcomed the decision of the Supreme Court of Barbados to repeal the provisions of the Sexual Offences Act that had criminalized consensual sexual relations between persons of the same sex.

71. The delegation of Barbados noted that within the public service, all employees received equal treatment in terms of pay, and promotion was strictly based on merit, irrespective of gender. Furthermore, Barbados had a tradition of collective bargaining in industrial relations, in which trade unions monitored how contracts were entered into, including with regard to equality of pay. World Economic Forum statistics revealed that women in Barbados earned on average 87 per cent of what men earned.

72. The delegation of Barbados stated that the Child Protection Bill would have a companion piece of legislation – the Child Justice Bill – which would increase the age of criminal responsibility. Moreover, both the Child Protection Bill and the draft Child Justice Bill sought to ban corporal punishment in the institutions governed by the respective bills. The Child Protection Bill implicitly abolished corporal punishment in that it repealed existing legislation that afforded a reasonable defence for the use of corporal punishment. Nevertheless, corporal punishment of children was a cultural issue in Barbados; it would be addressed through nationwide public education and discourse.

73. Moreover, Barbados was analysing various policy options for the preparation of a national policy and action plan for children. The policy was expected to address such issues as child marriage, as defined under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, sex education as a mandatory part of the school curriculum, and ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

74. The delegation noted that, to the best of its knowledge, sexual exploitation of child workers and child migrant workers was not an issue in Barbados.

75. On the matter of Barbadian citizenship for adopted children, the delegation noted that the Adoption Act provided that adoptive parents enjoyed full parental rights, including the transfer of citizenship to their children.

76. The authorities were also monitoring the situation of schoolgirls who became pregnant. The policy was that all teenagers who became pregnant were given the opportunity to return to school.

77. Barbados had allocated a significant proportion of the national budget to education. Education was provided free of cost to students through to tertiary level. The Education Act provided that education was compulsory up to the age of 16. That provision was rigorously enforced.

78. China welcomed the constructive participation of Barbados in the universal periodic review. China commended the efforts of Barbados to uphold human rights, notably its achievements in promoting economic growth, increasing investment in education and health-care services, encouraging equal employment, protecting the needs of vulnerable groups, addressing gender-based violence and combating trafficking in persons.

79. Colombia hailed the efforts of the Government to promote the rights of its inhabitants, including its efforts to assist those who had been affected by the natural disasters that had occurred since the previous review.

80. Costa Rica highlighted the ongoing training given to police officers which, together with independent measures to investigate reports of abuse of force, had led to a drop in reports of grave violations in cases of police violence.

81. Cuba thanked the delegation of Barbados for its commitment to the universal periodic review and took note with satisfaction of the results achieved by the country in implementing the recommendations it had accepted in previous cycles.

82. The Dominican Republic thanked Barbados for the presentation of its report and welcomed its commitment and measures to promote and protect human rights.

83. Ecuador highlighted the approval of the National School Nutrition Policy and the establishment of the first education and professional training centre for adolescents with special needs.

84. Fiji welcomed the ratification by Barbados of core international human rights instruments and understood the challenges it faced with reporting in the light of human resource constraints.

85. Finland congratulated Barbados on the comprehensive national report it had presented and appreciated the steps it had taken since the previous review.

86. France praised the adoption of reforms to improve the human rights situation in Barbados, including the adoption of a national plan to combat trafficking in persons.

87. The Gambia commended Barbados on its efforts to address issues relating to trafficking in persons by developing and approving the National Action Plan To Combat Human Trafficking.

88. Georgia praised the efforts of Barbados to better address violence against women, including the establishment in 2019 of the National Committee on Gender-based Violence and the launch in 2021 of the two-year project on gender-based violence in the workplace.

89. Germany commended Barbados on the passing of the Charter of Barbados, which recognized the human rights of all Barbadians, regardless of sexual orientation. Germany also welcomed the recognition of civil unions for same-sex couples and the ratification of the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization. However, it was concerned that the death penalty still existed in Barbados, while recognizing that there had been a de facto moratorium in place for 39 years.

90. Ghana commended Barbados for its efforts to promote and protect human rights, including the adoption of the Prevention of Corruption Act and the establishment of the National Committee on Gender-based Violence.

91. Honduras congratulated Barbados for ratifying the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization and the efforts it had made in the areas of governance and transparency.

92. Iceland welcomed the delegation of Barbados and its national report.

93. India acknowledged the response of Barbados to the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures it had taken to safeguard the rights of persons with disabilities, including the adoption of a comprehensive policy on the rights of persons with disabilities and accession to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled.

94. Indonesia commended Barbados for its efforts to address trafficking in persons, prevent discrimination and provide housing for vulnerable individuals in society.

95. Iraq welcomed Barbados to the fourth cycle of the universal periodic review and commended its efforts to promote gender equality and increase women’s participation in decision-making positions.

96. Ireland welcomed the efforts of Barbados to advance human rights, while expressing concern about the lack of gender equality and the reportedly high levels of trafficking in children for labour and sexual exploitation to and from Barbados.

97. Israel commended Barbados for its efforts to increase women’s representation in politics, its election of a female Prime Minister and its establishment of the National Committee on Gender-based Violence.

98. Italy expressed concern that Barbados had retained the death penalty and that its imposition had been left to judicial discretion. Italy urged Barbados to comply with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, while appreciating its efforts to improve child protection and justice.

99. Jamaica commended Barbados on the establishment of the Social Justice Committee and on the involvement of stakeholders in policymaking for inclusivity. Jamaica welcomed the efforts of Barbados to enhance legislation on child protection and uphold the right to education.

100. Latvia thanked Barbados for presenting its national report and welcomed the efforts made to ensure access to education.

101. Lithuania recognized the progress made by Barbados since the previous universal periodic review, including the Fully Accessible Barbados initiative aimed at integrating persons with disabilities, and efforts to enhance the protection of children’s rights.

102. Luxembourg welcomed the efforts of Barbados to implement the recommendations from the third cycle of the universal periodic review and to ratify of the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization.

103. Malawi expressed appreciation for the efforts Barbados had made to promote and protect human rights, especially the adoption of a plan of action to combat trafficking in persons.

104. Malaysia congratulated Barbados on electing its first female Prime Minister, transitioning to a parliamentary republic and promoting economic, social and cultural rights with transparent and accountable public services in the national development strategy.

105. Maldives commended the efforts to strengthen the inclusion of women in decision-making positions and applauded the adoption of the ambitious National Energy Policy.

106. The Marshall Islands commended Barbados on the election of its first female Prime Minister, its transition to a republic, its efforts to combat gender discrimination through the Employment (Prevention of Discrimination) Act 2020 and the launch of the project on gender-based violence in the workplace with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

107. Mauritius commended Barbados for providing free access to education up to tertiary level, adopting in 2020 the Employment (Prevention of Discrimination) Act and ratifying the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization.

108. Mexico appreciated the presentation given by the delegation of Barbados and welcomed the steps that had been taken to advance gender equality.

109. Mongolia commended Barbados for ratifying several important human rights and labour conventions and for its legislative efforts to implement its obligations under international human rights standards, including on children’s rights.

110. Montenegro noted the development by Barbados of anti-discrimination legislation and the review of the juvenile justice system. It welcomed the Constitutional (Amendment) Bill 2019 and called upon Barbados to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

111. Morocco commended Barbados for promoting human rights and implementing recommendations from the previous review cycle. It welcomed the establishment of the National Committee on Gender-based Violence.

112. Mozambique commended Barbados for its ongoing actions, particularly for promoting equal rights for men and women through the election of a female Prime Minister in 2018 and her subsequent re-election in 2022.

113. The delegation of Barbados thanked all the States that had participated in the review of its human rights track record and the status of its implementation of recommendations emanating from the previous universal periodic review. It also thanked the members of the troika, the secretariat of the universal periodic review, the United Nations partners in Barbados, the Commonwealth Small States Office in Geneva and all the non-governmental organizations and civil society stakeholders for their respective contributions to the universal periodic review process.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

114. **The following recommendations will be examined by Barbados, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fifty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council:**

114.1 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Cabo Verde);**

114.2 **Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Romania);**

114.3 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of the United Nations (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

114.4 **Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Sierra Leone);**

114.5 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Maldives);**

114.6 **Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Dominican Republic);**

114.7 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Costa Rica);**

114.8 **Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Latvia);**

114.9 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Luxembourg);**

114.10 **Consider positively the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Fiji);**

114.11 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Mauritius);**

114.12 **Consider signing and ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Finland);**

114.13 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and ban corporal punishment, especially in schools (Italy);**

114.14 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Montenegro);**

114.15 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Niger);**

114.16 **Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sierra Leone);**

114.17 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons (Argentina);**

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

114.19 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Luxembourg);**

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

114.21 **Consider signing and ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Finland);**

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

114.23 **Consider taking additional steps towards the total abolition of the death penalty, including the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Uruguay);**

114.24 **Prohibit the death penalty for all cases, by ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Spain);**

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

114.26 **Consider legal abolition of the death penalty, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (France);**

114.27 **Consider formalizing an official moratorium on the death penalty and taking measures in the field of future ratification of international instruments, especially the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Germany);**

114.28 **Abolish the death penalty and consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Latvia);**

114.29 **Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and introduce a moratorium on the death penalty as the first step towards its abolition (Lithuania);**

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

114.31 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Luxembourg);**

114.32 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Sierra Leone);**

114.33 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Spain);**

114.34 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and children pornography, conduct activities to raise awareness among parents and children of the risks, including in the digital environment, and adopt programmes and policies for the prevention, protection, physical and psychological recovery, and social reintegration of child victims of such crimes (Panama);**

114.35 **Consider the possibility of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Algeria);**

114.36 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography of 2000 (Niger);**

114.37 **Consolidate the legal framework on the protection of migrants, including by the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Morocco);**

114.38 **Continue efforts to ratify outstanding core human rights treaties, of note are the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ghana);**

114.39 **Reconsider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);**

114.40 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, and consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Paraguay);**

114.41 **Intensify efforts to make progress in the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as well as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Chile);**

114.42 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Colombia);**

114.43 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**

114.44 **Continue progress in signing and ratifying outstanding international human rights instruments (Ukraine);**

114.45 **Consider moving towards the ratification of pending international human rights instruments (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

114.46 **Continue efforts to combat violence against women, particularly domestic violence, and ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (France);**

114.47 **Consider ratification of outstanding international human rights instruments, in line with Barbados national priorities (Malawi);**

114.48 **Increase the ratification of the core international human rights instruments (Mongolia);**

114.49 **Ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol (Niger);**

114.50 **Take steps to accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and take all steps necessary to implement it (Mozambique);**

114.51 **Issue an open and standing invitation for special procedure mandate holders to visit the country (Paraguay);**

114.52 **Consider extending a standing invitation to the United Nations special procedure mandate holders (Latvia);**

114.53 **Enhance collaboration and technical assistance with OHCHR, the Commonwealth and other relevant partners to fulfil reporting obligations to treaty bodies (Samoa);**

114.54 **Continue taking targeted steps to improve national legislation concerning the respect of human rights and freedoms (Russian Federation);**

114.55 **Promote the inclusion and participation of vulnerable groups in the multisectoral public consultations of the Constitutional Review Commission (Honduras);**

114.56 **Pursue technical assistance and capacity-building opportunities to enhance its data collection systems (Trinidad and Tobago);**

114.57 **Establish the national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Nepal);**

114.58 **Complete the process of establishing a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principle (Nigeria);**

114.59 **Establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Timor-Leste);**

114.60 **Continue its efforts for the establishment of its national human rights institution (Algeria);**

114.61 **Accelerate efforts to establish a national human rights institution, guarantee its financial autonomy, full institutional independence and the effective performance of its responsibilities and functions, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Dominican Republic);**

114.62 **Consider establishing a national human rights institution according to the Paris Principles (Finland);**

114.63 **Continue its efforts to establish a national human rights institution (Georgia);**

114.64 **Redouble efforts to establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Honduras);**

114.65 **Expedite the process of establishing an independent national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Indonesia);**

114.66 **Enhance efforts towards the establishment of an independent national human rights institution, in compliance with the Paris Principles (Lithuania);**

114.67 **Establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles, and ensure its operationalization (Mexico);**

114.68 **Accelerate its efforts to establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mongolia);**

114.69 **Intensify efforts to establish the national human rights institution (Montenegro);**

114.70 **Establish an independent national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Morocco);**

114.71 **Establish a standing national mechanism for the implementation, reporting and follow-up of human rights recommendations, to address the challenges in submitting overdue reports to treaty bodies, and consider seeking assistance or cooperation in this respect (Paraguay);**

114.72 **Consider the establishment or strengthening of a dedicated national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up in support of ongoing efforts to meet treaty reporting obligations (Bahamas);**

114.73 **Intensify efforts to combat all forms of discrimination in line with international standards (Azerbaijan);**

114.74 **Intensify efforts to bring domestic legislation on combating all forms of discrimination in line with international standards (Ghana);**

114.75 **Adopt legislative measures to fully abolish the death penalty and launch an awareness-raising campaign on this issue (Panama);**

114.76 **Strengthen, within the framework of the constitutional reform, its normative human rights basis, conferring constitutional status on the obligations to respect, protect and guarantee human rights, including the total abolition of the death penalty (Paraguay);**

114.77 **Take further decisive steps towards a moratorium on the death penalty (Slovenia);**

114.78 **Consider introducing a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing it (Timor-Leste);**

114.79 **Continue making all efforts to abolish the death penalty from its legislation, following up on the recommendation made in 2018 (Argentina);**

114.80 **Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty, as a step towards complete abolition (Australia);**

114.81 **Reduce the offences for which the death penalty may be imposed to the most serious crimes and commute death sentences (Belgium);**

114.82 **Take further steps towards the complete abolition of the death penalty (Cabo Verde);**

114.83 **Establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, with a view to its legal and practical abolition (Chile);**

114.84 **Abolish the death penalty, and commute all death penalties into prison sentences (Costa Rica);**

114.85 **Continue efforts towards the abolition of the death penalty (Honduras);**

114.86 **Abolish the death penalty (Iceland);**

114.87 **Adopt all necessary measures to introduce a de jure moratorium on capital executions with a view to fully abolishing the death penalty (Italy);**

114.88 **Strengthen national efforts aimed at combating corruption, investigating it and prosecuting its perpetrators (Saudi Arabia);**

114.89 **Address lengthy pretrial detention concerns by ensuring all detentions are consistent with international obligations and commitments (United States of America);**

114.90 **Accelerate efforts to reduce pretrial detention delays (Canada);**

114.91 **Ensure that the process of constitutional reform is conducted inclusively and includes human rights as well as rule of law principles accordingly (Indonesia);**

114.92 **Take robust measures to ensure effective care for victims of institutional violence and their access to justice (Argentina);**

114.93 **Provide specific targeted support to the institution of the family (Russian Federation);**

114.94 **Amend the nationality laws to ensure women confer nationality on their children in all circumstances (Iceland);**

114.95 **Amend relevant laws to ensure all parents can confer nationality on their children, including instances where children are born abroad (Ireland);**

114.96 **Repeal or amend all discriminatory provisions in legislation, including by providing equal rights in conferring nationality to an adopted child or foreign spouse (Latvia);**

114.97 **Amend the Family Law Act to remove any exception to the minimum age of marriage which is set at 18 years old (Marshall Islands);**

114.98 **Consider enforcing the application of the minimum age of marriage at 18 years, without any reservation (Mauritius);**

114.99 **Strengthen measures aimed at continuing the implementation of the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking for the period 2021–2023 (Saudi Arabia);**

114.100 **Continue its positive experience in combating human trafficking and assistance provided to victims through the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking (Azerbaijan);**

114.101 **Strengthen international cooperation to address trafficking in children for labour and sexual exploitation (Ecuador);**

114.102 **Take the necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation of the Trafficking in Persons Prevention Act 2016 (Gambia);**

114.103 **Protect against the trafficking of children to and from Barbados, through implementation of the Trafficking in Persons Prevention Act 2016, strengthening regional and international cooperation and carrying out awareness-raising activities (Ireland);**

114.104 **Continue to take concrete measures to combat trafficking in persons (Malawi);**

114.105 **Strengthen the measures to combat human trafficking (Mozambique);**

114.106 **Continue strengthening regional and international cooperation to combat trafficking in children (Serbia);**

114.107 **Take all necessary measures to combat trafficking in children, including by further strengthening regional and international cooperation in this area (Latvia);**

114.108 **Take robust measures to prevent both internal and external trafficking in children (Bangladesh);**

114.109 **Legally mandate equal pay for equal work (United States of America);**

114.110 **Eliminate the gender pay gap by ensuring parity in wages paid to men and women performing the same functions in the same organizations (Nigeria);**

114.111 **Promote measures to address the gender pay gap, including by promoting the employment of women in positions with better career opportunities and higher salaries (Peru);**

114.112 **Enact appropriate legislation to guarantee the principle of equal pay for work of equal value in all areas of work, intensifying efforts to create an enabling environment for women to become economically independent and ensuring that women doing unpaid work are eligible for retirement and other work-related benefits (South Africa);**

114.113 **Adopt measures to reduce the wage gap between men and women, and continue to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women (Ecuador);**

114.114 **Take all necessary measures to reduce the gender pay gap and address occupational gender segregation (Latvia);**

114.115 **Accelerate efforts to promote women’s rights and achieve gender equality by providing women with equal opportunities and access to the labour market, as well as equal pay for the same labour services as men (Malaysia);**

114.116 **Reinforce further measures for the realization of people’s right to adequate housing and standard of living (Pakistan);**

114.117 **Continue its efforts to reduce poverty and develop the socioeconomic sphere (Russian Federation);**

114.118 **Continue its efforts to ensure the right to an adequate standard of living for all its citizens (Viet Nam);**

114.119 **Redouble efforts to guarantee the right to food and consider food and agricultural policies appropriate to the needs of its population (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

114.120 **Further promote sustainable economic and social development, and continue to improve people’s livelihoods and living standards (China);**

114.121 **Strengthen its sound social policies, especially in the field of economic, social and cultural rights, in order to continue providing the greatest possible well-being to its population (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

114.122 **Continue developing the Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan, in order to work towards improving the quality of life of its population (Cuba);**

114.123 **Continue to strengthen the construction of a social security system to protect the rights of people in vulnerable situations, such as women, children, people with disabilities and others (China);**

114.124 **Guarantee access to sexual and reproductive health services for all segments of the population without restrictions of any kind (Panama);**

114.125 **Introduce comprehensive sexuality and reproductive health education in the mandatory school curriculum (Portugal);**

114.126 **Adopt legislation to guarantee access to sexual and reproductive health services for all segments of the population without restrictions in terms of age, marital status, and third-party authorization requirements (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**

114.127 **Strengthen measures to ensure access to sexual and reproductive health services for all segments of the population, without restriction on the basis of age, marital status or third-party authorization requirements (Colombia);**

114.128 **Include and provide age-appropriate education on sexual and reproductive health care in the Health and Family Life Education Programme, and convey that knowledge to out-of-school adolescents and youth (Costa Rica);**

114.129 **Continue governmental and health system efforts, especially in relation to maternal mortality, with emphasis on risk prevention in the prenatal stage (Cuba);**

114.130 **Continue to strengthen efforts to provide and improve access to health care for all, including access to sexual and reproductive health services and information (Fiji);**

114.131 **Consider further measures to ensure access to essential health services for all (India);**

114.132 **Provide age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health education as part of the Health and Family Life Education curriculum and for out-of-school adolescents and youth (Luxembourg);**

114.133 **Consider implementing sexual and reproductive health legislation through the development of integral policies (Malaysia);**

114.134 **Work towards incorporating the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment into the new Constitution (Maldives);**

114.135 **Take concrete steps to address maternal mortality (United Republic of Tanzania);**

114.136 **Continue with the efforts to address the issue of maternal mortality in the country (Mozambique);**

114.137 **Strengthen the design and implementation of public health policy to create a health-promoting environment and to reduce the risk factors for non-communicable diseases, especially among children (Malaysia);**

114.138 **Improve access to quality health-care services for all, including in remote areas, and address the challenges of maternal mortality (Algeria);**

114.139 **Redouble efforts to combat school dropout rates, especially for girls due to early pregnancies, including re-entry policies so that teenage mothers can return to school after pregnancy (Colombia);**

114.140 **Enact laws protecting against the withdrawal of pregnant learners from formal education and guaranteeing the re-entry of pregnant learners to schools (Marshall Islands);**

114.141 **Continue its efforts to support teenage mothers in their pursuit of an education, including through the elaboration of a policy on this matter (Jamaica);**

114.142 **Ensure that adequate resources and support are provided to facilitate the reintegration of teenage mothers into the school environment post-delivery or birth (Jamaica);**

114.143 **Mandate comprehensive sexual education in schools and for out-of-school adolescents and youth (Iceland);**

114.144 **Continue developing and drawing up plans to counteract the negative effects of climate change (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

114.145 **Incorporate, at the constitutional and legal levels, the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Costa Rica);**

114.146 **Develop and strengthen partnerships with United Nations agencies and the private sector to improve disaster risk reduction (Samoa);**

114.147 **Continue to strengthen legal and policy frameworks to combat violence against women and gender inequality (Pakistan);**

114.148 **Redouble efforts in the fight against discrimination against women and continue promoting their active participation in all spheres of society (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

114.149 **Continue efforts to ensure more female representation in government administration (Bangladesh);**

114.150 **Continue to promote initiatives in favour of gender equality and the occupation of decision-making positions by women (Dominican Republic);**

114.151 **Continue measures promoting gender equality (Georgia);**

114.152 **Take measures to increase women’s representation in the public sector and in decision-making positions (Lithuania);**

114.153 **Continue to take steps against all forms of discrimination against women (Malawi);**

114.154 **Make the necessary effort to ensure the timely finalization of its national gender policy (Timor-Leste);**

114.155 **Continue efforts to combat gender-based violence, child sexual abuse and exploitation (Nepal);**

114.156 **Continue its efforts to combat all forms of violence against women (Viet Nam);**

114.157 **Criminalize sexual abuse in all places and circumstances (Costa Rica);**

114.158 **Implement a comprehensive approach to reduce and end gender-based violence including domestic violence perpetrated against women and girls (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

114.159 **Ensure that the national policies and strategies to eliminate gender-based violence are fully implemented and adequately resourced (Singapore);**

114.160 **Make** **femicide and sexual harassment separate** **criminal** **offences, to strengthen the effectiveness of the fight against gender violence (Spain);**

114.161 **Effectively implement and strengthen a comprehensive strategy and national policy for the prevention of and attention to gender violence (Ukraine);**

114.162 **Enact legislation protecting survivors of gender-based violence and sexual harassment outside of the workplace (Iceland);**

114.163 **Continue with policy and legislative measures for promoting gender equality and combating gender-based violence (India);**

114.164 **Continue to strengthen national efforts to combat all forms of gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls (Italy);**

114.165 **Enhance support services for victims of domestic and gender-based violence, and take measures to raise awareness among law enforcement officials, lawyers, judges, social workers and health-care professionals of the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women and children who are victims of domestic and gender-based violence (Fiji);**

114.166 **Redouble efforts to expedite the adoption of a law regarding juvenile justice, in order to ensure that the justice system is aligned with the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Peru);**

114.167 **Enhance efforts aimed at combating domestic violence against women and children (Romania);**

114.168 **Continue to fight against trafficking of children, including by conducting awareness-raising activities for parents and children regarding the dangers of trafficking (Romania);**

114.169 **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Romania);**

114.170 **Consider adopting laws that clearly define and prohibit child sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as developing programmes for the prevention, recovery and social reintegration of child victims (Serbia);**

114.171 **Increase the minimum age of criminal liability and criminalize child marriage (Sierra Leone);**

114.172 **Take measures to eliminate corporal punishment as a legitimate sanction in the law and to discourage its use in schools with a view to its eventual and total abolition (Slovenia);**

114.173 **Expressly prohibit corporal punishment of children in educational centres (Spain);**

114.174 **Strengthen efforts with regard to early childhood care (Trinidad and Tobago);**

114.175 **Continue its efforts to combat gun violence and improve the integration of adolescent perpetrators into society (Türkiye);**

114.176 **Adopt appropriate laws that clearly and explicitly define and prohibit child sexual abuse and exploitation, and ensure the development of programmes and policies for the prevention, recovery and social reintegration of child victims (Ukraine);**

114.177 **Increase the adoption of alternative measures to corporal punishment as a disciplinary sanction, particularly in the educational field (Uruguay);**

114.178 **Prioritize resources for agencies responsible for the prevention of – and response to – violence against women and children (Australia);**

114.179 **Expedite the adoption of the draft law on juvenile justice, as well as the Child Justice Bill, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including by prohibiting corporal punishment in all circumstances, and clearly and explicitly define and prohibit sexual abuse and exploitation of children (Belgium);**

114.180 **Strengthen the implementation of the childcare and protection bill, and eliminate the use of corporal punishment against children, both at home and in childcare facilities (Brazil);**

114.181 **Take further steps to protect children, including prohibiting corporal punishment (Canada);**

114.182 **Adopt all necessary measures to prohibit and eradicate corporal punishment of boys and girls (Chile);**

114.183 **Promulgate a law that prohibits corporal punishment of minors in all walks of life (Costa Rica);**

114.184 **Approve the Child Protection Bill to strengthen legislation to promote protection of the rights of children and adolescents (Dominican Republic);**

114.185 **Take the necessary measures to harmonize the definition of the child in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Gambia);**

114.186 **Prohibit all corporal punishment of children, including at home, at schools and as a sentence in courts, and work towards a general understanding that corporal punishment is detrimental to the development of children (Germany);**

114.187 **Strengthen the protection of children, including by providing for the prohibition of corporal punishment of children within the children protection bill and the juvenile justice bill (Indonesia);**

114.188 **Continue efforts to legislate the child protection law (Iraq);**

114.189 **Abolish corporal punishment of children in law and in practice, by enacting specific national legislation prohibiting corporal punishment in all environments (Israel);**

114.190 **Continue to advance its work on the Child Justice Bill, which aims to address issues related to children before the criminal justice system (Jamaica);**

114.191 **Continue efforts for preventing, combating and monitoring all forms of violence and abuse against women and children (Lithuania);**

114.192 **Take measures to prevent child abuse and to end corporal punishment of children, and continue efforts to educate the population on the negative impact of such punishment (Lithuania);**

114.193 **Incorporate into the legislation on child protection the prohibition of corporal punishment in any setting and without exception (Mexico);**

114.194 **Finalize the adoption of the Child Justice Bill, which would be instrumental in ensuring a criminal justice process for children accused of committing offences (Mongolia);**

114.195 **Continue measures to strengthen the National Disabilities Unit and to ensure equitable access of persons with disabilities to education and health services (Pakistan);**

114.196 **Continue investing efforts to advance inclusive education, with particular emphasis on the special education policy for persons with disabilities (Serbia);**

114.197 **Continue to ensure robust public investment in education and that education is accessible, including to persons with disabilities (Singapore);**

114.198 **Maintain its efforts to put special emphasis on education and training, including for disabled children (Türkiye);**

114.199 **Develop appropriate legislation to prevent discrimination against persons with disabilities (South Africa);**

114.200 **Improve health services, including for adults with disabilities (United Republic of Tanzania);**

114.201 **Increase measures to ensure access for persons with disabilities to health, education, housing and employment (Ecuador);**

114.202 **Undertake awareness-raising programmes aimed at combating the stigmatization of and prejudice against children with disabilities (India);**

114.203 **Continue efforts to ensure that persons with disabilities have equal access to education and health services (Iraq);**

114.204 **Ensure the Constitution guarantees the rights of marginalized groups, including the LGBTQI+ community (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

114.205 **Increase efforts to end discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity through the current constitutional reform process and other legislative reform, as well as through public awareness-raising measures (Canada);**

114.206 **Combat discrimination, prejudice and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity through legislative reform and the adoption of awareness-raising measures (Germany);**

114.207 **Repeal laws that criminalize consensual same-sex relationships and further recommend that the proposed Charter of Barbados include protection against discrimination on the grounds of gender and sexual orientation (South Africa);**

114.208 **Repeal legislative provisions that criminalize consensual same-sex sexual relations and establish legislation and policies to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**

114.209 **Decriminalize consensual same-sex sexual conduct between adults (United States of America);**

114.210 **Increase efforts for the design and implementation of policies aimed at protecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons from harassment, discrimination and violence (Uruguay);**

114.211 **Strengthen measures to definitively repeal the norms that penalize and discriminate against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and investigate and punish the perpetrators of acts of discrimination and violence (Argentina);**

114.212 **Implement legislative and public policy measures to protect the rights of persons with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, and sex characteristics (Australia);**

114.213 **Legalize same-sex unions (Belgium);**

114.214 **Promote public policies in favour of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, including in the labour sphere (Ecuador);**

114.215 **Prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in the new constitution and repeal all existing discrimination legislation, including buggery in Sexual Offences Act of 1992 (Iceland);**

114.216 **Decriminalize same-sex relations between consenting adults and legalize same-sex marriage (Iceland);**

114.217 **Take steps to end the criminalization of same-sex relations (Israel);**

114.218 **Prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and conduct a national campaign to combat discriminatory practices on these grounds (Mexico);**

114.219 **Ban conversion therapies (Iceland);**

114.220 **Introduce through legislation a transparent administrative self-identification process for gender recognition, free from intrusive requirements (Iceland);**

114.221 **Develop policies to combat racism and all forms of discrimination, with a focus on migrant children and children with disabilities (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

114.222 **Implement legislation to protect migrant children and children with disabilities from all forms of discrimination (Gambia);**

114.223 **Consider enacting a law or policy on asylum and refugee status with a view to implementing a State procedure to address the needs of this vulnerable population, in accordance with international standards (Peru);**

114.224 **Adopt specific screening procedures for asylum-seekers and refugees who may be victims of trafficking and prevent the deportation of victims of trafficking who may be in need of international protection (Luxembourg).**

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

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Barbados was headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade and Senior Minister Coordinating the Productive Sectors, Hon. Kerrie D. Symmonds, M.P and composed of the following members:

• H.E. Mr. Matthew Wilson, Ambassador/Permanent Representative Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva;

• Mr. Tyronne Brathwaite, Senior Foreign Service Officer Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade;

• Mrs. LaToya Archer, Foreign Service Officer Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade;

• Mr. Mark Franklyn, Deputy Permanent Representative, Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs;

• Mr. William Warner, Bureau of Gender Affairs, Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs;

• Ms. Nalita Gajadhar, Consultant Bureau of Gender Affairs, Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs;

• Ms. Collen Walcott, National Assistance Board, Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs;

• Mr. John Hollingsworth, National Disabilities Unit, Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs;

• Mr. Dwaine Inniss, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva;

• Mrs. Shani Griffith-Jack, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva;

• Mrs. Faith Marshall-Harris, Chair of National Committee of Rights of the Child.

1. \* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. [A/HRC/WG.6/43/BRB/1](http://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/WG.6/43/BRB/1). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. [A/HRC/WG.6/43/BRB/2](http://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/WG.6/43/BRB/2). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. [A/HRC/WG.6/43/BRB/3](http://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/WG.6/43/BRB/3). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)