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National report submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21*

Congo

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I. Methodology and consultation

1. In the Republic of Congo, the promotion and protection of human rights is a major focus of government action. The country's human rights policy is based on respect for universal values and the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations of 26 June 1945, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights of 26 June 1981, the Congolese Charter of National Unity and the Congolese Charter of Rights and Freedoms of 29 May 1991, and all relevant international and national human rights instruments, duly ratified.
2. The commitment of the Congo to the values of peace and social cohesion is proclaimed in the preamble of the Constitution of 25 October 2015. The Constitution affirms the necessity of building a republic based on the principles of equality, fraternity, sharing and solidarity, on the one hand, and ensuring the full development of each and every individual as part of a republic in which non-derogable human rights are respected, on the other.
3. It is against this backdrop that the Congo undertook to implement the recommendations accepted during the third cycle of the universal periodic review. During this process, on 14 November 2018 the Congo received 194 recommendations. It accepted 188 recommendations and took note of 6.
4. The present report, prepared in the aftermath of the health crisis linked to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, describes the implementation of the recommendations accepted during the third cycle of the universal periodic review and presents the progress made and the measures taken in this context. The report also covers major developments in the field of human rights in the Congo.
5. This report is the outcome of a participatory and inclusive national process. It was drafted following a consultative process that began in 2020. This process involved distributing – to relevant institutions and departments, the parliament and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working in the field of human rights – the matrix for the implementation of recommendations¹ and, for further context, a list of these recommendations clustered by theme.²
6. The interministerial committee for monitoring cooperation with international and regional mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights met regularly to ensure that all stakeholders were able to make an effective contribution to the process.
7. A validation workshop was held with all the relevant State representatives. Civil society was involved in the report's preparation from the outset. The last stage in the process was its adoption at a meeting of the Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, the head of the Government.

II. Regulatory and institutional framework

A. Regulatory framework

1. International human rights instruments

8. Since the third cycle of the universal periodic review, the Congo has ratified or acceded to the following legal instruments, to which it was not a party:
 - The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, on 22 January 2008
 - The Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, on 25 April 2016
 - The Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption, on 14 February 2014
 - The 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, on 5 August 2020

- The 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, on 5 August 2020
 - The Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, on 13 October 2020
 - The International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions on weekly rest, employment policy, invalidity, old-age and survivors' benefits, medical care and sickness benefits, minimum wage fixing, workers' representatives and paid educational leave, on 30 December 2022
 - The ILO Conventions on labour clauses, employment injury benefits, human resources development, night work, working conditions (hotels and restaurants), protection of workers' claims (employer's insolvency) and safety and health in agriculture, on 4 May 2022
9. The Congo is in the process of ratifying other conventions, including:
- The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance
 - The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide
 - The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
 - The ILO Domestic Workers Convention
 - The ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention
 - The Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - The Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children

2. National legislation

10. Following the third cycle of the universal periodic review, the Congo continued the revision of its legal codes,³ initiated under the Action Project to Strengthen the Rule of Law and Associations.

11. Thus, Act No. 10-2022 of 20 April 2022 establishing the Prison Code was adopted. This law incorporates the principle of respect for international standards in prison settings and considerably improves the human rights situation in places of detention.

12. Other legislative texts have also been adopted, including:

- Act No. 19-2022 of 4 May 2022, the Mouebara Act, on combating violence against women
- Act No. 88-2022 of 30 December 2022 on public-private partnership contracts
- Act No. 54-2021 of 31 December 2021 governing factoring in the Republic of the Congo
- Act No. 55-2021 of 31 December 2021 governing financial leasing in the Republic of the Congo
- Act No. 41-2021 of 29 September 2021 on the right of asylum and refugee status
- Act No. 27-2020 of 5 June 2020 on combating cybercrime
- Act No. 3-2019 of 7 February 2019 establishing the High Authority to Combat Corruption
- Act No. 4-2019 of 7 February 2019 on the obligation of citizens elected or appointed to high public office to declare assets
- Act No. 6-2019 of 5 March 2019 establishing the Urban Development and Construction Code

- Act No. 18-2019 of 24 May 2019 on the establishment, powers, composition and functioning of the National Commission for Transparency and Accountability in Public Financial Management
 - Act No. 26-2019 of 5 June 2019 on cybercrime
 - Act No. 22-2019 of 17 June 2019 on combating trafficking in persons
 - Act No. 29-2019 of 10 October 2019 on protection of personal data
13. In the Congo, article 27 of the Constitution of 25 October 2015 provides that “the State recognizes and guarantees, under the conditions established by law, the freedoms of association, assembly, procession and demonstration”.
14. The following legislative texts supplement this legal framework:
- Act No. 8-2001 du 12 November 2001 on freedom of communication
 - Act No. 15-2001 of 31 December 2001 on pluralism in broadcasting
 - Organic Act No. 27-2022 of 29 June 2022 amending certain provisions of Organic Act No. 4-2003 of 18 January 2003 determining the mission, organization, composition and functioning of the High Council for Freedom of Communication
15. The Congo takes measures to guarantee the exercise of freedom of association, peaceful assembly and expression.

B. Institutional framework

16. The National Human Rights Commission was established under the Constitution of 25 October 2015 to ensure that the country has a body to monitor the promotion and protection of human rights.
17. The Constitution accords the Commission the status of a constitutional body, thereby guaranteeing its independence and autonomy in accordance with the Paris Principles.
18. The Commission’s powers, organization and functioning are laid down in Act No. 30-2018 of 7 August 2018. This law gave the Commission three new powers: to take up matters on its own initiative, to take up matters referred to it by other institutions and to put a stop to human rights violations.
19. The State allocates an annual budget to the Commission, which changes each year. This budget currently stands at 1.6 billion CFA francs (CFAF).
20. It is planned to continue reforming the Commission in order to further strengthen its mission and independence.
21. The national system for protecting and promoting human rights includes other bodies, as follows:
- The High Authority to Combat Corruption, which is responsible for preventing and combating corruption, misappropriation of public funds, fraud and related offences
 - The National Commission for Transparency and Accountability in Public Financial Management, which is entrusted, among other tasks, with collecting and disseminating best practices with respect to transparency and accountability in public financial management
 - The High Council for Freedom of Communication, whose mission includes guaranteeing citizens free access to information and communication
 - The National Dialogue Council, which brings together community leaders for consultation, mediation and consensus-building on major political issues of national interest
 - The Advisory Council of Elders and Traditional Leaders, which is tasked with issuing advice on the State’s democratic, cultural and social governance and offering the Government suggestions for inclusive political management

- The Women’s Advisory Council, which is entrusted with issuing advice on the situation of women and offering the Government suggestions for promoting women’s participation in the country’s development
 - The Advisory Council for Persons with Disabilities, which is tasked with issuing advice on the situation of persons with disabilities and offering the Government suggestions for improving their care
 - The Advisory Council on Youth Affairs, which is entrusted with issuing advice on how young people can thrive in the context of intergenerational governance
 - The Advisory Council of Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations, which is tasked with issuing advice on citizens’ participation in national affairs, with the aim of promoting their rights and freedoms and republican values
 - The Children’s Parliament of the Congo, which is a forum for democratic expression, a space for citizenship education and a means for children to participate in the decision-making process on issues that concern them
 - The Ministry for State Oversight, which is responsible for preparing and implementing national policy on State oversight, improving the quality of public services and combating unethical behaviour in public administration
 - The High Commission for Restorative Justice and Prevention and Treatment of Juvenile Delinquency, which is responsible for civic and moral education
22. To strengthen dialogue, exchanges and consultation between the Government and human rights NGOs, a framework for exchanges and dialogue was established on 22 February 2019. This framework held its first session on 10 February 2020.
23. The above-mentioned State bodies and civil society have been involved in awareness-raising programmes for several years, each within their respective spheres of competence.

C. Cooperation with international and regional human rights mechanisms

24. Cooperation between the Congo and international and regional human rights mechanisms is excellent.
25. Various human rights activities have been conducted with the support of United Nations agencies, the European Union and other partners, including:
- Training of civil society and law enforcement agencies in human rights protection in Pool Department, in 2018, as part of post-conflict interventions, in partnership with the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
 - Launching of a programme to support good governance, in 2019
 - Establishment in 2020, within the National Human Rights Commission, of a virtual platform for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations made during the universal periodic review, in partnership with the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa
 - Holding in 2021 of a training workshop for national stakeholders on the implementation of the recommendations made during the universal periodic review
 - Development and validation of the Strategic Plan for State Reform, in 2021
 - Training in Brazzaville of law enforcement officers on the protection of human rights in the context of the application of government measures to combat the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2021
 - Development and implementation of a national plan to promote human rights and equitable access to justice, in 2021

- Holding of an information session for members of civil society on the reform of the United Nations system, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and human rights, in 2023

26. In 2021, the Congo benefited from training for public employees and civil society actors in the use of international and regional human rights protection mechanisms, with technical and financial support from the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa.

27. The Congo engaged with the Human Rights Council complaint procedure, following the lodging of a complaint against it, on 13 January 2016, concerning alleged human rights violations during the referendum period from October to December 2015. Following the review of this complaint, the Working Group on Situations decided to discontinue its consideration of the case.

28. The Congo collaborates with United Nations bodies and Special Rapporteurs on the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

29. The Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, undertook a mission to the Congo in 2019 to investigate the situation of Indigenous Peoples.

30. The Congo is committed to implementing the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur, with the aim of improving the quality of life of Indigenous Peoples.

31. In 2021, the Congo took part in efforts to implement resolution 75/168, adopted by the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session in 2020. A document on the implementation of this resolution was prepared and submitted to the United Nations.

32. The Congo submitted its combined fifth and sixth periodic reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child in December 2019, and its eighth periodic report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in June 2023.

33. The Congo issues open calls for candidatures or notices of expression of interest when selecting national candidates for elections to the United Nations treaty bodies. Calls for candidatures fulfil the requirement for competence-based selection.

34. The Congo has set up a programme to modernize the national police force. On 19 May 2022, the Congo and the European Union signed an agreement on the financing of this programme.

35. The agreement has enabled, among other initiatives, the implementation of the “Police +” programme, which is aimed at preventing all forms of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment by supporting the professionalization of the national police and the establishment of pilot police stations.

36. Within the framework of the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States of the other part (Cotonou Agreement), of 23 June 2000, the Congo, the European Union and the ambassadors of the States members of the European Union have set up a mechanism for exchanges known as the sectoral dialogue on justice and human rights. Sessions of the sectoral dialogue have been held regularly: on 18 April 2018, 7 May 2019, 8 July 2021, 23 June 2022 and 21 June 2023.

37. On 7 September 2022, the Congo signed a protocol of understanding with the Embassy of France in the Congo and Expertise France SAS, for the implementation of FSPI-Justice, a project to strengthen the criminal justice system and access to the law in the Congo.

38. This project is aimed at building the capacity of actors in the criminal justice system. A total of 28 deputy public prosecutors at the Brazzaville court of major jurisdiction (*tribunal de grande instance*), 4 criminal division presidents, the president of the Brazzaville court of major jurisdiction, 8 court clerks and 5 prison staff have received training under the project. The topics covered were penalties enforcement, referral to a trial court and criminal court hearings.

39. Since 2018, cooperation with the Embassy of the United States of America has enabled the training of 68 judicial and other public officials, notably in the fields of combating corruption, trafficking in persons, exploitation, illegal logging and illegal mining, and border wildlife inspection. Civil society actors also participated.

40. Collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has enabled 147 judicial officials, 20 gendarmes, 10 customs officers and 2 officers of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to build their capacity in wildlife and cross-border crime. A further 20 judicial officials were trained in maritime safety.

41. At the regional level, cooperation between the Congo and African human rights mechanisms is also excellent.

42. In June 2020, the Congo submitted its periodic report on the African Women's Decade and, in November 2020, its second, third and fourth reports on the implementation of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. On 31 May 2023, the Congo submitted its report on the implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol).

III. Promotion and protection of human rights

A. Respect for gender equity, gender equality and elimination of violence against women

43. Specific measures are regularly taken to promote gender issues and eliminate all forms of gender-based discrimination, and to outlaw domestic violence and all forms of trafficking in persons, especially women and children.

44. To this end, the following texts have been adopted:

- Act No. 4-2010 of 14 June 2010 on child protection
- Act No. 3-2014 of 14 February 2014 authorizing ratification of the Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption
- Act No. 22-2019 of 17 June 2019 on combating trafficking in persons
- Act No. 10-2022 of 20 April 2022 establishing the Prison Code
- Act No. 19-2022 of 4 May 2022, the Mouebarara Act, on combating violence against women
- Act No. 1-2023 of 21 February 2023 establishing the Mouebarara Shelter and Centre for the Reintegration of Women and Girl Victims of Violence
- Decree 2022-1949 of 30 December 2022 approving the National Action Plan for the Implementation in the Congo of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security (2018–2022)

45. A preliminary bill on parity is in the process of being adopted.

46. Overall, many activities have been conducted to promote and protect women's rights, including:

- Implementation of the National Strategy to Combat Gender-based Violence (2021–2025)
- Building of the capacity of law enforcement officers (police officers and gendarmes) and judicial officials to deal with victims of violence against women and girls⁴
- Training of female judicial officials from the Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire, Dolisie, Owando and Ouesso courts of appeal on domestic violence, in April 2021
- Building of the capacity of judicial officials and senior law enforcement officers on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

- Training of judicial officials and other staff of courts under the responsibility of the Pointe-Noire and Dolisie courts of appeal on the Mouebarra Act on combating violence against women, on 1 and 2 December 2022
- Holding of training courses in February and June 2023 for 160 criminal justice system actors and social workers on dealing with victims of violence against women
- Training of staff responsible for the reception and care of victims on the exercise by women and girls of their rights, an average of 100 persons per year over the period 2019–2022, with the support of UNFPA, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the AVSI Foundation and Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
- Drawing up of guidelines for national police interventions in the management of gender-based violence, and framing of prevention and response
- Development of a training guide for national police officers on the management of gender-based violence
- Revision of the code of ethics of the national police
- Development of the third-generation National Gender Policy

47. From 2019 to 2022, the Government undertook, with the support of UNFPA, the AVSI Foundation,⁵ the National Civil Service and Judiciary Training School,⁶ the French Development Agency (AFD),⁷ UNICEF⁸ and CRS,⁹ to build the capacity of comprehensive care units for victims of violence, through the recruitment and training of lawyers, psychologists and other staff,

48. Under the National Development Plan 2022–2026, initiatives have been carried out to support farming and market gardening partnerships, sewing workshops and hairdressing salons for women.¹⁰

49. The measures that have been taken concerned the distribution of sewing, hairdressing and agricultural processing equipment. Some 1,730 women have received market gardening and catering kits, 207 have benefited from professional equipment in 19 areas of activity,¹¹ 623 have been supported in income-generating activities, hotel trades, cutting and sewing, and entrepreneurial leadership,¹² and 120 have been trained in cassava agrofood processing techniques.¹³

50. On 29 April 2023, the Women’s Mutual Savings and Loan was established in Madingo-Kayes, in Kouilou Department. The fund currently has 308 members.

51. Awareness-raising campaigns have been launched to encourage women’s involvement in national politics. Through these campaigns, 1,036 women candidates for various elections (legislative, senatorial and local) have been trained.

52. Regarding women’s involvement in decision-making in the Congo, they constitute 22 per cent of the Government, 30.55 per cent¹⁴ of the Senate, 16.55 per cent of the National Assembly, 33.3 per cent of the Constitutional Court, 25 per cent of the High Court of Justice, 52 per cent of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, 40 per cent of the National Human Rights Commission, 25 per cent of the Advisory Council for Persons with Disabilities, 19.44 per cent of departmental councils and 20.85 per cent of municipal councils.

53. The percentage of female judicial officials has risen from 27.7 to 47 per cent since the last session of the High Council of the Judiciary was held on 27 March 2023.

54. According to the most recent audit of public employees, women make up 49 per cent of such employees.

55. Two women are presidents of institutions established under the Constitution (the Economic, Social and Environmental Council and the Women’s Advisory Council).

56. A woman has been elected mayor of Pointe-Noire, the country’s economic capital and second largest city.

57. At the last meeting of the High Council of the Judiciary, a woman was appointed Procurator General of the court of appeal in Brazzaville, the capital of the Congo.

58. Out of a total of 12 prefects in the Congo, 2 are women.

59. The Congo is firmly committed to implementing multilevel strategies to build women's scientific and administrative capacities and promote the achievements of women and girls in science. This initiative is in line with the strategic directions set out in the National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, in particular those relating to the boosting of the store of publicly beneficial scientific and technical knowledge. It is raising awareness among women and girls of the need to invest in scientific training and careers. In the long term, this overall objective will make it possible to turn round current statistics and promote a gender approach.

60. To that end, the following initiatives have been taken:

- Identification of Congolese women scientists (65 women)
- Celebration of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science on 11 February each year
- Establishment of the national section of the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World, an institution attached to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- Participation of women scientists in international training programmes in the United States
- Participation of women in science in activities to raise awareness of and popularize scientific careers among young female high school students; in 2023, 500 girls were trained and educated by women scientists in Pointe-Noire, Loudima, Brazzaville, Oyo and Ouesso

B. Promotion and protection of children's rights

61. With a view to constantly improving the situation of children, the Congo has ratified the following international legal instruments, among others:

- The ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, on 23 August 2002
- The Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery, on 25 August 1977
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child, on 13 November 2013
- The Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, on 25 August 1977
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, on 26 July 1982
- The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, on 12 March 2012
- The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, on 24 September 2010
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, on 27 October 2009

62. At the national level, Act No. 4-2010 of 14 June 2010 on child protection ensures the protection of the rights of all children without discrimination. Administering corporal punishment to discipline or correct a child is prohibited under article 53 of this law.

63. Article 39 of the Constitution of 25 October 2015 provides that all children, without discrimination, have the right to such measures of protection on the part of their families, society and the State as are required by their status.

64. On 10 December 2015, the Strategic Framework for the Strengthening of the National Child Protection System was adopted. This framework provides for the establishment of a coordinating and monitoring mechanism in the field of children's rights, bringing together all stakeholders at the central, departmental and community levels.

65. To bolster existing policies aimed at promoting and protecting children's rights, in 2016 the Congo signed the 2030 Agenda.

66. Since the third cycle of the universal period review, the Congo has drawn up two national development plans, for 2018–2022 and 2022–2026. The National Development Plan 2022–2026, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, serves as a framework for operationalizing all national policies and strategies related to childhood.

67. In addition, the National Policy for Social Action, revised on 28 June 2023, is contributing to the strengthening of the national child protection system.

68. With technical and financial support from UNHCR,¹⁵ the Congo has taken action to protect and assist refugee and asylum-seeking children, through the following measures:

- Facilitation of access to schools
- Construction of school buildings, equipping of classrooms with desks, supplying of textbooks and distribution of school kits to over 7,000 pupils
- Establishment of local civil registration centres and training of civil registrars
- Organization of seven awareness-raising workshops on the birth registration system and the prevention of statelessness in Likouala, Pool, Plateaux, Pointe-Noire, Brazzaville and Niari Departments

69. The authorities have set up a civic education and social reintegration project for young school dropouts in Aubeville,¹⁶ which is aimed at combating juvenile delinquency – such as the appearance of street gangs known as “*bébés noirs*” (black babies) – through general and civic education, as well as job training.

C. Promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable groups

1. Refugees

70. In the Congo, the right to asylum is guaranteed by the Constitution of 25 October 2015, Act No. 29-2017 of 7 August 2017 amending Act No. 23-96 of 6 June 1996 establishing the conditions under which foreign nationals may enter, reside in and depart from the Congo and Act No. 41-2021 of 29 September 2021 on the right of asylum and refugee status.

71. The Congo has an institutional framework for implementing its refugee protection and assistance policy. This institutional framework includes the National Committee for Assistance to Refugees, the Refugee Status Eligibility Commission and the Refugee Appeals Commission.

72. Actions to protect and assist refugees have been carried out with the support of UNHCR. For example, in the context of the implementation of the cessation clause for Rwandan refugees, in 2019 the Congolese authorities undertook the evaluation of exemption requests throughout Congolese territory. A total of 842 Rwandan refugees were exempted. A further 10 non-exempt refugees were granted residence permits to facilitate their integration into the community.

2. Persons with disabilities

73. Since 2014, the Congo has ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto.

74. The Advisory Council for Persons with Disabilities was established under article 234 of the Constitution of 25 October 2015.

75. Article 31 of the Constitution provides that “older persons and persons with disabilities are entitled to protective measures to meet their physical, moral and other needs so that they can thrive under the conditions determined by law. The State has a duty to promote the representation of persons with disabilities in national and local institutions and administrations.”

76. Act No. 009/92 of 22 April 1992 on the status, protection and advancement of persons with disabilities was an earlier step in the same direction. The Government has launched a reform of this law in order to reflect subsequent developments in the field of disability rights, particularly since the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in February 2014.

77. National policies on social action include protection for persons with disabilities.

78. The Government has adopted a strategy for the inclusion of persons with disabilities. This strategy provides, among other actions, for schooling and literacy education for children with disabilities.

79. With this in mind, the Government has undertaken to implement a range of measures to help integrate students with disabilities into the formal education system. At present, 2,526 students with disabilities attend mainstream schools.

80. A national vocational rehabilitation centre for persons with disabilities has been set up to promote skills training for those persons.

81. The Congo has structures for the specialized education of persons with disabilities, namely the Institute for Deaf Youth, the National Institute for Blind Persons, the Institute for Hard-of-Hearing Persons, the Institute for Psychoeducation and the Special School.

82. For several years, the Government has been carrying out a range of activities for persons with disabilities, including: the construction of access ramps in public establishments in Brazzaville, Cuvette Ouest, Pool and Niari Departments; the functional rehabilitation of persons with disabilities in functional rehabilitation centres; and the manufacture of orthopaedic and functional rehabilitation equipment at the National Centre for Orthopaedic Appliances in Brazzaville.

83. Special measures are taken for persons with albinism.

84. In legal terms, persons with albinism enjoy the same rights as all other Congolese citizens. The Government is endeavouring to take specific measures to prevent them from being marginalized and stigmatized.

85. Other measures concern better access to appropriate care. They include ophthalmological consultations, screening for precancerous lesions and the distribution of skin protection kits.

3. Indigenous Peoples

86. The national policy of promoting and protecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples is enshrined in the Constitution of 25 October 2015¹⁷ and Act No. 5-2011 of 25 February 2011 on the promotion and protection of Indigenous Peoples’ rights.

87. Since 2019, implementing regulations for this law have been adopted. A total of six decrees have been issued, as follows:

- Decree No. 2019-199 of 12 July 2019 introducing special measures for granting civil status documents to Indigenous Peoples
- Decree No. 2019-200 of 12 July 2019 on the modalities for protecting the cultural property, sacred sites and spiritual sites of Indigenous Peoples
- Decree No. 2019-201 of 12 July 2019 on the procedure for the consultation and participation of Indigenous Peoples in socioeconomic development projects and programmes

- Decree No. 2019-202 of 12 July 2019 specifying special measures to facilitate access to health and social services for Indigenous Peoples and to protect their pharmacopoeia
- Decree No. 2019-203 of 12 July 2019 on the composition and operating procedures of the Interministerial Committee for Monitoring and Evaluating the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Decree No. 2019-204 of 12 July 2019 introducing special measures to facilitate access to education for Indigenous children and literacy for adults

88. With the support of its technical and financial partners, the Government developed a national strategy on Indigenous issues. The strategy resulted in the National Action Plan to Improve the Quality of Life of Indigenous Peoples for the period 2022–2025.

89. The Plan includes activities relating to access for Indigenous Peoples to education, health, property, a healthy environment, work and social security, mapping of their lands and territories, a census of Indigenous Peoples, protection of their culture and pharmacopoeia, civil and political rights, prior and informed consultation of Indigenous Peoples with a view to obtaining their consent, and income-generating activities.

90. From 2020 to 2023, 7,928 Indigenous children received birth certificates free of charge and over 1,000 Indigenous citizens aged 18 and over received national identity cards.

91. Over the same period, 14,750 Indigenous children, including 7,456 girls, were enrolled in school.

92. Pursuant to Decree No. 2023-133 of 5 May 2023 on the appointment of judicial officials, an Indigenous woman was named deputy public prosecutor at the Brazzaville court of major jurisdiction.

93. At the last local elections, in 2022, two Indigenous persons were elected departmental councillors, in Sangha and Likouala.

94. Specific measures have been taken to integrate Indigenous persons into the public administration. In 2023, 16 Indigenous persons were recruited into public employment, including two midwives in Sibiti and Impfondo respectively. Indigenous persons are regularly recruited into the national police and gendarmerie during law enforcement agency recruitment drives.

95. At present, over 400 Indigenous young people are working at forestry companies and in protected areas in Sangha and Likouala Departments.

96. Pursuant to Decree No. 2023–80 of 7 March 2023, an Indigenous man was elevated to the rank of knight in the Congolese Order of Devotion for his work on the advancement of Indigenous women.

97. From 8 to 12 May 2023, the Congo hosted the First Subregional Forum of Indigenous and Local Community Women in Central Africa.

98. Prior to the implementation of certain projects, such as the project to create the Messok-Dja protected area and the Bateke carbon sink project, consultations were held and the free, prior and informed consent of the Indigenous Peoples concerned by these projects was obtained.

D. Economic, social and cultural rights

99. The National Development Plan 2022–2026 incorporates the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 of the African Union. It also takes into account regional and subregional programmes, notably those of the African Continental Free Trade Area and the Economic and Financial Reform Programme of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community.

100. The National Development Plan, which is valued at over CFAF 8,000 billion, is enabling the implementation of a public investment programme comprising over 300 projects that contribute to job creation and poverty reduction.

101. Within the framework of the National Development Plan, the Government is taking action to improve the quality of health services by providing health centres with appropriate equipment, medicines and human resources. It is also seeking to decentralize medical laboratories to enable mass screening and rapid treatment of patients. These measures are part of the national health policy.

102. For several years, the Government has been implementing projects to promote maternal and child health. These projects have considerably reduced the maternal and child mortality rate, which has fallen from 23 to 9 per cent in health facilities.

103. To increase the capacity of public health services, the Government has opened two general hospitals, in Brazzaville¹⁸ and Pointe-Noire,¹⁹ trained 295 doctors in Cuba, recruited 3,000 health workers and upgraded the technical infrastructure²⁰ of integrated health centres in all the country's departments since 2019.

104. As part of the fight against HIV/AIDS, the mother-to-child transmission rate was reduced to 18 per cent in 2020, compared with 19 per cent in the period 2015–2020.

105. Several strategies have been developed to combat maternal and child mortality, including: the 2018–2025 roadmap for accelerating the reduction of maternal and child mortality, the 2016–2020 plan for the repositioning of family planning and the 2018–2022 and 2022–2026 integrated strategic plans for reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health.

106. Between 2005 and 2017, maternal mortality was halved.

107. The immunization coverage rate is currently 62 per cent.

108. The Government has implemented the Ebotelli and Kobikissa projects²¹ in Sangha, Lékoumou, Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire and Kouilou Departments. These projects are aimed at improving public health provision for women and children.

109. The Government is also working to improve the education system.

110. To this end, it has adopted the National Policy for Integrated Early Childhood Development 2022–2030, the National Strategy for Girls' Enrolment and the sectoral education strategy 2021–2030.

111. The programmes put in place enabled 15,628 people to become literate in 2018, according to the National Institute of Statistics. The World Bank estimates the literacy rate in the Congo at 82.05 per cent, including 49.38 per cent of young women.

112. Between 2019 and 2022, the Government recruited 6,239 teachers, including 1,357 technical and vocational education teachers and 4,882 general education teachers.

113. The Congolese State guarantees the right of all children to education and equal access to instruction and training. Between 2018 and 2023, built various school infrastructure was built, including 29 classrooms for technical and vocational education in rural areas, an upper secondary school in Lékana and a preschool education centre in Gamboma, the Tchikampika, Gang-Obi, Inkouélé and Mossaka upper secondary schools, dormitories at the upper secondary school in Bétou and lower secondary schools in Engana and Loukoléla.

114. Considerable progress has also been made in building sports facilities in schools. As at 2021, 89 per cent of schools had sports facilities.

115. In higher education, the establishment of Denis Sassou-Nguesso University and the development of the private sector in higher education have led to a remarkable improvement in the education and training on offer in the country through the diversification of courses of study, thus enabling the training of human resources adapted to market needs.

116. The authorities have launched construction work at the University of Loango in Kouilou Department.

117. In terms of road infrastructure construction, several projects have been completed since 2018:

- Upgrading and asphaltting of the 143 km Sembé-Souanké-Ntam road²²
- Upgrading and asphaltting of the first 50 km of the Dolisie-Kibangou road, including the building of bridges over the Louvakou and Niari Rivers
- Building of a mixed-structure bridge over the Likouala-Mossaka River at Etoumbi
- Asphaltting of the Raged slip road, which links National Road No.2 (RN2) to the second northern exit from Brazzaville, over a distance of about 2 km
- Widening and reinforcement of the RN2 on the Djiri-ingah, Etsouali-Ngo, Ngo-Oyonfoula and Gamboma-Ollombo sections, over a total length of 75 km
- Raising of the access embankment of the bridge over the Léfini River (1,480 km) and the Gamboma crossing (600 m)

118. Other projects under way include construction of the Dolisie-Doussala-Ndendé road, completion of asphaltting work on the Ewo-Boundji road, upgrading and asphaltting of the Ouesso-Pokola road, including the bridge over the Sangha, upgrading and asphaltting of access roads to the new military barracks, treatment of erosion and landslides, and maintenance and rehabilitation of national and departmental roads.

119. The authorities have implemented an urban development and rehabilitation project for deprived neighbourhoods²³ in target districts of Brazzaville (Soukissa and Moukondzi Ngouaka) and Pointe-Noire (Mboukou and Tchiniambi).

120. In the field of energy production, numerous projects have been completed:²⁴

- Construction and assembly of a 3.4 MW thermal power plant in Impfondo (Likouala)
- Rehabilitation of the generators at the 25 MW Djéno gas-fired power plant
- The addition of a generator to the power plant, for a total output of 300+184 MW
- Construction of a medium- and low-voltage line for Mpila District (Brazzaville)
- Construction of the Liouesso hydroelectric power plant with a capacity of 19.9 MW, to supply the towns of Ouesso and Mokeko in Sangha Department
- Electrification of Ngoulonkila, Lékana, Lagué and Loango
- Continued electrification of the city of Pointe-Noire

121. In the water sector, the authorities have extended the drinking water distribution networks in Brazzaville, connecting neighbourhoods far from the city centre to the water supply system.²⁵

122. As part of efforts to implement the National Development Plan 2022–2026, the Government is further strengthening access to basic social services.

123. To this end, several projects aimed at reducing poverty have been launched, notably the Lisungui and Telema projects²⁶ and the Skills Development for Employment Project.

124. Under the Lisungui project, the Government has made conditional cash transfers to selected poor households, provided free health care to selected individuals, provided vocational training for young people from disadvantaged families and granted financing to women for income-generating projects.

125. A total of 5,170 households have received conditional cash transfers; 7,908 households have received financing for their business projects; 19,522 households have benefited from free health care; 824 young people have been placed in training in workshops and training centres in Likouala Department; and 184 primary school teachers have received support.

126. The Telema project has promoted the sustainable economic and social integration of vulnerable populations. Since December 2022, it has financed 580 projects for that purpose.

127. As part of efforts to combat COVID-19, the Telema project has supported around 6,000 persons (children and older people) through the distribution of food and non-food items in Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire and Pool Departments; in addition, awareness-raising campaigns have been conducted reaching 878,337 persons throughout the country.

128. As at January 2023, the main achievements of the Skills Development for Employment Project were providing vocational training, facilitating workplace integration and supporting entrepreneurship and micro-entrepreneurship projects for vulnerable young people. Under the Project, 510 young people in Brazzaville and 602 in Pointe-Noire have received training over a period of six months. Some 174 young people in Brazzaville and 344 in Pointe-Noire have benefited from nine-month training courses. A total of 461 young people have received training in agribusiness, digital technology and carpentry. In the agribusiness sector, 125 young people in Brazzaville and 199 in Pointe-Noire have been trained. In the digital sector, 50 young people in Brazzaville and 46 in Pointe-Noire have received training. In the carpentry sector, training has been provided for 28 young people in Brazzaville and 14 in Pointe-Noire.

129. To address the issue of youth employability, the Government has created the National Employment and Training Fund (FONEA)²⁷ and the Congolese Employment Agency.²⁸

130. Since the Fund's establishment on 9 April 2019, 4,904 young people have been trained and placed in employment, from 2021 to 2023.

131. In pursuit of its policy of strengthening financial inclusion, the Government has set up a fund to promote, guarantee and support very small, small and medium-sized businesses and craftspeople (FIGA), which is a public support structure.

132. Since 2019, when it was established,²⁹ the Fund has promoted 4,541 businesses, provided guarantees for 100 businesses and supported 15 businesses in various sectors of activity.

133. The Government has embarked on a determined strategy for the deployment of very high-speed telecommunications infrastructure; this strategy is structured around the project to create a national fibre-optic backbone (national coverage project) and its interconnection with neighbouring countries (CAB-CIT CG project) and with the global fibre-optic network (WACS submarine cable project).

E. Respect for human rights in the administration of justice and the prison system

134. To bring justice closer to the people, the policy of training judicial officials is being pursued.

135. A total of 328 judicial officials were trained between 2019 and 2022 and are now working in the various courts.

136. Some 46 legal trainees are awaiting assignment at the end of their studies.

137. Another 471 legal trainees are receiving instruction at the National Civil Service and Judiciary Training School in Brazzaville.

138. Since 2018, regular criminal court sessions have been organized.³⁰

139. Convictions have been handed down against perpetrators of acts of torture.

140. Police officers and gendarmes involved in several cases of torture and ill-treatment resulting in death have been tried and sentenced. In March 2018, three police officers were handed sentences of 20 years' hard labour, 5 years' imprisonment and 6 months' imprisonment, respectively, by the Pointe-Noire criminal court.

141. Six police officers found guilty of offences related to the Chacona incident, which occurred in July 2018, including the Chacona police commissioner and deputy commissioner, were handed sentences of between 12 months' and 3 years' imprisonment by the Brazzaville court of major jurisdiction. The victims' families have received compensation.³¹

142. In another case, in which police officers were caught carrying out acts of torture under a viaduct bridge, resulting in one death, the Brazzaville court of appeal, in a decision dated 9 February 2022, ordered the Congolese State to pay CFAF 230 million to the victims. Two police auxiliary personnel were acquitted and five others sentenced to 10 years' hard labour.

143. With regard to the violations and acts of sexual exploitation allegedly committed in the context of peacekeeping operations by members of the Congolese contingents assigned to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) in Bossangoa, Boali, Mambéré and Bangui,³² legal proceedings were initiated against the accused soldiers, based on the conclusions of national investigations.

144. For example, the legal proceedings brought in response to the alleged enforced disappearance of 12 people arrested on 14 March 2014 in Boali resulted in the conviction of the unit's operational commander and three of his subordinates, who were sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment by the Brazzaville criminal court on 9 February 2022.

145. On 5 July 2023, in a case brought by the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Congolese State against Congolese and foreign nationals charged with corruption, forgery of public documents and complicity in corruption and forgery of public documents, the criminal division of the Supreme Court handed down convictions against the former Mayor of Loandjili, the President of the Loandjili district court and the Loandjili town clerk.³³

146. The Government pays particular attention to conditions of detention. In response to the issues of overcrowding and lack of separation of inmates, and problems with hygiene and health in prisons, a vast prison rehabilitation and construction project has been launched throughout the country. This project has enabled the rehabilitation of the local prisons at Pointe-Noire and Dolisie, the construction of a local prison at Impfondo in Likouala Department and the construction, in 2020, of an annex building for the local prison at Ouessou in Sangha Department.

147. This project continued in 2023 with the construction of local prisons at Madingou, Djambala and Gamboma, as well as the rehabilitation of the local prisons at Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire, Dolisie, Sibiti and Ewo.³⁴ A budget line of CFAF 2 billion has been included in the 2023 budget to pursue construction work at the Owando prison complex³⁵ in Cuvette Department.

148. With support from the NGO Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT), the Congo published a manual on the judicial safeguards enjoyed by detainees.

149. Following the entry into force of the Prison Code, in 2022 the Government began training prison staff at the National Civil Service and Judiciary Training School. Currently 113 employees are in training.

F. Good governance, combating corruption and promoting peace

150. The Government has embarked on a programme of reforms to improve the country's legal and regulatory framework in the areas of governance, combating corruption and promoting peace.

151. With these aims in mind, the following laws have been adopted:

- Act No. 13-2005 of 14 September 2005 authorizing ratification of the United Nations Convention against Corruption
- Act No. 10-2017 of 9 March 2017 establishing the Code relating to Transparency and Accountability in Public Financial Management
- Act No. 3-2019 of 7 February 2019 establishing the High Authority to Combat Corruption
- Act No. 4-2019 of 7 February 2019 on the obligation of citizens elected or appointed to high public office to declare assets, and its implementing regulations

- Act No. 18-2019 of 24 May 2019 on the establishment of the National Commission for Transparency and Accountability in Public Financial Management
- Act No. 9-2022 of 11 March 2022 on preventing and combating corruption and related offences

152. Several institutions contribute to the implementation of government policy in these areas, including:

- The Court of Audit and Budgetary Discipline
- The High Authority to Combat Corruption³⁶
- The National Commission for Transparency and Accountability in Public Financial Management
- The State Inspectorate General
- The Inspectorate General for Finance
- The Inspectorate General for Courts and Judicial Services
- The Directorate General for Public Procurement Oversight
- The High Commission for the Reintegration of Ex-Combatants

153. Efforts to stamp out unethical behaviour have also involved the prosecution and conviction of several high-profile figures, such as the Director General of Public Procurement Oversight³⁷ and the former mayor of Brazzaville.³⁸

154. By a decision of 7 December 2018, the criminal division of the Supreme Court convicted five people, including a Supreme Court judge, a notary and a lawyer, of breach of trust and concealment.

155. The last ordinary session of the High Council of the Judiciary, held on 27 March 2023, handed down penalties against certain judicial officials for acts constituting serious breaches of the duties of their office. Nine judicial officials, including the Procurator General of the Brazzaville court of appeal, were dismissed; three judicial officials were demoted; and two had certain functions withdrawn. Nine other judicial officials received a reprimand with an entry on their files.

156. The Congo regularly takes steps to improve its governance. Thus, of 15 measures relating to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Standard 2016, it has secured the implementation of 6:

- Strengthening of the financial management information system³⁹
- Strengthening of the forest economy information system⁴⁰
- Strengthening of the customs information system
- Establishment of the system for monitoring payment of State receivables⁴¹
- Signing of the Congo 2018 EITI final report
- Validation of the Congo 2019 EITI report by the EITI National Executive Committee in 2021

157. Measures have also been taken to promote democratic governance and transparency, including:

- Enshrinement in the Constitution of 25 October 2015 of party pluralism
- Introduction of a single ballot
- Establishment of a requirement for a minimum of 30 per cent of candidates nominated by political parties for legislative, senatorial and local elections to be women
- Creation of an independent national electoral commission
- Putting in place in 2009 of a framework for pre-electoral political consultations⁴²

158. The promotion of good governance is also guaranteed by the High Council for Freedom of Communication. Among other things, this body is responsible for ensuring pluralism in public broadcasting. It regularly organizes citizens' meetings on communication during electoral periods, involving civil society, political parties and groups.

159. As part of efforts to implement the Kinkala Agreement,⁴³ the Congo has undertaken a disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme, with technical and financial support from the United Nations, the United States and Japan.

160. There are 20,000 beneficiaries of the programme, including 7,500 ex-combatants, along with 2,500 associate members and 10,000 members of host communities.

161. It includes measures for the reintegration of ex-combatants and for the socioeconomic inclusion of beneficiaries.

162. Ultimately, it will make it possible to:

- Collect weapons of war
- Put in place community reintegration mechanisms
- Finance projects of socioeconomic benefit

IV. Concluding remarks

163. Having endorsed the universal periodic review mechanism since its establishment, the Congo recognizes its importance for the promotion and protection of human rights globally.

164. By so doing, it has demonstrated its support for all States in monitoring the implementation of the recommendations they have accepted.

165. Beyond the formal framework of the review, the Congo will continue its dialogue with national institutions, civil society and the various actors working in the field of human rights.

166. The Congo, which is determined to pursue its efforts to improve the human rights situation on the ground, remains faithful to its international obligations and commitments with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights.

167. Taking into account the basic measures that have been adopted to implement the various recommendations, and the challenges that remain to be overcome to ensure the effective protection of human rights, the Congo will request technical support from the international community where necessary.

V. Views of civil society organizations

168. In conclusion, civil society organizations are pleased to have taken part, alongside the permanent secretariat of the Advisory Council of Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations, in the working group tasked with assessing the implementation by the public authorities of the recommendations that ensued from the third universal periodic review.

169. They welcome the efforts made to implement the recommendations arising from Human Rights Council resolution 16/21.

170. They urge the Government to make greater efforts in the implementation of all measures that will help to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights by the entire population.

171. They welcome:

- The establishment of the framework for exchanges and dialogue between the ministry responsible for justice and human rights and civil society organizations working in the field of human rights, pursuant to an agreement signed in February 2019, and suggest that this space for dialogue could function more optimally
- The signing of Decree No. 2022-63 of 11 February 2022 appointing the members of the Advisory Council of Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations, which allowed for the holding of sessions of the Council

- The joint organization by the ministry responsible for justice and human rights and human rights NGOs of significant activities such as the celebrations to mark 10 December

172. They regret:

- The lack of a specific legal framework for the protection of human rights defenders
- The underrepresentation of women in decision-making bodies

Notes

- ¹ La matrice de la mise en œuvre des recommandations, élaborée au cours du troisième cycle de l'Examen Périodique Universel, est un document qui fixe les objectifs à atteindre, la période d'exécution des activités à réaliser, détermine les moyens et les acteurs impliqués : institutions étatiques (ministères, parlement), commission nationale des droits de l'homme, société civile, partenaires bilatéraux et multilatéraux, et indique les coûts et les sources de financement des activités prévues.
- ² La classification thématique a été faite, avec la participation du Haut-commissariat des Nations-Unies aux droits de l'homme, en fonction des institutions et administrations auxquelles renvoyait chaque recommandation.
- ³ Il s'agit du code pénal, du code de procédure pénale, du code des personnes et de la famille, du code civil, du code de procédure civile et commerciale, du code de procédure administrative et financière et du code de l'organisation juridictionnelle. Tous ces avant-projets de codes se trouvent actuellement dans le circuit d'approbation au niveau du Gouvernement.
- ⁴ cf. les rapports pays pour les cycles 1,2 et 3 de l'EPU.
- ⁵ Association des Volontaires pour le Service International.
- ⁶ Ecole nationale d'administration et de magistrature de Brazzaville / Ecole nationale de magistrature de Bordeaux.
- ⁷ Agence française de développement.
- ⁸ Fonds des Nations unies pour l'enfance.
- ⁹ Catholic Relief Services.
- ¹⁰ En effet, concernant le soutien aux Activités Génératrices de Revenus (AGR), facteur d'autonomisation de la femme, de nombreuses actions de soutien ont été réalisées sur l'ensemble du territoire national.
- ¹¹ Les femmes bénéficiaires ont été appuyées dans les branches suivantes : mécanique, cyber café, restauration, maraîchage et couture.
- ¹² Les bénéficiaires ont été identifiés à Brazzaville et Pointe-Noire avec l'appui de la Commission nationale de l'UNESCO, du PNUD, de LEB Congo et de JOKKOLABS Congo.
- ¹³ Les bénéficiaires ont été identifiés dans les départements du Pool et du Niari en 2022, ceci avec l'appui du PAM.
- ¹⁴ L'on est passé de 8 femmes sénatrices en 2002 à 22 femmes en 2023.
- ¹⁵ Haut-commissariat aux réfugiés.
- ¹⁶ Les sites d'Odziba dans le département du Pool, Bokania et Otsendé dans le département de la Cuvette ont également été identifiés.
- ¹⁷ L'article 16 de la Constitution dispose : « La loi garantit et assure la promotion et la protection des droits des peuples autochtones ».
- ¹⁸ Le 15 décembre 2021. Cet hôpital a une capacité d'accueil de 210 lits, 13 services cliniques et paracliniques et 5 services techniques.
- ¹⁹ Le 21 janvier 2022. Cet hôpital a une capacité d'accueil de 200 lits.
- ²⁰ Les plateaux techniques ont été mis à niveau à la faveur des mesures urgentes de lutte contre la Covid-19.
- ²¹ Plan national de développement sanitaire 2018-2022.
- ²² C'est le 2^e module de la route d'intégration régionale Ketta (au Congo)- Djoum (au Cameroun).
- ²³ Les travaux réalisés ont concerné entre autres l'aménagement par pavage de 28 kilomètres de voiries ; la construction des 2 marchés domaniaux de Soukissa, à Brazzaville, et Tchiniambi, à Pointe-Noire ; la réhabilitation de 3 complexes scolaires.
- ²⁴ D'autres sont en cours de réalisation à l'instar de la construction de la ligne Oyo-Mossaka ; l'électrification d'Alembé et des localités riveraines ; l'électrification de la zone et du parc-industriel de Maloukou ; l'électrification rurale.
- ²⁵ Il s'agit des quartiers suivants : Bilolo-Académie, Itatolo, Makabandilou, Impoh-Manianga, Massengo 3 poteaux, Mayanga, Ngamporo, Nkombo, Sadelmi et Soprogi. La République du Congo a également procédé à la construction des forages d'eau (notamment à Komono et à Allembé) en vue de doter certaines localités d'un système d'adduction d'eau potable.

- ²⁶ Ces projets intègrent la politique nationale de l'action sociale.
- ²⁷ Loi n° 8-2019 du 9 avril 2019 portant création du fonds national d'appui à l'employabilité et à l'apprentissage.
- ²⁸ Loi n° 7-2019 du 9 avril 2019 portant création de l'agence congolaise pour l'emploi.
- ²⁹ Loi n° 23-2019 du 5 juillet 2019 portant création du fonds d'impulsion, de garantie et d'accompagnement des très petites, petites et moyennes entreprises et de l'artisanat.
- ³⁰ Les sessions criminelles se sont tenues en mars 2018, avril 2019, décembre 2019, janvier 2020, 2022 et juillet 2023.
- ³¹ Décision rendue par le tribunal de grande instance de Brazzaville en date du 8 mars 2019.
- ³² Ces cas ont été notifiés au Gouvernement de la République du Congo par le secrétariat des Nations-Unies.
- ³³ Les peines ont varié entre 18 mois et 5 ans d'emprisonnement ferme assorties de fortes amendes.
- ³⁴ Le Gouvernement de la République envisage la construction de deux autres complexes pénitentiaires dans les zones centre et sud, notamment à Ignié dans département du pool et à Hinda dans le département du Kouilou.
- ³⁵ Avec une capacité maximale de plus de mille (1000) places, ce complexe une fois achevé, pourra non seulement apporter une solution définitive au problème de surpopulation carcérale auquel sont confrontées les maisons d'arrêt de Brazzaville et de Pointe-Noire, mais aussi et surtout aura l'avantage d'améliorer fondamentalement les conditions de détention dans les établissements pénitentiaires.
- ³⁶ Aux termes de la loi n°03-2019 du 7 février 2019, la HALC a le pouvoir de s'autosaisir, et peut, par conséquent, entreprendre des enquêtes et des investigations dans tous les secteurs de l'Etat. Elle peut par ailleurs, dans le cadre des enquêtes et investigations sur les cas de corruption, obtenir des informations auprès des organismes internationaux avec lesquels le Congo a conclu des accords judiciaires ou diplomatiques.
- ³⁷ Arrêt de la Cour criminelle rendu le 23 janvier 2019.
- ³⁸ Arrêt de la Cour criminelle n°003 du 18 juillet 2020.
- ³⁹ Ce système permet, entre autres, de tracer les recettes publiques pétrolières et non pétrolières.
- ⁴⁰ Ce système a été renforcé par la mise en place du système de la vérification de la légalité (SVL).
- ⁴¹ Ce système est une plateforme web qui permet aux sociétés exerçant dans les secteurs liés aux ressources naturelles (bois, mines et pétrole) d'enregistrer leurs déclarations périodiques en ligne. Il permet également d'autonomiser certaines tâches de l'administration afin d'assurer une meilleure sécurisation des recettes et un bon suivi des paiements au profit de l'Etat.
- ⁴² La dernière en date est celle qui a eu lieu du 3 au 6 mars 2022 à Owando, prélude aux élections législatives du 24 juillet 2022.
- ⁴³ Il s'agit de l'Accord de cessez le feu et de cessation des hostilités du 23 décembre 2017 mettant fin à la crise post-électorale dans le département du Pool.
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