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**Human Rights Council**

**Fifty-eighth session**

24 February–4 April 2025

Agenda item 6

**Universal periodic review**

 Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

 Democratic Republic of the Congo

 Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its forty-seventh session from 4 to 15 November 2024. The review of the Democratic Republic of the Congo was held at the 3rd meeting, on 5 November 2024. The delegation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo was headed by the Minister of Human Rights, H.E. Ms. Chantal Chambu Mwavita. At its 10th meeting, held on 8 November 2024, the Working Group adopted the report on the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

2. On 10 January 2024, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Burundi, China and the Dominican Republic.

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 the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

 (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);[[1]](#footnote-2)

 (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);[[2]](#footnote-3)

 (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).[[3]](#footnote-4)

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Costa Rica, members of the core group of sponsors of the resolutions on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Costa Rica, Maldives and Slovenia), Germany, Liechtenstein, Panama, Portugal on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to the Democratic Republic of the Congo through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

 I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

[To be completed by 22 November 2024]

 A. Presentation by the State under review

 B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 98 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

 II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

6. **The following recommendations will be examined by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fifty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council**:

6.1 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Armenia); (Malta); (Niger); (Ukraine);**

6.2 **Proceed with the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Togo);**

6.3 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Cabo Verde); (Cyprus); (Estonia); (Luxembourg); (Poland); (Portugal); (Switzerland); (Ukraine);**

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

6.5 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty and return to a moratorium until such ratification (Germany);**

6.6 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Namibia);**

6.7 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);**

6.8 **Accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Colombia);**

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

6.10 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and to deposit the instrument of ratification for the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; as well as the instruments of accession to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol (Paraguay);**

6.11 **Redouble efforts to accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Niger);**

6.12 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and take measures to prevent extrajudicial executions (Portugal);**

6.13 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization; and the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Mexico);**

6.14 **Accelerate the ratification process of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Togo);**

6.15 **Consider the ratification of the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education 1960 (Madagascar); (Togo);**

6.16 **Consider ratifying the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education 1960, as recommended by UNESCO (Mauritius);**

6.17 **Ratify the Amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on the crime of aggression (Kampala amendments) (Liechtenstein);**

6.18 **Continue cooperating with United Nations and African Union human rights mechanisms (Malawi);**

6.19 **Continue and strengthen collaboration with national and international mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights (Senegal);**

6.20 **Continue cooperation with UN human rights mechanisms on human rights education, training and capacity-building (Philippines);**

6.21 **Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council and to respond positively to the pending visit requests by the mandate holders (Latvia);**

6.22 **Extend a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Luxembourg);**

6.23 **Extend an open and permanent invitation for special procedures mandate holders to visit the country (Paraguay);**

6.24 **Further cooperate with the international community and with the support of the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continuously enhance human rights capacity building (China);**

6.25 **Continue to implement the voluntary commitments announced on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Japan);**

6.26 **Continue its tireless efforts to strengthen the country`s legal framework for the promotion and protection of human rights and bring it further into line with its international obligations (South Sudan);**

6.27 **Strengthen the country’s legal framework for the promotion and protection of human rights, in line with commitments already made in regional and international instruments (Zimbabwe);**

6.28 **Fully implement the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) into national law (Netherlands (Kingdom of the));**

6.29 **Harmonize domestic legislation with the "Maputo Protocol", which allows for abortion in specific cases (Colombia);**

6.30 **Continue the implementation of the national transitional justice policy (Burundi);**

6.31 **Accelerate the implementation of the national transitional justice policy (Kenya);**

6.32 **Continue to promote the national policy for transitional justice, in order to protect human rights for all (Cuba);**

6.33 **Continue to strengthen the institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights (Sudan);**

6.34 **Continue efforts to strengthen the institutional framework for the protection of human rights (Türkiye);**

6.35 **Further strengthen institutional legal and policy framework for the protection and promotion of human rights (India);**

6.36 **Strengthen implementation mechanisms for recently enacted laws (Kenya);**

6.37 **Allocate financial resources for capacity building for civilian and military personnel on the protection and respect of human rights (Costa Rica);**

6.38 **Strengthen National Human Rights Institution in line with Paris Principles (Nepal);**

6.39 **Strengthen the national human rights institutions (Ethiopia);**

6.40 **Reform the framework of the National Human Rights Commission in line with the Paris Principles (Latvia);**

6.41 **Ensure the independence of the National Human Rights Commission and provide it with adequate resources (South Africa);**

6.42 **Strengthen the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights as the National Mechanism for the Implementation, Reporting, and Follow-up to Human Rights Recommendations, considering the possibility of receiving cooperation for this purpose (Paraguay);**

6.43 **Consider the dissemination of recommendations through media outlets (Senegal);**

6.44 **Ensure the effective implementation of laws related to the elimination of discrimination against women (Jordan);**

6.45 **Continue efforts to promote gender issues and eliminate all forms of gender-based discrimination (Mozambique);**

6.46 **Strengthen the enforcement of laws relating to gender equality and sexual violence (Lebanon);**

6.47 **Expedite the adoption of legislation to prevent and counter hate speech and incitement to hostility, violence and discrimination (South Africa);**

6.48 **Continue to ensure, at the legislative level and within the framework of law enforcement practice, the protection of the rights of socially vulnerable groups of the population, in particular, women, children, the disabled, the elderly and representatives of ethnic minorities (Russian Federation);**

6.49 **Take concrete measures to combat stigma and discrimination against people affected by leprosy (Portugal);**

6.50 **Continue to combat all forms of discrimination, particularly in the management of poverty reduction programmes (Lebanon);**

6.51 **Abolish the death penalty for all crimes (Panama);**

6.52 **Abolish the death penalty for all crimes (Lithuania);**

6.53 **Restore the moratorium on the death penalty (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

6.54 **Restore the moratorium on the death penalty (Latvia);**

6.55 **Restore the moratorium on the death penalty (Switzerland);**

6.56 **Reimpose as a matter of urgency the moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Australia);**

6.57 **Reinstate the legal moratorium on the death penalty, and take steps to its abolishment (Malta);**

6.58 **Reinstate the moratorium on the death penalty and commute existing death sentences into prison sentences (Mexico);**

6.59 **Reinstate the moratorium on the death penalty, work towards its total abolition and commute the sentences of those on death row (Holy See);**

6.60 **Re-introduce the de facto moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Montenegro);**

6.61 **Restore the de facto moratorium on executions and move towards a legal moratorium as a preliminary step towards the total and complete abolition of the death penalty (Spain);**

6.62 **Reinstate a moratorium on the application of the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Costa Rica);**

6.63 **Redouble efforts to re-establish the moratorium on the death penalty (Madagascar);**

6.64 **Reconsider the decision to lift the moratorium on the execution of the death penalty (France);**

6.65 **Reverse the decision to lift the moratorium on the death penalty (Sweden);**

6.66 **Reconsider the recent decision to revoke the moratorium on the death penalty in place since 2003 and consider acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Italy);**

6.67 **Establish a de jure moratorium on the death penalty and consider ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Belgium);**

6.68 **Ensure that the moratorium on the death penalty is maintained, and take legislative measures for its future abolition (Chile);**

6.69 **Reverse the lifting of the moratorium on the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the total abolition of the death penalty (Ireland);**

6.70 **Reinstate the moratorium on the use of the death penalty as a first step towards abolishing the death penalty (Denmark);**

6.71 **Abolish the death penalty (Canada);**

6.72 **Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Norway);**

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

6.74 **Take steps to the full and legal abolition of the death penalty (Liechtenstein);**

6.75 **Take appropriate steps to abolish the death penalty in national legislation (Bulgaria);**

6.76 **Establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Mexico);**

6.77 **Finalize the establishment of the national mechanism for the prevention of torture in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Switzerland);**

6.78 **Comply with its obligations under the Convention against Torture (Canada);**

6.79 **Adopt the bill establishing the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture (Morocco);**

6.80 **Establish a National Preventive Mechanism against torture (Armenia);**

6.81 **Create a national mechanism for the prevention of torture (Latvia);**

6.82 **Continue efforts aimed at preventing torture and combating impunity in this area (Lebanon);**

6.83 **Reform the prison system and security services, notably the National and the Military Intelligence Agency by closing or placing under the control of judicial authorities all places of detention and explicitly safeguarding the right to visit and legal counsel for detainees (Germany);**

6.84 **Accelerate efforts to mitigate incidents of excessive use of force and ill-treatment of detainees (Lesotho);**

6.85 **Undertake measures to curb overcrowding in detention centers by offering alternative sentences for minor offences (Lesotho);**

6.86 **Protect civilians by strengthening national security capacities in areas from which MONUSCO has withdrawn (Luxembourg);**

6.87 **Accelerate security sector reform and strengthen protection of civilians (Japan);**

6.88 **Enhance efforts to protect civilians in conflict-affected regions, by strengthening the presence and training of professional security forces and collaborating with international peacekeeping forces (Mozambique);**

6.89 **Enhance protection mechanisms for civilians, particularly in conflict-affected areas, by strengthening accountability mechanisms within security forces (Kenya);**

6.90 **Ensure that the military operations of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo against armed groups are conducted in compliance with international humanitarian law and human rights standards (Dominican Republic);**

6.91 **Ensure the protection of civilians during military operations in conflict zones in compliance with international humanitarian law, as well as unfettered access to humanitarian aid, journalists and international human rights observers (Spain);**

6.92 **Uphold its primary obligation to protect civilians, including in the conflict zones, and prevent further serious human rights violations and abuses of international humanitarian law from occurring, especially in the context of the ongoing withdrawal of MONUSCO (Montenegro);**

6.93 **Adopt a national plan of action to prevent attacks against schools and hospitals and the use of such facilities for military purposes, and ensure that the civilian character of schools is respected, in accordance with international humanitarian law and the Safe Schools Declaration (Panama);**

6.94 **Take concrete steps to provide security for civilians across the country with a focus on the East (United States of America);**

6.95 **Implement measures to fully comply with the Convention against Torture, especially by holding criminally responsible senior officials who condone acts of torture or ill-treatment committed by their subordinates (Ghana);**

6.96 **Find the necessary means, with the support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other partners, to create an International Criminal Court or Special Criminal Tribunal for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to enable it effectively combat serious crimes and massive violations of human rights throughout its territory (South Sudan);[[4]](#footnote-5)**

6.97 **Expeditiously, independently and transparently investigate the recent incident at Makala prison and prison conditions in general across the DRC (United States of America);**

6.98 **Promptly investigate all human rights violations and abuses by members of the security forces and armed militias and ensure accountability for victims and survivors (Ireland);**

6.99 **Effectively combat impunity by promoting prompt and thorough investigations of violations of the rights of women and girls, in particular sexual and gender-based violence and to ensure that victims and their family members have access to justice and remedies (Slovenia);**

6.100 **Effectively combat impunity for violence against women, in particular conflict-related violence, provide access to justice, and ensure protection from reprisals for victims and witnesses (Liechtenstein);**

6.101 **Continue efforts to strengthen accountability measures to ensure prompt investigations and prosecutions for all alleged human rights abuses, particularly in conflict areas (Republic of Korea);**

6.102 **Hold superior officers criminally responsible for acts of torture committed by their subordinates to effectively combat impunity and ensure accountability (Gambia);**

6.103 **Continue to make progress in the investigation and prosecution of human rights violations, including those committed by members of the security forces, facilitating victims' access to justice (Italy);**

6.104 **Continue to promote access to justice and the fight against impunity, by strengthening the capacity of the judicial system to address serious crimes, including human rights violations committed by armed actors (Cameroon);**

6.105 **Alleviate inhumane prison conditions, including overcrowding, and serious ill-treatment of prisoners, avoid pre-emptive detentions, fully respect the right to be brought promptly before a judge and to be entitled to a trial within a reasonable time or to release (Holy See);**

6.106 **Develop a State policy to investigate and resolve complaints of hate speech and incitement to violence, and to facilitate access to justice, truth and reparation for victims (Costa Rica);**

6.107 **Continue efforts to ensure effective access to justice for victims of conflict-related sexual violence and other crimes, including women and children (Indonesia);**

6.108 **Ensure access to justice for all, fair trials and compliance with international obligations on the treatment of prisoners (Norway);**

6.109 **Improve the work of the judicial and penitentiary systems (Russian Federation);**

6.110 **Strengthen the independence of the judiciary in line with international standards, in order to address impunity for acts of State security and intelligence agents, including those of sexual and gender-based violence (Costa Rica);**

6.111 **Ensure the independence of the judiciary and protect lawyers from intimidation and harassment, guaranteeing fair and transparent disciplinary processes free from political influence (Gambia);**

6.112 **Adopt a regulatory text guaranteeing the independence of the Bar of the Democratic Republic of the Congo from public authorities (Luxembourg);**

6.113 **Strengthen mechanisms to combat impunity, including by strengthening the capacity and independence of the judicial system to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence and violations of international humanitarian law (Switzerland);**

6.114 **Implement the necessary measures to combat arbitrary detentions and ensure respect for the right to a fair trial (France);**

6.115 **Strengthen accountability and put an end to impunity to ensure transitional justice (South Africa);**

6.116 **Continue efforts to combat impunity and operationalize transitional justice mechanisms (Egypt);**

6.117 **Continue to strengthen and implement national transitional justice initiatives by actively involving communities in the process to ensure redress for victims and promote reconciliation (Ethiopia);**

6.118 **Continue efforts to promote transitional justice and work to reactivate the Human Rights Liaison Commission (Iraq);**

6.119 **Ensure any constitutional revisions protect and uphold fundamental human rights, civic freedoms and political pluralism (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

6.120 **Amend articles 7 and 11 of Law 23/027 of June 15th 2023 on the protection and responsibility of human rights defenders, in order to remove the requirement that human rights defenders must register as such and must report annually on their work (Netherlands (Kingdom of the));**

6.121 **Strengthen legislation on the right to freedom of expression and association and the right of peaceful assembly to improve the protection of public figures, human rights defenders and journalists (Bulgaria);**

6.122 **Establish mechanisms and campaigns to raise public awareness of the Law No. 23/027 on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, including in the four national languages, and consider amending it, in particular the articles relating to the obligations and sanctions of defenders, in consultation with civil society (Belgium);**

6.123 **Develop more robust platforms to encourage permanent meaningful dialogue with civil society like the Voluntary Principles initiative (United States of America);**

6.124 **Establish a consultation mechanism with a strict timetable between the authorities responsible for implementing Law No. 23/027 and civil society (Canada);**

6.125 **Take all necessary measures to ensure a safe working space and protection for human rights defenders and journalists (Botswana);**

6.126 **Ensure a safe working space and protection for human rights defenders and journalists and investigate all incidents of intimidation, threats of physical violence, attacks and acts of reprisals (Liechtenstein);**

6.127 **Increase efforts to improve the situation of human rights defenders and ensure a safe and enabling environment for their work, in line with its international commitments (Cameroon);**

6.128 **Take all measures necessary to ensure a safe working space and protection for human rights defenders and journalists, and prosecute perpetrators (Lithuania);**

6.129 **Guarantee the exercise of human rights defenders’ rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association (Botswana);**

6.130 **Increase efforts to end the targeted killings of Christians in the east of the country (Holy See);**

6.131 **Ensure the full exercise of freedom of the press and the right to information in line with its obligation under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Indonesia);**

6.132 **Provide necessary support and protection for civil society organizations and actors, as they are essential to the development of a democratic society, ensuring that they can function without constraints (Israel);**

6.133 **Enhance initiatives, including those aimed at strengthening civic space, to guarantee the fundamental freedoms and rights enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Japan);**

6.134 **Respect the right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and ensure that the law on protection of human rights defenders complies with international human rights standards (Norway);**

6.135 **Beef up measures to safeguard freedom of expression and opinion, by all, at all material times (Lesotho);**

6.136 **Ensure the full exercise of freedom of expression and opinion in particular for journalists and in the political sphere (Holy See);**

6.137 **Ensure a safe and enabling environment for opponents, journalists, and human rights defenders, and amend the 2023 Press and Digital Code Law in line with international standards (Spain);**

6.138 **Promote initiatives against hate speech and incitement to violence and to work for national reconciliation and unity on the basis of international human rights law (Brazil);**

6.139 **Take concrete measures to ensure zero tolerance for incitement to violence and hate speech (Sweden);**

6.140 **Resource and implement the revised action plan to end child marriage (Iceland);**

6.141 **Continue the efforts already underway to prevent and punish trafficking in persons (Burundi);**

6.142 **Continue to take further measures necessary to combat human trafficking (Georgia);**

6.143 **Accelerate the adoption of the draft law on combating trafficking in persons, elaborate and implement a new National Action Plan with all the involved stakeholders (Mali);**

6.144 **Investigate, prosecute and punish perpetrators of trafficking, exploitation and forced prostitution of women and girls, including in artisanal mines and conflict zones, and ensure that victims of trafficking and forced prostitution are exempt from any criminal liability (Mali);**

6.145 **Continue the human priorities set since the last review, including the goal of creating over 6.4 million jobs by 2028 and ensuring access to essential social services through universal health coverage and free primary education (Eritrea);**

6.146 **Further strengthen the efforts to reduce unemployment, especially among young people (India);**

6.147 **Strengthen the social security system that guarantees universal coverage and provides sufficient benefits for everyone, especially the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups, in order to guarantee them a decent standard of living (India);**

6.148 **Continue efforts to establish a social security system that guarantees universal social coverage and provides adequate benefits to all (Côte d'Ivoire);**

6.149 **Provide legal protection for workers employed in the informal economy and ensure that they have access to social security benefits (Zambia);**

6.150 **Develop social protection programmes for informal workers to ensure their access to services, such as healthcare and social benefits (Malaysia);**

6.151 **Accelerate as a priority the implementation of the national plan to combat poverty and inequality, and the financing of measures included therein (Romania);**

6.152 **Increase access to drinking water in rural areas (Vanuatu);**

6.153 **Pay greater attention to and increase investment in rural and remote areas with a goal of continuously narrowing the wealth gap (China);**

6.154 **Move forward with efforts to enable rural populations to benefit more from essential infrastructure and social and economic services (Saudi Arabia);**

6.155 **Continue efforts to improve access to basic social services for all (Türkiye);**

6.156 **Continue the implementation of social programs to address existing national needs (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

6.157 **Step up initiatives to tackle the issue of poverty and food insecurity that target the most affected vulnerable groups such as women, children and Indigenous Peoples (Malaysia);**

6.158 **Enhance financial support for the effective roll-out of the national strategic plan for universal health coverage (Zimbabwe);**

6.159 **Strengthen the implementation of national plan for universal health coverage to guarantee access to healthcare services (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**

6.160 **Continue the implementation of programs related to Universal Health Coverage (Morocco);**

6.161 **Increase access to primary health care for the general population and internally displaced persons in particular (Dominican Republic);**

6.162 **Expedite efforts to ensure access to basic services nationwide, including universal health coverage (Sierra Leone);**

6.163 **Amend relevant national legislation to decriminalise termination of pregnancy and legalise it in cases of risk to the life and health of the pregnant woman, rape, incest and severe foetal impairment, in line with the Maputo Protocol (Denmark);**

6.164 **Ensure full implementation of the roadmap for the fight against maternal and child mortality in alignment with the recommendations and commitment of the high-level forum on maternal mortality and women's empowerment held in March 2024 (Estonia);**

6.165 **Expand the provision of free maternity care, especially in remote areas (Sierra Leone);**

6.166 **Redouble its efforts to effectively ensure free primary education (Congo);**

6.167 **Continue efforts to ensure access to free primary education for all children, especially those living in rural areas (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**

6.168 **Continue measures aimed at providing free basic education and reintegrating children into the educational system (Saudi Arabia);**

6.169 **Continue efforts to universalize free education and reintegrate dropout children into the educational system (Tunisia);**

6.170 **Continue to develop policies and programmes aimed at ensuring free basic education, guaranteeing the reintegration into school of a large number of children (Cuba);**

6.171 **Consider providing free education from the pre-primary level through to secondary education (Sierra Leone);**

6.172 **Increase access to primary education so that children have access to improved learning environments (Vanuatu);**

6.173 **Take the necessary measures to guarantee access to education for all children, notably internally displaced children (Congo);**

6.174 **Make efforts to guarantee access to education for all children, especially for girls, and improve the quality of education in all areas of the country (Lithuania);**

6.175 **Ensure safe access to education in emergency areas, especially for children and adolescents affected by internal displacement (Colombia);**

6.176 **Ensure that boys and girls living in areas where conflict persists have access to education (Dominican Republic);**

6.177 **Enhance the provision of the right to education for all children, especially in the conflict-affected areas in the eastern region (Indonesia);**

6.178 **Continue efforts to raise citizens' awareness on the promotion, protection, and enjoyment of human rights (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

6.179 **Increase efforts to improve the quality of education and technical and vocational training to help address youth unemployment (Jordan);**

6.180 **Take steps to improve the quality of education, including providing training to teachers through collaboration with international partners (Malaysia);**

6.181 **Enhance efforts to improve enrollment, retention and completion rates for women and girls at all levels of education (Maldives);**

6.182 **Continue ongoing efforts to improve the allocation of human resources within the education system (Mauritius);**

6.183 **Implement the Safe Schools Declaration (Luxembourg);**

6.184 **Expand public awareness campaigns and educational programs on human rights to further promote social cohesion and foster an inclusive society (Viet Nam);**

6.185 **Continue to prioritize the realization of the right to development by enacting and enforcing policies that promote sustainable development across various sectors (Ethiopia);**

6.186 **Promote legislative initiatives through the creation of public policies to realize the right to development (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

6.187 **Take all measures it deems necessary to ensure the sustainable and lasting exploitation of the country's natural resources, prioritizing their use for the development and well-being of the population of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Cabo Verde);**

6.188 **Adopt immediate measures to ensure that the exploitation of natural resources is sustainable and benefits the local population and to strengthen, through a human rights approach, the regulation of private companies in the extractive industry (Costa Rica);**

6.189 **Implement the provisions of the mining code, the environmental code and the mining regulation of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and eliminate all forms of child labor in the mines, while continuing progress in the implementation of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (Switzerland);**

6.190 **Continue efforts aimed at achieving peace and stability and implementing transitional justice programs (Sudan);**

6.191 **Maintain its efforts to establish lasting peace across the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in conflict-affected areas (Sierra Leone);**

6.192 **Continue cooperating with partners to ensure lasting peace in the country and the region (United Republic of Tanzania);**

6.193 **Further promote transitional justice programs, an area in which Colombia could participate in joint cooperation initiatives (Colombia);**

6.194 **Adopt the national strategy for women’s political participation in democratic governance (United Republic of Tanzania);**

6.195 **Adopt the National Strategy to Promote Women's Political Participation (Morocco);**

6.196 **Ensure access for women and girls with disabilities to health services, education and employment without discrimination (Zambia);**

6.197 **Take steps to eliminate discrimination and violence against women and girls with disabilities and protect their rights in conflict areas (Lithuania);**

6.198 **Take more active and meaningful measures in promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls (Armenia);**

6.199 **Continue measures to ensure women's rights, including by addressing gender-based violence, expanding access to education for women and girls, and revoking discriminatory provisions in civil legislation (Brazil);**

6.200 **Strengthen measures to protect and defend the rights of women, girls and children, including combating discrimination, the promotion of gender equality, access for girls to education at all levels and the effective implementation of free primary education (Cabo Verde);**

6.201 **Promote girls’ access to education at all levels and intensify action to increase enrolment, retention and completion rates among women and girls at all levels of education (Romania);**

6.202 **Intensify efforts to increase the rate of enrollment, retention and completion by women and girls at all levels of education (South Sudan);**

6.203 **Strengthen the protection of the rights of women and children, particularly in conflict zones, by ensuring better implementation of existing laws against gender-based violence (Cameroon);**

6.204 **Enhance women's participation in decision-making processes at all levels of government and society, including ensuring equal representation in leadership roles and public offices (Gambia);**

6.205 **Consider making it compulsory for political parties to take gender parity into account in their electoral lists (South Africa);**

6.206 **Ensure better implementation of legislation relating to women and girls rights to eliminate legal and institutional lacunas throughout all regions of the country (Malta);**

6.207 **Continue measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women (Mauritania);**

6.208 **Strengthen the protection and support mechanisms for women and children affected by conflict, especially in regions with high levels of insecurity (Viet Nam);**

6.209 **Strengthen measures aimed at eradication of all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls (Ukraine);**

6.210 **Sustain efforts to reduce cases of violence against women and girls (Cuba);**

6.211 **Take additional measures to reduce cases of violence, especially against women and girls (Japan);**

6.212 **Complete the approval of a law to protect victim families, especially women and children (Algeria);**

6.213 **Institute a legal framework to prevent, prosecute and eliminate domestic violence, including marital rape (Australia);**

6.214 **Adopt legislation to protect victims of domestic violence (Ireland);**

6.215 **Adopt a specific law to protect victims of domestic violence, as well as the establishment of a mechanism for reintegration and psychological, legal and judicial assistance for survivors of gender-based violence (Belgium);**

6.216 **Implement draft legislation to combat gender-based violence, as well as policies to support and protect victims of sexual violence (Cyprus);**

6.217 **Continue its efforts to strengthen the legal framework to combat and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including harmful practices that constitute discrimination against women (Burkina Faso);**

6.218 **Continue to step up efforts to support victims of gender-based violence and to eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women (Singapore);**

6.219 **Implement effective measures to prevent and combat sexual violence against women and girls, and to prosecute and punish the perpetrators of such violations (Spain);**

6.22**0 Strengthen the implementation of legal frameworks seeking to end impunity for gender-based violence including conflict-related sexual violence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

6.22**1 Strive to combat gender-based violence and increase women’s participation in decision-making system (Nepal);**

6.222 **Take concrete measures to ensure accountability for human rights violations, particularly sexual and gender-based violence and abuse of children (Sweden);**

6.223 **Effectively enforce all laws and plans of action to prevent and prosecute cases of sexual and gender-based violence especially in conflict zones (Philippines);**

6.224 **Continue efforts to combat violence against women (Tunisia);**

6.225 **Redouble efforts to eradicate and prevent conflict-related sexual violence, especially against children and women, and establish an effective justice mechanism to put an end to impunity (Chile);**

6.226 **Extend the implementation of the National Reparations Fund for Victims of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence and Other Crimes against Peace to all provinces of the country and strengthen efforts to combat domestic violence (Canada);**

6.227 **Continue efforts to enhance the protection of women and combat violence against them (Egypt);**

6.228 **Continue with all efforts in combating violence against women and girls (Malawi);**

6.229 **Consider implementing concrete measures to combat all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual and gender-based violence, provide victims-oriented support mechanisms and ensure accountability of perpetrators (Lithuania);**

6.230 **Take all necessary measures to prevent sexual violence and, when such violence occurs, bring the perpetrators to justice, provide victims with comprehensive care and facilitate their access to remedies (Luxembourg);**

6.231 **Take urgent measures to prevent, address and ensure accountability for sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls, including in conflict situations (Iceland);**

6.232 **Intensify efforts against gender-based violence, including domestic, sexual and conflict-affected violence, early and forced marriage, in particular by providing training for police officers and prosecutors (Italy);**

6.233 **Continue to strictly prohibit and punish the recourse to sexual violence as an instrument of war by both rebel groups and regular forces, and provide appropriate assistance to victims (Holy See);**

6.234 **Continue and accelerate the establishment of National Fund for reparation for victims of conflict-related sexual violence and other crimes against the peace and security of humanity (FONAREV) decentralized offices, combat violence against women and gender-based violence, and its impunity, and promote access to justice for LGBT+ people (France);**

6.235 **Reinforce the prevention of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) by introducing a framework of information and mandatory education on sexual and reproductive rights (Germany);**

6.236 **Take proactive steps to investigate and prosecute conflict related sexual and gender-based violence (Gambia);**

6.237 **Ensure that women victims of sexual and gender-based violence have access to comprehensive medical care (Dominican Republic);**

6.238 **Collaborate with women's organizations and the relevant United Nations entities to strengthen oversight mechanisms to prevent sexual violence and address risk factors in camps, such as shortages of food and other humanitarian supplies (Panama);**

6.239 **Ensure the full implementation of the action plan to halt and prevent the recruitment and use of children by government forces (Estonia);**

6.240 **Accelerate the implementation of the 2012 Action Plan to end the recruitment and use of children by armed groups and prevent sexual violence against women and children (Republic of Korea);**

6.241 **Ensure the full implementation of the action plan adopted by the government and the United Nations in 2012 to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children and sexual violence by government armed forces (Liechtenstein);**

6.242 **Prioritize the abolition of child military recruitment and child labor by expanding access to free education and focusing on the reintegration of children in implementation of the DDR programme (Bulgaria);**

6.243 **Continue efforts to protect children and combat their military recruitment in accordance with the action plan for the prohibition of recruiting children into armed groups and their rehabilitation program (Tunisia);**

6.244 **Take measures to end the enlistment of children in armed groups and establish a framework that will allow and encourage their rehabilitation and integration into society (Cyprus);**

6.245 **Implement stricter measures to prevent the recruitment of children by armed groups and increase rehabilitation support for former child soldiers, including psychological and educational assistance (Mozambique);**

6.246 **End Immediately the recruitment and use of children in armed conflicts and take necessary steps to prevent conflict related sexual violence, and implement the national action plan on women, peace and security (Norway);**

6.247 **Put an end to the recruitment and use of children by armed groups (France);**

6.248 **Enhance efforts to stop the recruitment and use of children by armed groups (Philippines);**

6.249 **Take measures to protect children from falling victim to armed conflict or participating in armed hostilities and to punish those involved in killing, maiming and recruiting children (Namibia);**

6.250 **Combat all forms of violence and discrimination against children (Italy);**

6.251 **Uphold the responsibility to protect civilians, especially to protect children from recruitment and use in armed conflict; and women and girls against sexual violence (Poland);**

6.252 **Consider increasing efforts to combat child labour in mines (United Republic of Tanzania);**

6.253 **Strengthen measures to end child marriages (Zambia);**

6.254 **Redouble measures to prevent child marriage (United Republic of Tanzania);**

6.255 **Implement reforms to end child labour, in compliance with its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Australia);**

6.256 **Prevent, combat and punish the recruitment of children in armed conflict and ensure their demobilization and reintegration into civilian life (Spain);**

6.257 **Promptly investigate and address violations of women and children’s rights in conflict areas, and provide adequate protection for victims and witnesses who seek the support of the justice system (Zimbabwe);**

6.258 **Continue to step up efforts to promote and protect the rights of the child, including combatting child labour and improving access to education (Singapore);**

6.259 **Further enhance its progress towards guaranteeing free access for children to health and education (Georgia);**

6.260 **Reinforce Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration efforts, particularly with regards to child soldiers and children associated with armed groups (Germany);**

6.261 **Fully implement the Democratic Republic of Congo's obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Holy See);**

6.262 **Take all necessary preventive measures to avoid harm and protect children during the hostilities (Dominican Republic);**

6.263 **Take all preventive measures necessary to protect children from the risks of hostilities and war (Lithuania);**

6.264 **Continue efforts to protect and promote children's rights (Egypt);**

6.265 **Intensify efforts to protect the rights of all children without discrimination (Mauritania);**

6.266 **Eliminate discrimination and violence against women and girls with disabilities and protect their rights in conflict areas, and ensure their access to health services and education without discrimination (Namibia);**

6.267 **Work further to ensure access for women and girls with disabilities to health services, education and employment without discrimination (Burkina Faso);**

6.268 **Ensure that women and girls with disabilities have access to health services, education and employment without discrimination (Maldives);**

6.269 **Continue strengthening the development of an accessible environment to better protect the human rights of vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities (China);**

6.270 **Redouble efforts to ensure compliance with Act No. 22/030 of 15 July 2022 on the promotion and protection of the rights of Indigenous Pygmy peoples, in order to facilitate their education (Côte d'Ivoire);**

6.271 **Guarantee the effective implementation of the law for the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples; in particular, that indigenous children have access to education, health services and civil registration (Paraguay);**

6.272 **Ensure a fair and equitable use of natural resources in consultation with the indigenous peoples involved (Colombia);**

6.273 **Continue efforts to combat discrimination and achieve equality, especially by taking measures to implement the provisions of Law No. 22-30 on the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples (Algeria);**

6.274 **Ensure that no one is prosecuted by reason of sexual orientation or gender identity, including under Article 176 of the Criminal Code (Iceland);**

6.275 **Abolish articles 175 and 176 of the Penal Code which discriminate against LGBTI+ persons based on their sexual orientation and gender identity or expression (Chile);**

6.276 **Establish national policies to protect persons of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics from discrimination and repeal all discriminatory legislation that infringes upon their human rights (Iceland);**

6.277 **Develop and implement policies that explicitly protect the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons against discrimination and violence, in keeping with international human rights standards (Chile);**

6.278 **Protect the fundamental rights of LGBTQI+ persons, by explicitly safeguarding these rights in a dedicated legal framework (Germany);**

6.279 **Enact and enforce legislation that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation (Malta);**

6.280 **Step up efforts to restore peace in refugee-hosting areas, where insecurity remains a major challenge (Ghana);**

6.281 **Enhance efforts to protect civilians, including IDPs, by improving access to shelter, healthcare, and education in line with international human rights standards (Republic of Korea);**

6.282 **Continue to strengthen the measures to address the issues related to the birth certificates for children, especially returnees, refugees and internally displaced persons (Angola);**

6.283 **Promote a law, within the framework of the 2009 Kampala Convention, to protect the rights of displaced persons and provide them with assistance (Colombia);**

6.284 **Promptly address the issue of statelessness in refugee camps (Holy See);**

6.285 **Continue to improve civil registration processes and the issuance of identity documents in order to address statelessness (Philippines);**

7. **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 the Democratic Republic of the Congo was headed by the Minister of Human Rights, H.E. Ms. Chantal Chambu MWAVITA and composed of the following members:

• S.EM. Patrick Muyaya KATEMBWE, Ministre de la Communication et des média;

• S.E. Mme Gracia Yamba KAZADI, Vice-Ministre des Affaires Etrangères;

• S.E.M. Paul Empole Losoko EFAMBE, Ambassadeur, Représentant Permanent de la République Démocratique du Congo auprès des Nations Unies à Genève;

• Adolin BOMPONGO NKOMBE, Kinshasa;

• Aida kalenga, Kinshasa;

• Alphonse ASSANI KABINA, Kinshasa;

• Alphonse NTAMBWE KIKANGALA, Kinshasa;

• Annie BIPENDU, Kinshasa;

• Antoine KAYISU KAZADI, Kinshasa;

• Arly KHUTY DIKIESE, Kinshasa;

• Augustin MANUNGA MUENYI, Kinshasa;

• Bebia IKABU MUJINGA, Kinshasa;

• Danny MUTOMBO NGAMBUA, Kinshasa;

• Emmanuel MUSHAGALUSA MPARARA, Kinshasa;

• Emmanuel MALANGU KONGOLO, Kinshasa;

• Fabrice KABANDANYI MBUYI, Kinshasa;

• Fidèle KAPINGA MBUYI, Kinshasa;

• Frank Badibanga Kapajika, Kinshasa;

• Isaac-Jean-Claude Tshilumbayi Musawu, Kinshasa;

• Jack NZINGA MUMPAMBALA, Kinshasa;

• Jean Baptiste Ingoli Bolamba, Kinshasa;

• Jocelyne Nkongolo, Kinshasa;

• John KABEYA SHIKAYI, Kinshasa;

• Landry MBAZI BINEGURO, Kinshasa;

• Nathan ILUNGA MUTONJI, Kinshasa;

• OTSHUDI SHUNGU BENJAMIN, Kinshasa;

• Patrick MENDE OLENGA, Kinshasa;

• Prince Yango LUKEKA, Kinshasa;

• Richard LUKUNDA, Kinshasa

• Roger Madragule ORIPALE, Paris;

• Tele SAMBA, Bruxelles;

• Virginie KIAMESO MAMBU, Kinshasa;

• Willy Buhini MISHIKI, Kinshasa;

• Yves Hamuli KABUMBA, Kinshasa;

1. A/HRC/WG.6/47/COD/1. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. A/HRC/WG.6/47/COD/2. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. A/HRC/WG.6/47/COD/3. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. On 8 November 2024, at the time of the adoption of the draft document during the 10th meeting of the Working Group on the UPR, this recommendation was withdrawn by the delegation of South Sudan. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)