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**Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic
Review***

Madagascar

* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the languages of submission only.

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its forty-eighth session from 20 to 31 January 2025. The review of Madagascar was held at the 11th meeting, on 27 January 2025. The delegation of Madagascar was headed by the Garde des Sceaux, Minister of Justice, Benjamin Alexis Rakotomandimby. At its 16th meeting, held on 29 January 2025, the Working Group adopted the report on Madagascar.

2. On 8 January 2025, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Madagascar: Benin, Costa Rica and Qatar.

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 Madagascar:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);¹

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

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).³

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, 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, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Madagascar 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. La délégation de Madagascar a déclaré que le pays poursuivait ses efforts pour respecter ses obligations internationales et mettre en œuvre les 174 recommandations acceptées en 2019, malgré les crises économiques et mondiales.

6. Madagascar était partie à huit des neuf instruments principaux relatifs aux droits de l'homme.

7. Depuis 2019, Madagascar avait adopté plusieurs lois clés pour renforcer son cadre juridique et soutenir le développement durable. Parmi celles-ci figuraient des textes sur la communication médiatisée, l'orientation du système éducatif, les investissements, la refonte du Code minier et le Code du travail. En parallèle, des projets et propositions de loi étaient en cours d'examen, tels que ceux sur les infractions foncières, la lutte contre la traite des êtres humains, la protection des personnes atteintes d'albinisme et la lutte contre le mariage des enfants.

8. Les textes en vigueur démontraient la volonté de l'État de renforcer l'indépendance de la justice à Madagascar. Le Président de la République, en vertu de l'article 107 de la Constitution, était le garant de l'indépendance judiciaire. L'article 108 de la Constitution précisait que les magistrats du siège étaient indépendants dans leurs décisions, et n'étaient soumis qu'à la Constitution et à la loi. Le Conseil supérieur de la magistrature gère les carrières des magistrats et contrôlait le respect des règles déontologiques, tandis qu'un comité

¹ A/HRC/WG.6/48/MDG/1.

² A/HRC/WG.6/48/MDG/2.

³ A/HRC/WG.6/48/MDG/3.

d'éthique et de déontologie, présent auprès des cours d'appel, apportait un soutien technique et moral aux magistrats qui en faisaient la demande.

9. Le Gouvernement avait procédé à la révision de la loi contre la torture et autres peines ou traitements cruels, inhumains ou dégradants pour se conformer à la Convention contre la torture et autres peines ou traitements cruels, inhumains ou dégradants, au Protocole facultatif s'y rapportant et aux recommandations que le Sous-Comité pour la prévention de la torture et autres peines ou traitements cruels, inhumains ou dégradants avait formulées à l'issue de sa visite à Madagascar en 2023. Cette réforme prévoyait, entre autres, l'obligation d'ouvrir une enquête immédiate, la répression des mauvais traitements, le renforcement des sanctions et le caractère non amnistiable des actes de torture. En ce qui concernait l'opérationnalisation du mécanisme national de prévention de la torture, le Vice-Président de la Commission nationale indépendante des droits de l'homme était le responsable dudit mécanisme.

10. Depuis 2019, Madagascar avait mis en place plusieurs mesures pour améliorer les conditions de détention, notamment en augmentant le budget des établissements pénitentiaires pour l'alimentation et les soins de santé. Parmi les initiatives engagées figuraient la redynamisation des camps pénaux afin d'assurer l'autosuffisance alimentaire, la formation professionnelle destinée à favoriser la réinsertion sociale, l'alphabétisation, y compris pour les mineurs, ainsi que le recrutement de 1 637 agents pénitentiaires. En matière de lutte contre la surpopulation carcérale, neuf établissements pénitentiaires conformes aux normes internationales avaient été construits depuis 2019, un effort reconnu par le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge en 2024. D'autres mesures avaient été prises, telles que l'accélération du traitement des affaires pénales et le recrutement régulier de magistrats et de greffiers. Concernant les enfants en conflit avec la loi, des actions concrètes avaient été mises en place pour réduire leur détention, notamment l'accélération du traitement des dossiers au moyen de circulaires ministérielles, la formation des acteurs de la justice pour mineurs, la promotion de mesures de substitution à la détention comme la liberté surveillée ainsi que l'amélioration de l'accès à une assistance judiciaire adaptée aux enfants vulnérables.

11. L'État avait fait de la lutte contre les violences basées sur le genre une priorité, dans le but de faire cesser l'impunité et de prévenir la recrudescence de ce phénomène ainsi que d'offrir une protection sociale appropriée aux victimes, avec la chaîne pénale anti-violences basées sur le genre mise en place depuis 2020 et accompagnée d'une politique pénale pour réprimer ces infractions et accélérer le traitement des dossiers. Des brigades féminines de proximité avaient également été créées par le Ministère de la sécurité publique pour prévenir ces violences et soutenir les victimes. Une nouvelle stratégie nationale de lutte contre les violences basées sur le genre était en cours d'élaboration pour la période de 2025 à 2030, afin de renforcer ces dispositifs.

12. Le Bureau national de lutte contre la traite des êtres humains était l'autorité chargée de coordonner et de réguler les actions de lutte contre ce fléau à Madagascar. L'État avait réaffirmé son engagement en allouant des fonds au plan national d'action associé et en instaurant, par une circulaire du Ministère de la justice, une politique pénale stricte visant à poursuivre rigoureusement les auteurs, à imposer la détention provisoire, à rejeter les libertés provisoires, à appliquer des peines sévères et à établir des statistiques judiciaires. Des formations pour les acteurs judiciaires ainsi que des campagnes de sensibilisation avaient été mises en place pour renforcer la lutte contre la traite. Depuis 2019, un numéro vert disponible vingt-quatre heures sur vingt-quatre permettait aux victimes ou aux personnes en danger de signaler des cas de traite ou d'obtenir des conseils. Par ailleurs, un projet de loi visant à renforcer les peines applicables devait être présenté à la première session parlementaire de 2025, afin de rendre les sanctions plus dissuasives.

13. À Madagascar, les libertés d'opinion, d'expression, de presse, d'association, de réunion et de circulation étaient garanties par la Constitution, avec des limites liées aux droits d'autrui, à l'ordre public, à la dignité nationale et à la sécurité de l'État. Conformément aux normes internationales et régionales, la loi organique relative au régime général des élections et des référendums reconnaissait ces libertés tout en y fixant des restrictions. En cas de risque d'atteinte à l'ordre public, le représentant de l'État était autorisé à interdire les manifestations, à les suspendre ou à en ordonner l'annulation. En dehors des campagnes électorales, toute manifestation publique était soumise à autorisation.

14. Le Président de la République veillait à l'égal accès des femmes aux emplois publics et politiques, avec une augmentation de leur proportion dans le Gouvernement, qui comptait 12 femmes sur 29 membres. Des femmes avaient également été nommées dans des départements stratégiques traditionnellement occupés par des hommes. Cette tendance se poursuivait au sein de la Haute Cour constitutionnelle et dans les départements ministériels. En matière électorale, 16,2 % des membres du Parlement étaient des femmes, et lors des élections communales de décembre 2024, une femme avait été élue maire de la capitale.

15. L'accès à l'eau potable pour tous figurait dans le volet humanitaire du premier pilier de la politique générale de l'État. En 2024, 6 201 points d'eau réalisés dans le pays avaient permis d'atteindre un taux d'accès à l'eau de 55,8 % de la population, avec 235 000 nouveaux bénéficiaires ; 100 points d'eau avaient été installés dans le sud de Madagascar et des travaux se rapportant à 412 points d'eau y étaient également prévus ; et 35 forages d'eau dotés d'unités de traitement étaient en cours d'implantation dans la capitale et sa périphérie. Pour 2025, le Ministère de l'eau, de l'assainissement et de l'hygiène consacrerait 97,38 % de son budget à la construction ou à la réhabilitation de systèmes d'approvisionnement en eau potable résilients aux changements climatiques, utilisant l'énergie solaire, ainsi qu'à la construction d'infrastructures d'assainissement.

16. Les personnes dénonçant des crimes environnementaux ou des cas de corruption bénéficiaient du régime de protection des témoins et dénonciateurs prévu par le Code pénal, la loi sur la lutte contre la corruption, la loi sur la lutte contre les violences basées sur le genre, la loi sur la traite des êtres humains et les textes environnementaux.

17. Le Gouvernement avait mis en place des pôles anticorruption dans les trois anciens chefs-lieux de province et adopté une nouvelle stratégie nationale de lutte contre la corruption pour la période de 2025 à 2030. Des initiatives avaient renforcé la transparence, notamment la publication des rapports annuels d'organismes anticorruption et la création en 2021 de l'Agence de recouvrement des avoirs illicites. En 2024, 46 dossiers impliquant 59 hauts fonctionnaires et élus avaient conduit à 13 condamnations. En 2023, 521 comptes bancaires, totalisant 6,3 milliards d'ariary, avaient été gelés par l'Agence.

18. Madagascar avait créé en 2003 un comité interministériel chargé de rédiger les rapports nationaux à soumettre aux organes conventionnels et à l'Examen périodique universel. Depuis sa réforme en 2017, ce comité assurait le suivi de la mise en œuvre des recommandations internationales et travaillait dernièrement à la mise en place d'une base de données relative aux droits de l'homme, visant à orienter la politique nationale en la matière.

19. Depuis la soumission du rapport national, plusieurs progrès avaient été réalisés par le Gouvernement. En matière de lutte contre la corruption, la nouvelle stratégie nationale de lutte contre la corruption pour la période de 2025 à 2030 avait été adoptée en Conseil des ministres, le 15 janvier 2025. La réforme de l'état civil et de l'identité des personnes avait été engagée, avec la numérisation du registre de l'état civil et la création du Centre national d'état civil et de l'identité. Enfin, en matière foncière, le Gouvernement avait mis en place un bureau des doléances foncières, chargé de recueillir et de traiter les réclamations tout en orientant les usagers.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

20. During the interactive dialogue, 82 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

21. Jordan commended the efforts made in preparing the national report, reflecting human rights achievements.

22. Malawi noted that Madagascar had ratified the core United Nations human rights treaties and key optional protocols.

23. Malaysia praised the progress in improving access to clean water and sanitation, including through the Madagascar Madio 2025 road map.

24. Maldives commended Madagascar for designating the National Independent Commission on Human Rights as the national preventive mechanism.

25. Mali congratulated Madagascar for extending social protection to non-salaried workers and expanding access to inclusive, equitable and quality education.
26. Mauritania welcomed the cooperation of Madagascar with regional and international mechanisms and measures to improve the quality of education.
27. Mauritius praised the initiatives taken by Madagascar to promote and protect human rights.
28. Mexico welcomed the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and progress in access to healthcare.
29. Montenegro commended the progress made in education, legal protection, gender equality, social programmes and protecting the rights of children, notably children with disabilities.
30. Morocco welcomed the ratification of international instruments, the strengthening of the domestic legal framework and the new anti-corruption strategy.
31. Mozambique congratulated Madagascar on the substantial progress made since the previous review cycle in strengthening its human rights system.
32. Namibia commended the efforts to promote and protect the rights of persons with albinism, including establishing a national committee and organizing awareness-raising campaigns.
33. Nepal took positive note of the adoption in 2021 of the National Climate Change Policy and the implementation of the National Social Protection Policy.
34. Nigeria commended the continued cooperation of Madagascar with human rights mechanisms, its efforts to promote women's rights, its legal reforms and its anti-corruption measures.
35. Oman praised Madagascar for promoting the right to education by increasing the education budget and integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into education curricula.
36. The Philippines welcomed the road map for the reduction of maternal and newborn mortality and the initiative to digitize birth registration.
37. The Russian Federation praised Madagascar for ratifying a number of international human rights instruments and incorporating their provisions into national legislation.
38. Rwanda recognized the efforts of Madagascar to combat corruption and promote access to justice, including through an online complaint system.
39. Senegal commended the cooperation of Madagascar with the bodies and mechanisms established under international human rights instruments.
40. Sierra Leone welcomed the increased education budget, the climate governance legislation and the I-TOROKA platform for making anonymous complaints to the Anti-Corruption Office.
41. Singapore praised the efforts to combat gender-based violence, improve children's health, reduce the maternal and newborn mortality rates and improve nutrition.
42. Slovenia commended the efforts of Madagascar to improve access to education and combat gender-based violence and encouraged it to adopt measures to protect human rights defenders and persons with albinism.
43. South Africa commended Madagascar for its commitment to advancing human rights, notably through Decree No. 2022-1219 on gender-based violence.
44. South Sudan commended Madagascar for ratifying almost all the international human rights instruments and for strengthening the functioning of its national institutions.
45. Spain welcomed the efforts of the Government to improve women's representation in public affairs.

46. La délégation de Madagascar a déclaré que la Constitution garantissait le droit à la vie pour tous, y compris les auteurs présumés d'infractions. Les forces de défense et de sécurité priorisaient ce droit lors de leurs interventions et considéraient l'usage des armes comme un dernier recours après épuisement des autres mesures. Des formations en droits de l'homme et en droit international humanitaire avaient été organisées pour prévenir les exécutions sommaires et arrestations arbitraires. L'État imposait un cadre légal strict pour l'usage de la force publique, qui devait rester proportionné et viser exclusivement à protéger la vie et l'intégrité physique des personnes.

47. La Constitution interdisait toute forme de discrimination. La loi sur la cybercriminalité sanctionnait les propos discriminatoires, tandis que l'administration garantissait l'égalité d'accès aux fonctions publiques. En 2024, le programme de couverture sociale pour travailleurs non salariés avait été lancé pour promouvoir l'égalité sociale, et des sensibilisations à la lutte contre la discrimination envers les personnes atteintes d'albinisme s'étaient intensifiées, avec une proposition de loi en discussion. La lutte contre le VIH et le sida avait progressé grâce à une modification de la loi s'y rapportant en 2023, de manière à protéger les personnes vivant avec le virus.

48. Concernant l'égalité femmes-hommes, un projet de loi était en cours de finalisation pour promouvoir cette cause. L'accès des filles et des femmes à l'éducation était garanti par des textes, bien que des barrières socioculturelles subsistent. Pour y remédier, des programmes comme l'autonomisation des filles et des femmes, exécutés avec le Fonds d'intervention pour le développement, visaient à maintenir les filles à l'école, à créer des espaces sûrs, à offrir des bourses et à préparer les jeunes femmes à un emploi productif. Entre 2019 et 2024, des mesures avaient été engagées comme la distribution de kits scolaires, l'ouverture de cantines dans 6 006 établissements, l'octroi de subventions pour 22 206 enseignants non fonctionnaires, l'intégration de 31 500 enseignants dans la fonction publique, et la construction de 1 650 salles de classe. Ces mesures avaient favorisé l'accès équitable à l'éducation et réduit les abandons scolaires.

49. Le Gouvernement avait fait construire 30 hôpitaux de référence équipés de matériel moderne et 147 nouveaux centres de santé de base au niveau des communes, et doté 893 centres de santé de base d'équipements neufs. Il avait également acquis 150 ambulances, 10 scanners, 35 appareils de radiographie et 11 générateurs d'oxygène, facilitant l'accès aux soins auparavant réservés aux grandes villes. Un investissement de 15 millions de dollars sur deux ans avait permis de garantir l'accès aux produits de planification familiale, tandis qu'aucune rupture de vaccins n'avait été signalée depuis 2021. Deux programmes phares étaient à souligner : les caravanes médicales annuelles, offrant des soins gratuits et diversifiés à 1,2 million de bénéficiaires depuis 2022, et la gratuité des premiers soins d'urgence dans les hôpitaux publics.

50. En matière d'infrastructures, le Gouvernement avait fait construire 1 650 salles de classe, 4 universités régionales, des commissariats de sécurité publique, des bases opérationnelles pour l'armée, ainsi que 11 tribunaux et 9 établissements pénitentiaires. Ces projets visaient à étendre la couverture géographique et à améliorer l'accès aux services publics locaux.

51. À Madagascar, les principales institutions de contrôle étaient l'Inspection générale de l'État, la Cour des comptes et le Conseil de discipline budgétaire et financière. Rattachée à la présidence, l'Inspection générale de l'État contrôlait les services publics à tous les niveaux. Depuis 2019, le Gouvernement avait renforcé son personnel en organisant davantage de concours pour recruter des inspecteurs d'État. Ses audits avaient permis de traduire des auteurs présumés de corruption devant les juridictions pénales.

52. En 2023, la Cour des comptes avait été érigée en une mission indépendante chargée du contrôle externe des finances publiques, augmentant ainsi la fréquence des audits des établissements publics nationaux. Le Conseil de discipline budgétaire et financière, rattaché à la primature, prévenait et sanctionnait les infractions financières tout en promouvant la bonne gouvernance. L'obtention de l'autonomie administrative et financière avait mis fin à l'absence de sanctions disciplinaires pour les gestionnaires publics.

53. The Sudan welcomed the adoption of the national policies on combating trafficking in persons, on combating climate change and on health.

54. Switzerland thanked Madagascar for its presentation.
55. Togo congratulated Madagascar for its adoption of the national anti-corruption strategy 2015–2025.
56. Tunisia welcomed the anti-corruption strategy, the Agency for the Recovery of Illegally Obtained Assets and the adoption of measures to improve social protection.
57. Ukraine commended Madagascar for its efforts to implement the recommendations received during the previous review and the progress achieved in human rights protection.
58. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland requested clarification of whether the new Labour Code covered child labour.
59. The United Republic of Tanzania acknowledged the steps taken to reform the judiciary and the progress made in the educational sector.
60. Uruguay thanked Madagascar for the presentation of its national report and praised the efforts made by the country.
61. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela urged Madagascar to continue implementing measures and plans to address human rights challenges.
62. Viet Nam welcomed the adoption of significant measures to combat gender-based violence, strengthen social protection and address climate change.
63. Zambia applauded Madagascar for the progress made since the third review cycle, especially the increase in 2024 of 33 per cent in funding for education.
64. Zimbabwe commended Madagascar on its implementation in full of some of the recommendations made during the previous review cycle.
65. Algeria welcomed the measures taken to fight trafficking in persons, in particular the implementation of the National Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons.
66. Angola acknowledged the 2021 National Climate Change Policy, the national adaptation programmes of action and the nationally appropriate mitigation actions.
67. Armenia acknowledged the progress made in implementing policies for the advancement of women's rights and steps to improve access to education.
68. Australia acknowledged the adoption by Madagascar of anti-corruption strategies and laws to address gender-based violence.
69. Bangladesh took note of the efforts to combat trafficking in persons and the validation of a gender-sensitive, evidence-based national labour migration policy.
70. Belgium, while recognizing the progress Madagascar had made since the previous review cycle, noted that the legislative framework and its implementation could be improved.
71. Botswana commended Madagascar for the National Policy against Trafficking in Persons and the adoption and implementation of the National Climate Change Policy.
72. Brazil lauded the efforts to combat child labour, including the steps taken to align the minimum age of employment with that of compulsory schooling.
73. Burkina Faso commended the efforts aimed at reducing prison overcrowding and improving prison conditions, including the increased budget for detainee health and nutrition.
74. Burundi welcomed the plans to combat trafficking in persons, the National Social Protection Policy and the proposed national strategy for women's economic empowerment.
75. Cabo Verde commended the efforts made by Madagascar to protect human rights since the previous universal periodic review.
76. Cameroon commended the efforts to strengthen the institutional framework, particularly in the fight against trafficking in persons and the promotion of children's rights.
77. Canada praised the measures taken to combat the sexual exploitation of children and to implement the National Strategy to Combat Child Marriage.

78. Chile acknowledged the progress made by Madagascar in criminalizing all forms of violence, in particular domestic violence and marital rape.
79. China praised the efforts to promote socioeconomic development and judicial reform, combat trafficking in persons and illegal migration and ensure the rights of women and children.
80. Colombia thanked the delegation for the presentation of its report and made recommendations.
81. Costa Rica recognized the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
82. Côte d'Ivoire commended the measures taken to address statelessness and the progress made regarding the rights of women, girls, children with albinism and twins.
83. Cuba acknowledged the efforts made to overcome the challenges identified in the national report and to protect and promote human rights.
84. Cyprus commended the progress made in the representation of women in public affairs, their appointments to decision-making positions and their protection against gender-based violence.
85. The Democratic Republic of the Congo welcomed the adoption of the National Policy and the second National Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons.
86. La délégation de Madagascar a déclaré que, malgré les efforts du Gouvernement pour réprimer les crimes sexuels, une augmentation alarmante des agressions sexuelles sur mineurs, notamment des viols, avait été observée. Des milliers d'enfants, de jeunes filles et de femmes, victimes de viols, notamment au sein des familles, subissaient des traumatismes physiques et psychologiques à vie. Le Gouvernement avait renforcé la répression du viol, avec l'objectif de mieux protéger les enfants conformément à la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant et à la Charte africaine des droits et du bien-être de l'enfant. Parmi les mesures envisagées, la castration chimique des prédateurs sexuels avait été adoptée pour dissuader ces actes.
87. Adoptée en 2018, la Stratégie nationale de lutte contre le mariage des enfants sensibilisait la population, y compris les chefs traditionnels et les parents, pour prévenir ce phénomène. Plus de 224 000 personnes avaient été touchées par ces actions, et des formations avaient renforcé les capacités des acteurs locaux. Les enfants victimes de violences sexuelles avaient bénéficié d'une prise en charge médicale, psychosociale et judiciaire. Par ailleurs, des propositions de loi sur le mariage des enfants et la réforme du régime matrimonial devaient être discutées à l'Assemblée nationale.
88. Madagascar avait pris des mesures nationales et internationales pour garantir le droit à un environnement sain et durable. L'article 29 de la Constitution reconnaissait ce droit comme fondamental. Des initiatives multisectorielles avaient été mises en place pour gérer les ressources naturelles, protéger les écosystèmes, lutter contre la déforestation et promouvoir l'adaptation aux changements climatiques.
89. Le pays avait adopté plusieurs stratégies visant notamment à réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre et à promouvoir les énergies renouvelables, dont la stratégie nationale de réduction des émissions dues à la déforestation et à la dégradation des forêts incluant la conservation, la gestion durable des forêts et l'amélioration des stocks de carbone forestier (Stratégie nationale REDD+), le Plan national d'adaptation au changement climatique, des initiatives pour la gestion des risques de catastrophe et la Stratégie nationale du genre et changement climatique. En mars 2024, une campagne de sensibilisation avait été lancée pour encourager l'utilisation d'énergies propres. Le système de transfert de gestion avait également été instauré au niveau des communautés locales.
90. Pour protéger la biodiversité, Madagascar luttait contre le braconnage et le trafic illégal d'espèces protégées, avec plusieurs arrestations, dont celle d'un parlementaire et de quatre assistants parlementaires impliqués dans le trafic de tortues.
91. Madagascar accordait une grande importance aux personnes âgées, considérées comme dignes de respect et de sagesse. Toutefois, la réalité reflétait un manque de respect et

de soins appropriés. Le pays reconnaissait la vulnérabilité spécifique des personnes âgées, en particulier en raison de leur état de santé physique et mentale et des conditions sociales. Conformément au Plan d'action international de Madrid de 2002 sur le vieillissement, le Gouvernement mettait en place des mesures pour améliorer la qualité de vie des personnes âgées. Ces actions visaient à prévenir la discrimination, à renforcer leur autonomie et à les protéger contre les abus. Plus de 303 963 personnes âgées avaient bénéficié de programmes incluant la sensibilisation aux droits, des dialogues intergénérationnels, l'augmentation des pensions de retraite (pour les personnes de 80 ans et plus), la distribution de produits essentiels et des consultations médicales gratuites. Des structures de soutien psychologique et centres intergénérationnels avaient également été créés.

92. Djibouti commended the measures taken to implement the recommendations from the third review cycle, including to combat poverty and promote the rights to education, health and work.

93. The Dominican Republic congratulated Madagascar on its legislative policies to prevent and penalize gender-based violence and corporal punishment against boys and girls.

94. Egypt commended Madagascar for its cooperation with human rights mechanisms, the empowerment of women and their appointment to decision-making positions in the Government.

95. Estonia acknowledged the efforts made to promote family planning and reduce the maternal and newborn mortality rates, and encouraged Madagascar to further promote children's rights.

96. Eswatini commended Madagascar for its judicial reforms aimed at increasing efforts to tackle corruption and speeding up the processing of court cases.

97. Ethiopia praised Madagascar for its commitment to implementing recommendations from previous review cycles and its continued efforts to promote and protect human rights.

98. Gabon congratulated Madagascar for the positive measures it was taking to support persons with albinism and persons with disabilities and for strengthening the legal framework for environmental protection.

99. The Gambia recognized the progress Madagascar had made in improving judicial procedures, combating gender-based violence and expanding access to education through increased funding and infrastructure development.

100. Georgia welcomed the measures taken to promote the rights of persons with disabilities and acknowledged the progress made in addressing and preventing gender-based violence.

101. Germany, while praising the 2019 legislation adopted on combating sexual and gender-based violence, expressed concern about restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly.

102. Ghana commended Madagascar for undertaking legal reforms and awareness-raising campaigns targeting victims of gender-based violence, child exploitation and persons with disabilities.

103. Guinea welcomed the efforts made to combat corruption and protect vulnerable persons, including laws addressing violence against children and child labour.

104. Iceland welcomed the delegation of Madagascar and its national report.

105. India commended the legislative progress and reforms, including on combating trafficking in persons and gender-based violence, safeguarding children's rights and enhancing press freedom.

106. Indonesia acknowledged the measures taken to address gender-based violence, the sexual exploitation of children and child labour, and the increased budget for education and health.

107. The Islamic Republic of Iran recognized the efforts of Madagascar to combat HIV/AIDS, promote inclusive education and enhance labour protection for migrant workers.

108. Iraq welcomed the adoption of the National Social Protection Strategy (2019–2023) and looked forward to the adoption of the strategy for the period 2024–2030.

109. Ireland commended Madagascar for Act No. 2019/008 criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence, including domestic violence. Nevertheless, it expressed concern about continued gender-based violence and child marriage.

110. Italy acknowledged efforts to improve prison conditions and prison overcrowding, and to combat trafficking in persons and gender-based violence.

111. Portugal praised the increased allocation of resources in the field of education and the establishment of 10 years of mandatory education.

112. Qatar welcomed the adoption of national policies on human rights, including on universal health coverage and access to education.

113. The Niger lauded the progress made by Madagascar regarding the strict application of recommendations from the third cycle of the universal periodic review.

114. Chad welcomed the commitment to protect human rights, through the implementation of almost all of the recommendations accepted in the previous review cycle.

115. France noted the measures taken by Madagascar since the previous review cycle.

116. La délégation de Madagascar a déclaré qu'une loi sur la communication médiatisée avait été élaborée de façon participative et inclusive avec les différents acteurs de la communication à Madagascar, notamment les journalistes. Le point le plus important de cette loi avait été de consacrer la dépénalisation totale du délit de presse à Madagascar. Sur le plan pratique, aucune arrestation n'avait eu lieu pour délit de presse de 2019 à ce jour, ce qui constituait une véritable avancée pour le pays. Par ailleurs, l'ouverture en 2020 de débats contradictoires systématiques au sein des chaînes publiques avait également été une véritable avancée.

117. Depuis 2020, le Gouvernement avait doté le secteur éducatif d'un budget ambitieux. Les crédits alloués au Ministère de l'éducation nationale n'avaient cessé d'évoluer. Cette augmentation du budget démontrait la volonté de soutenir l'éducation nationale et d'améliorer les conditions d'apprentissage dans les établissements scolaires publics. Pour l'année scolaire 2024/25, la caisse école destinée aux écoles primaires publiques et aux collèges d'enseignement général avait été alimentée à hauteur de 66 milliards d'ariary.

118. Madagascar avait investi dans l'éducation avec un budget de 47,8 milliards d'ariary pour les écoles primaires publiques, ce qui couvrait les équipements, le matériel pédagogique et l'entretien des infrastructures. Les collèges bénéficieraient de 10 milliards d'ariary pour garantir une éducation de qualité, tandis que les lycées auraient une caisse de soutien de 8 milliards d'ariary pour améliorer le niveau d'instruction. Un budget spécifique était alloué aux cantines scolaires afin d'offrir un repas quotidien, de lutter contre la malnutrition et de favoriser la concentration des élèves. Ces mesures traduisaient l'engagement du Gouvernement pour une éducation accessible et de qualité.

119. La délégation de Madagascar a remercié tous les États ayant posé des questions et formulé des recommandations, témoignant de leur intérêt pour son pays. Ces échanges enrichissants et constructifs encourageaient le Gouvernement à intensifier ses efforts dans la mise en œuvre des recommandations acceptées durant ce cycle de l'Examen périodique universel. Ses actions s'alignaient sur les trois piliers de la politique générale de l'État : le développement du capital humain, l'industrialisation et la transformation économique, ainsi que la gouvernance et l'État de droit. Malgré des contraintes financières, Madagascar avait honoré la majorité de ses engagements pris à l'issue du précédent cycle de l'Examen périodique universel, grâce aux soutiens multilatéraux et bilatéraux. Madagascar était disposée à poursuivre la coopération avec tous les partenaires pour la promotion et la protection des droits de l'homme.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

120. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Madagascar and enjoy the support of Madagascar:

- 120.1 Ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 120.2 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Portugal);
- 120.3 Establish a national preventive mechanism in the framework of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Portugal);
- 120.4 Continue consistent efforts to modernize the national legislation in the area of protecting human rights and freedoms (Russian Federation);
- 120.5 Ensure its national human rights institution has sufficient human and financial resources to carry out its legal mandate (Australia);
- 120.6 Ensure adequate resources are allocated to the National Independent Human Rights Commission to address human rights challenges (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 120.7 Strengthen the capacity of and increase resources for the National Independent Human Rights Commission and other human rights protection bodies (Mozambique);
- 120.8 Increase resources for the National Independent Human Rights Commission as well as its regional presence (Cyprus);
- 120.9 Strengthen the National Independent Human Rights Commission so that its activities are in full compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Djibouti);
- 120.10 Continue efforts to maintain the independence of the national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Nepal);
- 120.11 Formalize the appointment of Commissioners to the National Independent Human Rights Commission (South Africa);
- 120.12 Provide the national mechanism for the prevention of torture with the necessary resources to carry out its activities with autonomy and independence (Chile);
- 120.13 Continue efforts to implement policies aimed at eliminating discrimination based on gender, ethnicity and religion (Mozambique);
- 120.14 Continue to bolster measures aimed at removing discrimination, especially against girls and children with disabilities (Burkina Faso);
- 120.15 Develop relevant policies and programmes to combat all forms of racial discrimination (Burundi);
- 120.16 Redouble efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination in the labour market (Nepal);
- 120.17 Strengthen measures to eliminate discrimination against girls, twins, children with disabilities, those living with HIV/AIDS and those with albinism (Cyprus);
- 120.18 Adopt comprehensive legislation, accompanied by relevant policies and programmes, to combat all forms of racial discrimination (Niger);

- 120.19 Continue strengthening measures for the adoption of comprehensive legislation, coupled with the relevant policies and programmes, to combat all forms of racial discrimination (Angola);
- 120.20 Step up measures to reduce prison overcrowding (United Republic of Tanzania);
- 120.21 Reduce prison overcrowding by adopting alternatives to incarceration, ensure the separation of minors from adults in detention facilities, and provide adequate healthcare, nutrition and humane conditions for detainees (Gambia);
- 120.22 Improve detention centres and prisons by addressing overcrowding, separate minors from adults and provide adequate healthcare and nutrition for detainees (Ghana);
- 120.23 Encourage the continued strengthening of efforts in the fight against corruption (Sierra Leone);
- 120.24 Continue the effective implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2015–2025 beyond 2025 (Morocco);
- 120.25 Enhance measures to prevent and eradicate corruption by renewing the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and ensuring its effective implementation (Indonesia);
- 120.26 Fully implement the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, including its provisions for the protection of whistle-blowers (Ireland);
- 120.27 Continue its efforts to recruit and train new judges and police officers, based on the highest standards of transparency and relevant investigations, in order to combat corruption (Canada);
- 120.28 Continue with efforts aimed at strengthening the judiciary to ensure effective and efficient justice delivery (Malawi);
- 120.29 Further strengthen the independence of the judiciary and ensure access to justice for all citizens, particularly in rural and remote areas (Ethiopia);
- 120.30 Ensure the independence of the judiciary, take concrete steps to improve access to justice, including by removing financial barriers, and increase access to independent legal aid, particularly for children (Belgium);
- 120.31 Pursue measures to expand access to justice, including providing free legal aid to people who cannot afford to pay for their own legal representation (Brazil);
- 120.32 Enhance and strengthen its judicial framework to ensure the promotion and protection of the human rights of all (Nigeria);
- 120.33 Ensure that robust investigations are initiated and completed promptly so that perpetrators of crimes against persons with albinism are prosecuted, and ensure that victims obtain redress (Togo);
- 120.34 Reduce prison overcrowding by accelerating the implementation of alternatives to incarceration and by improving the judicial follow-up of detainees (Guinea);
- 120.35 Accelerate the processing of cases of prisoners in pretrial detention (France);
- 120.36 Uphold its obligations to peaceful assembly, including with respect to political parties, under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);
- 120.37 Take measures to ensure that all individuals and political parties can fully enjoy the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of association, and ensure that any restrictions on the exercise of these rights are in accordance with the

conditions set forth in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Portugal);

120.38 Ensure the safety of journalists and human rights defenders by establishing mechanisms for the monitoring, prevention, protection and investigation of violations against them (Switzerland);

120.39 Strengthen the legal protection of journalists (Germany);

120.40 Ensure that the laws on defamation, contempt and libellous statements respect the right to freedom of expression (Canada);

120.41 Increase efforts to protect human rights defenders and prevent all forms of intimidation, reprisals, arbitrary arrests, violence and unwarranted prosecutions (Italy);

120.42 Adopt a new national strategy to combat child marriage and ensure its full implementation (Estonia);

120.43 See to the full implementation of the National Strategy to Combat Child Marriage 2018–2024 (Eswatini);

120.44 Continue efforts to combat child marriage (Georgia);

120.45 Combat child marriage by renewing and strengthening the expired National Strategy to Combat Child Marriage (Iceland);

120.46 Implement fully the national strategy to prevent and eradicate early and forced marriages (Italy);

120.47 Continue rendering comprehensive assistance to the institution of the family as it is understood in its traditional sense (Russian Federation);

120.48 Ensure equal rights in all areas relating to marriage and family relations and in the area of inheritance, divorce and child custody (Canada);

120.49 Continue to bolster measures towards the eradication of child marriage (Botswana);

120.50 Design awareness-raising campaigns on the harmful effects of child marriage on girls' health and well-being (Togo);

120.51 Strengthen, in terms of operational capacities, the effective application of the law against trafficking in persons (Morocco);

120.52 Continue implementing the National Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, ensuring the effective allocation of resources to combat this crime (Islamic Republic of Iran);

120.53 Strengthen the fight against trafficking in persons by establishing protection and rehabilitation mechanisms for victims, in particular children (Cameroon);

120.54 Adopt a national plan on child labour, increase labour inspections and tackle the root causes of child exploitation, including family vulnerability and lack of access to education for children (Ghana);

120.55 Fully implement the National Social Protection Strategy (2024–2028) and increase support, particularly to those in disaster-prone regions and in extreme poverty (Malaysia);

120.56 Further implement the National Social Protection Strategy and enhance the protection of vulnerable groups (China);

120.57 Sustain efforts in expanding social protection coverage, particularly for self-employed workers and vulnerable households (Islamic Republic of Iran);

120.58 Continue strengthening social safety nets to protect vulnerable populations and promote sustainable development (Ethiopia);

- 120.59 Further improve the implementation of the National Social Protection Strategy and ensure the integration of the right to development into national development plans by enhancing public participation, ensuring transparency in managing natural resources (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 120.60 Ensure access to basic health, nutrition, education, protection, water and sanitation services for all, especially those living in rural areas (Malaysia);
- 120.61 Strengthen access to basic health, nutrition, education, protection and water and sanitation services for people living in rural areas (Morocco);
- 120.62 Increase funding and strengthen policies for water, sanitation, housing, health and nutrition, particularly in rural areas, by constructing adequately staffed health centres, expanding the infrastructure for safe drinking water, ensuring affordable access to basic healthcare and meeting the budget health financing target (Germany);
- 120.63 Strengthen conditions of access to water, sanitation and hygiene (Mali);
- 120.64 Continue updating the national policy for water and sanitation services (Oman);
- 120.65 Strengthen measures to reduce poverty in the country and improve access to education and healthcare (Mozambique);
- 120.66 Sustain and intensify poverty alleviation efforts, aiming to improve the socioeconomic well-being of its people (Nigeria);
- 120.67 Strengthen efforts on the implementation of its national poverty strategy (South Africa);
- 120.68 Ensure adequate allocation of resources to cushion vulnerable communities, especially those living in conditions of extreme poverty (Zimbabwe);
- 120.69 Adopt more measures to further bridge the gap between rural and urban areas and ensure improved living standards in rural and remote areas (China);
- 120.70 Pursue efforts in order to improve the health sector and to secure safe drinking water and appropriate sanitation, especially in the areas that are most vulnerable and exposed to climate change (Iraq);
- 120.71 Address the policy gaps to improve access to primary healthcare services, especially for persons from rural areas (Maldives);
- 120.72 Continue the policy for reducing regional discrepancies in access to basic services, especially access to drinking water, sanitation and primary healthcare (Cameroon);
- 120.73 Continue efforts to promote the right to health and access to medical services, especially in rural areas (Egypt);
- 120.74 Pursue efforts to enhance healthcare and improve health facilities, especially in remote areas (Tunisia);
- 120.75 Improve the quality and accessibility of services in health centres by applying free primary care, eradicating discrimination against the poor, lowering the price of medicine and increasing the number of hospitals, health centres and health staff working in childcare (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 120.76 Consider further increasing the budget allocated for the health sector to ensure good-quality health services (United Republic of Tanzania);
- 120.77 Continue enhancing the healthcare financing system to provide the Malagasy population with access to quality health services (Cuba);

- 120.78 Continue its efforts to strengthen universal health coverage, while taking into account the needs of vulnerable groups (India);
- 120.79 Accelerate the adoption of the national strategic plan to address public health diseases (Sierra Leone);
- 120.80 Strengthen access to obstetric care for pregnant adolescents and effectively implement the national strategic plan for the elimination of obstetric fistula (Mali);
- 120.81 Increase the availability and quality of reproductive health services, prioritizing rural areas (Estonia);
- 120.82 Adopt a comprehensive sexual and reproductive health policy for adolescents and ensure that sexual and reproductive health education is part of the mandatory school curriculum (Estonia);
- 120.83 Design and implement a national awareness campaign on sexual and reproductive health among young people in both urban and rural areas (Mexico);
- 120.84 Protect and promote sexual and reproductive health and rights and ensure access to sexual and reproductive health services for all (Iceland);
- 120.85 Ensure the provision of comprehensive sexuality education in and out of school settings (Iceland);
- 120.86 Make progress in the provision of adequate sexual and reproductive health services for women and girls (Chile);
- 120.87 Strengthen HIV programmes, with a particular focus on young people and the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (Senegal);
- 120.88 Strengthen efforts to increase school enrolment, attendance and completion rates for all children (Maldives);
- 120.89 Guarantee access to education free of charge and increase school enrolment, attendance and completion rates for all children (South Sudan);
- 120.90 Take the measures necessary to ensure free access to education and increase enrolment, attendance and completion rates for all children (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 120.91 Take all measures necessary to increase school enrolment, school attendance and school completion rates, particularly at the secondary school level (Cabo Verde);
- 120.92 Implement initiatives and programmes to ensure that all children, including those with disabilities and marginalized groups, have equal access to quality education (Montenegro);
- 120.93 Ensure the implementation of its legislation on access to education by safeguarding inclusive participation of those living with disabilities as well as marginalized communities (Zimbabwe);
- 120.94 Ensure that all children have access to education without any discrimination (Ukraine);
- 120.95 Take further measures to fully implement inclusive education policies, ensuring access to quality education for all, particularly for children from vulnerable groups (Armenia);
- 120.96 Continue to improve access to quality education for all, especially for vulnerable children such as those with disabilities, with albinism or living in rural areas (Cameroon);
- 120.97 Expand access to quality education for all, especially in rural areas (Viet Nam);

- 120.98 Continue to improve access to quality education and increase school completion rates for all children (Indonesia);
- 120.99 Continue efforts to promote the right to education for all (Djibouti);
- 120.100 Pursue efforts to promote the right to education and combat school dropout, especially for children from poor families (Tunisia);
- 120.101 Strengthen efforts to increase the percentage of persons in pre-, primary and secondary education by extending free schooling to the secondary and pre-primary levels (Zambia);
- 120.102 Improve educational infrastructure and ensure equal access to education for children in both urban and rural areas, with a focus on reducing dropout rates and enhancing technical and vocational education (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 120.103 Increase efforts in order to increase the number of children in schools and to improve quality education outputs (Iraq);
- 120.104 Make more efforts to provide quality education for children and reduce the phenomenon of school dropout (Qatar);
- 120.105 Continue efforts to reduce the dropout rate and expand the scope of initiatives to distribute school supplies to vulnerable groups (Oman);
- 120.106 Continue to enhance the capacity of duty bearers to uphold and protect human rights through targeted, mandatory human rights education and training, with special focus on gender equality and the rights of the child (Philippines);
- 120.107 Pursue national policies and programmes aimed at protecting the environment and addressing the risks and consequences of climate change (Sudan);
- 120.108 Implement measures to prevent and adequately manage the effects of climate change, such as droughts, to avoid the risk of internal displacement and increased food insecurity (Dominican Republic);
- 120.109 Strengthen climate resilience and environmental protection measures by implementing community initiatives and improving the effectiveness of the National Climate Change Policy (Viet Nam);
- 120.110 Further improve the legal system of environmental protection and enhance environmental law enforcement (China);
- 120.111 Take steps to ensure that environmental defenders can work in a safe environment, free from intimidation, harassment or reprisal (Chile);
- 120.112 Enhance international cooperation to bolster climate mitigation and adaptation measures (Botswana);
- 120.113 Finalize the development of the draft law on non-forest environmental crimes with a view to its adoption (Gabon);
- 120.114 Promote the right to development through the adoption of strategies to empower vulnerable populations, including rural communities, by ensuring equitable access to education, healthcare and social protection (Cuba);
- 120.115 Continue the work of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (Russian Federation);
- 120.116 Pursue national policies and programmes aimed at implementing the sustainable development agenda (Sudan);
- 120.117 Continue efforts to enhance women's empowerment through a national strategy (Nepal);

- 120.118 Further expand opportunities for women's full and meaningful participation in politics and the economy, including by urgently adopting the national strategy for women's economic empowerment which is currently under deliberation (Philippines);
- 120.119 Adopt specific support measures to enable women to have access to a broader range of employment opportunities, including promoting their access to formal employment and decision-making positions (South Sudan);
- 120.120 Continue implementing initiatives aimed at empowering women economically, socially and politically (Oman);
- 120.121 Strengthen measures to ensure equal access for men and women in both public and private employment (Bangladesh);
- 120.122 Redouble efforts to substantially reduce the prevalence of child marriage (Bangladesh);
- 120.123 Proceed with promoting gender equality (Georgia);
- 120.124 Take all measures necessary to combat gender-based violence (Ukraine);
- 120.125 Continue to enhance its efforts to combat gender-based violence (Singapore);
- 120.126 Continue to fight against gender-based violence and all forms of discrimination against women (Cyprus);
- 120.127 Pursue and scale up efforts to prevent and combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women (Italy);
- 120.128 Continue to take measures to ensure that women and girls who are victims of violence have effective access to justice, guaranteeing their adequate protection, strengthening support systems and improving judicial processes so that they are accessible and safe (Dominican Republic);
- 120.129 Strengthen mechanisms for preventing and combating domestic violence in order to protect victims and provide them with justice and rehabilitation as well as all forms of assistance (Djibouti);
- 120.130 Ensure the implementation and funding of a renewed national strategy on ending gender-based violence in line with Act No. 2019-008 (Iceland);
- 120.131 Intensify efforts to comply with the application of the law on gender-based violence, allocating resources for the reduction of gender-based violence rates through advocacy programmes, capacity-building and support for victims, especially in rural areas (Uruguay);
- 120.132 Provide training to law enforcement, judicial officers and community leaders in support of implementation of gender-based violence laws (Australia);
- 120.133 Accelerate efforts to combat gender-based violence, promote women's political participation and leadership, and strengthen legal protection for women's rights (Ethiopia);
- 120.134 Enhance programmes targeting gender-based violence and child exploitation by expanding shelters, integrating prevention measures in schools and providing adequate resources for victim support (Gambia);
- 120.135 Adopt the measures necessary to improve access to services and protection and support mechanisms for victims of gender-based violence, with special emphasis on rural areas (Mexico);
- 120.136 Increase awareness on combating gender-based violence (United Republic of Tanzania);

- 120.137 Strengthen women's economic empowerment and strengthen support for victims of sexual abuse (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 120.138 Explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, in particular in school establishments (Cabo Verde);
- 120.139 Fully implement the law prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings (Estonia);
- 120.140 Ban corporal punishment in all settings, promoting positive, non-violent and participatory forms of parenting, and implementing awareness-raising campaigns aimed at parents and professionals who work with children (Costa Rica);
- 120.141 Adopt legal and policy reforms to fully protect children from physical and other abuse, neglect and violence (Montenegro);
- 120.142 Implement a registration and identification process for children who are effectively homeless, and strengthen existing laws to protect them from further exploitation (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 120.143 Take further measures to prevent violence against children (Georgia);
- 120.144 Step up efforts in the fight against the sexual exploitation of children (Cyprus);
- 120.145 Step up measures to combat the sexual abuse and exploitation of children online and offline and other forms of child abuse (Philippines);
- 120.146 Adopt a comprehensive national child protection policy, including on sexual exploitation and violence against children (Uruguay);
- 120.147 Implement a national child protection policy to prevent and combat the high incidence of labour and sexual exploitation of boys and girls (Spain);
- 120.148 Implement a national strategy to end violence, discrimination and stigmatization of children in street situations, ensure their access to education and increase the number and quality of State-run reception centres and shelters for them, particularly in terms of services such as health, education, nutrition, support and guidance (Costa Rica);
- 120.149 Continue steps to combat all forms of child labour (Malawi);
- 120.150 Continue and strengthen the fight against child labour, child sexual exploitation and child marriage (Burundi);
- 120.151 Develop a comprehensive strategy to evaluate and address child abuse, strengthen awareness-raising programmes to combat child abuse, and ensure timely reporting and investigation of all child abuse cases (Malaysia);
- 120.152 Continue to enhance its efforts to improve children's access to healthcare (Singapore);
- 120.153 Continue efforts aimed at promoting the rights of the child, in particular by increasing the allocation of funds to the education system as a percentage of gross national product and by combating discrimination against vulnerable children and girls in the educational system (Brazil);
- 120.154 Strengthen measures aimed at guaranteeing the rights of children and adolescents, in particular those aimed at eliminating any type of discrimination they may suffer (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 120.155 Promote measures that prohibit child abuse and extend free access from primary to secondary education, including to refugee children (Colombia);
- 120.156 Strengthen the implementation capacity of its legislation on the promotion of the rights of children (Zimbabwe);

- 120.157 **Adopt a national plan with a human rights-based approach to eliminate child labour, with sufficient resources, and that increases labour inspections and addresses structural causes, such as family vulnerability and lack of access to education (Costa Rica);**
- 120.158 **Develop a social protection programme addressing the worst forms of child labour (Eswatini);**
- 120.159 **Strengthen efforts to eliminate child labour by adopting a national plan (Gambia);**
- 120.160 **Strengthen the enforcement and implementation of existing legislation to combat child labour, forced marriage and illicit adoptions (Germany);**
- 120.161 **Redouble the efforts to end child labour, particularly by accelerating the adoption of the new national plan (Ukraine);**
- 120.162 **Strengthen national policies aimed at combating child labour (Cuba);**
- 120.163 **Strengthen policies to combat child labour and to enhance children's access to education, health and social protection (India);**
- 120.164 **Strengthen the fight against child labour by intensifying inspections and facilitating access to education, especially in rural areas (Guinea);**
- 120.165 **Ensure access to education and healthcare for persons with disabilities (Jordan);**
- 120.166 **Expand initiatives to guarantee the social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities, including through improved access to healthcare, employment opportunities and public services (Armenia);**
- 120.167 **Redouble efforts to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against persons with disabilities (Djibouti);**
- 120.168 **Enhance measures to eliminate discrimination, including against children with disabilities and children living with HIV/AIDS (South Africa);**
- 120.169 **Strengthen awareness-raising campaigns to promote non-discrimination against persons with disabilities (Italy);**
- 120.170 **Ensure greater outreach and awareness-raising about the situation of people with disabilities (Mauritania);**
- 120.171 **Intensify efforts to further strengthen the protection of persons with albinism, particularly in remote areas (Namibia);**
- 120.172 **Consider children suffering from acute or severe malnutrition as a top priority and provide them with the necessary treatment and nutrition, and take measures to protect persons with albinism from abuse, ill-treatment, discrimination in access to employment and social protection programmes, among others (Cabo Verde);**
- 120.173 **Conduct awareness-raising campaigns aimed at the general population with the main goal of eradicating any type of action or discrimination against people with albinism (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 120.174 **Continue and strengthen awareness campaigns on albinism by involving all stakeholders, including community and religious leaders, in order to demystify albinism and combat false beliefs (Gabon);**
- 120.175 **Combat the discrimination that prevents persons with albinism from accessing the labour market, and ensure that complaints made by persons with albinism about discrimination in the labour market are addressed by the relevant bodies (Zambia);**
- 120.176 **Take the measures to necessary protect vulnerable communities and internally displaced persons from the impact of climate change (Colombia);**

120.177 Strengthen internal migration policies, including by providing local authorities with adequate resources and training to manage migration and addressing the adverse effects of climate change (Indonesia);

120.178 Create a free, universal and accessible national birth registration system, adequately fund it and widely disseminate it to ensure the right to an identity for all persons (Mexico).

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

121.1 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and repeal discriminatory provisions in inheritance and matrimonial property laws (Rwanda);

121.2 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Colombia) (Côte d'Ivoire) (France) (South Sudan);

121.3 Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Senegal);

121.4 Ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Côte d'Ivoire) (Rwanda);

121.5 Consider acceding to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Rwanda);

121.6 Consider acceding to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Eswatini);

121.7 Accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Colombia);

121.8 Ratify the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Côte d'Ivoire);

121.9 Consider ratifying the Organization of African Unity Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa (Algeria);

121.10 Ratify the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Chad);

121.11 Consider acceding to the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (Algeria);

121.12 Ensure that the National Independent Human Rights Commission and its commissioner representing civil society actors working for the promotion of human rights receive sufficient resources to effectively carry out their mandates (Jordan);

121.13 Enact an access to information law that will be in accordance with international standards, establishing an independent oversight institution (Zambia);

121.14 Raise the age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years of age (Chad);

121.15 Raise the legal age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years of age, ensure the use of non-custodial measures for children and, where detention is unavoidable, that children are not detained with adults (Belgium);

121.16 Follow up on recommendations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, including by raising the legal age of responsibility to ensure that children's rights are respected, protected and fulfilled (Ireland);

- 121.17 Fully guarantee freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, and put an end to the intimidation, arbitrary detention and judicial harassment suffered by defenders, journalists and other civil society actors in the exercise of their legitimate work (Spain);
- 121.18 Guarantee the right to freedom of assembly and association for all, and protect civil society organizations from any form of intimidation or reprisals (Switzerland);
- 121.19 Complete the adoption of the law providing for a system of protection for human rights defenders and whistle-blowers (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- 121.20 Adopt and operationalize the draft law on the protection of human rights defenders of March 2022 and ensure adequate resourcing for its implementation in close cooperation with civil society (Germany);
- 121.21 Adopt the draft legislation on the protection of human rights defenders from harassment, intimidation and arbitrary criminal prosecution (Ireland);
- 121.22 Continue efforts to amend the law relating to marriage and matrimonial regimes in order to remove exceptions to the minimum age of marriage, which is set at 18 years (Mauritius);
- 121.23 Consider decriminalizing abortion and amending the marriage law to remove exemptions to the minimum age for marriage, which is set at 18 years (Colombia);
- 121.24 Eliminate legal exceptions to the minimum age of 18 for marriage and implement a comprehensive and well-funded strategy to combat child marriage through public awareness campaigns and community engagement (Costa Rica);
- 121.25 Remove the legal exceptions to the minimum marriage age of 18 and conduct awareness campaigns on the harmful effects of child marriages (Ghana);
- 121.26 Remove all exceptions to the minimum age of 18 years for marriage, including in the Law on Marriage and Matrimonial Regimes (Iceland);
- 121.27 Amend the Law on Marriage and Matrimonial Regimes to eliminate exemptions to the minimum age of marriage in article 3 (Slovenia);
- 121.28 Amend Law No. 2007-022 to remove exceptions or to better regulate the grounds that may justify marriage under the age of 18 (Chad);
- 121.29 Adopt the bill on therapeutic termination of pregnancy (France);
- 121.30 Decriminalize and legalize abortion in all circumstances (Iceland);
- 121.31 Consider including exceptions to the laws that criminalize termination of pregnancy, making abortion legal in cases of rape, risk to the mother's life and fetal inviability (Chile);
- 121.32 Guarantee free primary and secondary education for all children by 2028 by increasing the education budget, in line with international recommendations (Estonia);
- 121.33 Encourage and promote the participation of communities where transnational companies wish to operate, through prior consultations, to generate better negotiations and avoid social conflict (Dominican Republic);
- 121.34 Promote gender equality by introducing the bill prepared on the subject, removing provisions in inheritance and matrimonial property laws that place women at a disadvantage (Belgium);
- 121.35 Continue its efforts to promote gender equity through the legislative process (India);
- 121.36 Consider repealing Memorandum No. 2023-862, which currently prohibits continued studies for girls married after pregnancy (Sierra Leone);

121.37 Fully implement legal frameworks for women's representation, promote their socioeconomic empowerment, safeguard their sexual rights and prevent sexual and gender-based violence (Germany);

121.38 Continue to fight against all forms of gender-based violence and discrimination against women, including by ensuring effective enforcement of the 2019 law against gender-based violence, reforming the 2007 marriage law to remove exceptions to child marriage, and improving access to sexual and reproductive health services, including abortion (Spain);

121.39 Take adequate administrative and legal measures to prohibit corporal punishment in all settings (Bangladesh);

121.40 Finalize the development of the national policy for the inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities, initiated in 2022 (Gabon);

121.41 Reform the law on the rights of persons with disabilities and develop the national policy on their inclusion and empowerment (Qatar);

121.42 Adopt the measures necessary to prevent, combat and prosecute all forms of discrimination, violence and hate speech against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Spain);

121.43 Take concrete measures to prevent and combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Switzerland);

121.44 Amend article 331 of the Criminal Code to ensure the age of consent is equal for all, irrespective of sexual orientation (Iceland);

121.45 Develop a rights-based national framework for refugees and asylum-seekers that guarantees their full economic and social inclusion (Uruguay);

121.46 Grant refugees and asylum-seekers full access to self-employment and paid employment, through the refugee framework currently being developed (Niger);

121.47 Continue efforts to enhance services provided to refugees and asylum-seekers and provide them with the necessary protection (Egypt).

122. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Madagascar and have been noted by Madagascar:

122.1 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Ukraine);

122.2 Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Malawi);

122.3 Finalize the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Democratic Republic of the Congo);

122.4 Promote ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Chile);

122.5 Further strengthen efforts to improve the legal framework on human rights by acceding to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Burkina Faso);

122.6 Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that explicitly ensures effective protection for persons of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (Iceland);

122.7 Adopt legislative measures to combat discrimination against vulnerable or minority groups, LGBT+ persons, persons living with HIV or persons with disabilities (France);

122.8 Repeal Law No. 2024-001 amending the Criminal Code, which provides for the penalty of surgical castration for perpetrators of certain crimes (Spain);

122.9 Withdraw the law providing for surgical castration for the perpetrators of certain crimes (France);

122.10 Consider bringing the Criminal Code into line with the standards of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, eliminating penalties that establish physical or chemical castration for the commission of certain crimes (Chile).

123. 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 Madagascar was headed by Garde des Sceaux, Minister of Justice, Benjamin Alexis RAKOTOMANDIMBY, and composed of the following members:

- Monsieur RAKOTOARIMANANA Herilala, Ministre de la Sécurité Publique;
- Monsieur TIANDAZA Dinaraly Odilon, Sénateur de Madagascar;
- Madame RABY SAVATSARAH Ain'Harimanga Gabrielle, Député de Madagascar élue à Farafangana, Présidente de la Commission Juridique de l'Assemblée Nationale;
- Monsieur MAMINIRINA Jolce Emilien, Député élu à Manakara, Président de la Commission Intérieur près de l'Assemblée Nationale;
- Monsieur TEHINDRAZANARIVELO Djacoba Andry Solofonirina Oliva, Ambassadeur extraordinaire et plénipotentiaire, Représentant Permanent de Madagascar auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève et à Vienne;
- Monsieur JEAN CLAUDE, Secrétaire Général par intérim du Ministère de la Jeunesse et des Sports;
- Monsieur RABEARISOA Rochel, Directeur de Cabinet du Ministre de la Justice;
- Madame RABEMANANJARA Harifera Elisa, Directeur Général de la Coopération Internationale du Ministère des Affaires étrangères;
- Madame VOLAZARA Sakina Mohamady, Directeur Général de l'Administration Pénitentiaire du Ministère de la Justice;
- Monsieur RANARIVELO Andrianampoina Hajaina, Directeur Général de l'Office de la Radio et de la Télévision publiques de Madagascar du Ministère de la Communication et de la Culture;
- Madame ANDRIAMAMPIANDRA Hasindraibe Christiane, Directeur des Etudes Juridiques de la Présidence de la République;
- Madame RAMINOSOA Arozoa, Directeur de la Législation et du Contentieux auprès de la Primature;
- Madame RAFARAMALALA Florence Isabelle, Directeur des Relations Multilatérales du Ministère des Affaires étrangères;
- Madame RAKOTOMALALA Nadia Volatiana, Directeur des Etudes et des Réformes Législatives du Ministère de la Justice;
- Monsieur TOMBOHAVANA Fabien, Directeur des Droits Humains et des Relations Internationales du Ministère de la Justice;
- Madame RABENOROHANTA Aina Diamondra, Directeur des Affaires Juridiques du Ministère de la Santé;
- Madame RAKOTOVAO Vonjinirina Todisoa, Directeur du Travail et de la Promotion des Droits Fondamentaux du Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi, et de la Fonction Publique;
- Madame RASOANIRAINY Diana Mirella Volahanta, Directeur des Affaires Juridiques du Ministère de l'Eau, de l'Assainissement et de l'Hygiène;
- Madame RAKOTOMAVO Nathalie Rosette, Directeur des Affaires Juridiques et Contentieux du Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable;
- Monsieur RAHOLINARIVO SOLONAVALONA Paolo Emilio, Directeur des Etudes et de Gestions des Risques du Bureau National de Gestion des Risques et des Catastrophes du Ministère de l'Intérieur;

- Monsieur RAZAFIMANDIMBY Tiana Heriniaina, Conseiller auprès de la Mission Permanente de Madagascar à Genève;
 - Madame RAKOTONIAINA Andry Marie Ange, Chef du Service des Droits de l'Homme et des Affaires Humanitaires du Ministère des Affaires étrangères;
 - Madame RAKOTOARSON Rinja Ninah, Chef du Service des Affaires Juridiques du Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances;
 - Monsieur FIDIMANANTSOA Liva, Inspecteur Général de l'Assemblée Nationale.
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