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Agenda item 1
Organizational and procedural matters

Report of the Human Rights Council on its twenty-seventh session

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Contents

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Part One: Resolutions, decisions and President's statements adopted by the Human Rights Council at its twenty-seventh session.....		4
I. Resolutions.....		4
II. Decisions.....		5
III. President's statements.....		6
Part Two: Summary of proceedings.....	1–1032	7
I. Organizational and procedural matters.....	1–37	7
A. Opening and duration of the session.....	1–3	7
B. Attendance.....	4	7
C. Agenda and programme of work.....	5–6	7
D. Organization of work.....	7–11	7
E. Meetings and documentation.....	12–13	8
F. Visits.....	14–16	8
G. Election of members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee.....	17–19	9
H. Selection and appointment of mandate holders.....	20–22	9
I. Consideration of and action on draft proposals.....	23–32	10
J. Adoption of the report of the session.....	33–37	11
II. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.....	38–45	12
A. Update by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.....	38–41	12
B. Reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.....	42–45	13
III. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.....	46–292	14
A. Interactive dialogue with special procedures mandate holders.....	46–94	14
B. Panels.....	95–150	21
C. General debate on agenda item 3.....	151–156	28
D. Consideration of and action on draft proposals.....	157–292	31
IV. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention.....	293–306	50
A. Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic.....	293–296	50
B. General debate on agenda item 4.....	297–300	50
C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals.....	301–306	52
V. Human rights bodies and mechanisms.....	307–321	53
A. Complaint procedure.....	307–308	53
B. Interactive dialogue with the Advisory Committee.....	309–311	53

C.	Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.....	312–313	53
D.	Open-ended inter-governmental working group on a draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace	314	53
E.	General debate on agenda item 5	315–316	54
F.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	317–321	55
VI.	Universal periodic review	322–913	56
A.	Consideration of universal periodic review outcomes	324–898	56
B.	General debate on agenda item 6	899	134
C.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	900–913	134
VII.	Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories	914–916	136
A.	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	914	136
B.	General debate on agenda item 7	915–916	136
VIII.	Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action	917–959	137
A.	Annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective	917–923	137
B.	General debate on agenda item 8	924–925	138
C.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	926–959	139
IX.	Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action	960–970	144
A.	Interactive dialogue with special procedures mandate holders	960–963	144
B.	General debate on agenda item 9	964–965	144
C.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	966–970	145
X.	Technical assistance and capacity-building.....	971–1032	146
A.	Interactive dialogue on cooperation and assistance to Ukraine in the field of human rights.....	971–975	146
B.	Interactive dialogue with special procedures mandate holders.....	976–996	146
C.	Panels.....	997–1002	149
D.	General debate on agenda item 10.....	1003–1006	150
E.	Consideration of and action on draft proposals	1007–1032	151
Annexes			
I.	Attendance.....		154
II.	Agenda		161
III.	Documents issued for the twenty-seventh session		162
IV.	Advisory Committee members elected by the Human Rights Council at its twenty-seventh session and duration of terms of membership		191
V.	Special procedures mandate holders appointed by the Human Rights Council at its organizational meeting of 6 November 2014.....		192

Part One

Resolutions, decisions and President's statements adopted by the Human Rights Council at its twenty-seventh session

I. Resolutions

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
27/1	Enforced or involuntary disappearances	25 September 2014
27/2	The right to development	25 September 2014
27/3	Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence	25 September 2014
27/4	Local government and human rights	25 September 2014
27/5	The safety of journalists	25 September 2014
27/6	Panel discussion on realizing the equal enjoyment of the right to education by every girl	25 September 2014
27/7	The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation	25 September 2014
27/8	Promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal	25 September 2014
27/9	Mandate of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order	25 September 2014
27/10	The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination	25 September 2014
27/11	Preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights	25 September 2014
27/12	World Programme for Human Rights Education: adoption of the plan of action for the third phase	25 September 2014
27/13	Human rights and indigenous peoples	25 September 2014
27/14	Preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age as a human rights concern	25 September 2014
27/15	The right of the child to engage in play and recreational activities	25 September 2014
27/16	The continuing grave deterioration in the human rights and humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic	25 September 2014
27/17	Promotion of the right to peace	25 September 2014
27/18	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights	25 September 2014
27/19	Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights	25 September 2014
27/20	Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights	25 September 2014

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
27/21	Human rights and unilateral coercive measures	26 September 2014
27/22	Intensifying global efforts and sharing good practices to effectively eliminate female genital mutilation	26 September 2014
27/23	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes	26 September 2014
27/24	Equal participation in political and public affairs	26 September 2014
27/25	Mandate of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent	26 September 2014
27/26	National policies and human rights	26 September 2014
27/27	Technical assistance and capacity-building for human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	26 September 2014
27/28	Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic	26 September 2014
27/29	Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in the Sudan	26 September 2014
27/30	Effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights: the activities of vulture funds	26 September 2014
27/31	Civil society space	26 September 2014
27/32	Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity	26 September 2014

II. Decisions

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
27/101	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Norway	18 September 2014
27/102	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Albania	18 September 2014
27/103	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Democratic Republic of the Congo	18 September 2014
27/104	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Côte d'Ivoire	18 September 2014
27/105	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Portugal	18 September 2014
27/106	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Bhutan	18 September 2014
27/107	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Dominica	19 September 2014
27/108	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Democratic People's Republic of Korea	19 September 2014
27/109	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Brunei Darussalam	19 September 2014
27/110	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Costa Rica	19 September 2014

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
27/111	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Equatorial Guinea	19 September 2014
27/112	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Ethiopia	19 September 2014
27/113	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Qatar	19 September 2014
27/114	Outcome of the universal periodic review: Nicaragua	19 September 2014

III. President's statements

<i>President's statement</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>
27/1	Twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child	26 September 2014
27/2	Reports of the Advisory Committee	26 September 2014
27/3	Protection of the human rights of migrants at sea	26 September 2014
27/4	The Ebola epidemic	26 September 2014

Part Two

Summary of proceedings

I. Organizational and procedural matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Human Rights Council held its twenty-seventh session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 8 to 26 September 2014. The President of the Human Rights Council opened the session.
2. In accordance with rule 8 (b) of the rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council, as contained in part VII of the annex to Council resolution 5/1, the organizational meeting of the twenty-seventh session was held on 25 August 2014.
3. The twenty-seventh session consisted of 42 meetings over 14 days (see paragraph 12 below).

B. Attendance

4. The session was attended by representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council, observer States of the Council, observers for non-Member States of the United Nations and other observers, as well as observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations, intergovernmental organizations and other entities, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations (see annex I).

C. Agenda and programme of work

5. At its 1st meeting, on 8 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted the agenda and programme of work of the twenty-seventh session.
6. At the same meeting, the President informed that, in conformity with resolution S-22/1 adopted at the twenty-second special session of the Human Rights Council on 1 September 2014, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights would present to the Council an oral update on the human rights situation in Iraq, under agenda item 2.

D. Organization of work

7. At the 1st meeting, on 8 September 2014, the President outlined the modalities for the general debates, which would be three minutes for States Members of the Human Rights Council and two minutes for observer States and other observers.
8. At the 3rd meeting, on the same day, the President outlined the modalities for the clustered interactive dialogues with special procedures mandate holders under agenda item 3, introduced on a trial basis for the twenty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council. The total duration of each clustered interactive dialogue would not exceed four hours. Each special procedures mandate holder in a cluster would introduce his or her reports within 15 minutes and respond to questions and make concluding remarks within 15 minutes. As soon as the list of speakers would be available following the electronic registration, the

secretariat would calculate the estimated time needed to complete the clustered interactive dialogue with the mandate holders. Should the total duration of a given interactive dialogue be estimated to last less than four hours, the speaking time limits would be five minutes for States Members and three minutes for observer States and other observers. However, if it would be estimated to be more than four hours, the speaking time limits would be reduced to three minutes for States Members and two minutes for observer States and other observers. Should this measure be deemed insufficient to ensure that the total duration not exceed four hours, the speaking time limit would be further reduced to two minutes for States Members and two minutes for observer States and other observers or the total time may be divided equally among all speakers with a minimum of 1.5 minute per speaker.

9. At the 4th meeting, on 9 September 2014, the President outlined the modalities for panel discussions which were summarized in the concept notes, which would be five to seven minutes for the initial presentations by the panellists and 15 minutes for their comments and replies, and two minutes for States Members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and other observers.

10. At the 11th meeting, on 12 September 2014, the President outlined the modalities for the individual interactive dialogue with special procedures mandate holders under agenda items 3 and 10, which would be 15 minutes for the initial presentation by the mandate holder of the report, 3 minutes for States Members of the Human Rights Council, 2 minutes for observer States and other observers, and 15 minutes for the mandate holder's response to questions and his or her concluding remarks.

11. At the 22nd meeting, on 18 September 2014, the President outlined the modalities for the consideration of the outcomes of the universal periodic review under agenda item 6, which would be 20 minutes for the State concerned to present its views; where appropriate, 2 minutes for the national human rights institution with "A" status of the State concerned; up to 20 minutes for States Members of the Human Rights Council, observer States and United Nations agencies to express their views on the outcome of the review, with varying speaking times according to the number of speakers in accordance with the modalities set out in the Appendix to resolution 16/21; and up to 20 minutes for stakeholders to make general comments on the outcome of the review.

E. Meetings and documentation

12. The Human Rights Council held 42 fully serviced meetings during its twenty-seventh session.

13. The list of the resolutions, decisions and President's statements adopted by the Human Rights Council are contained in part one of the present report.

F. Visits

14. At the 5th meeting, on 9 September 2014, the Commissioner for Human Rights and Humanitarian Action of Mauritania, Aichetou Mint M'Haiham, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

15. At the 21st meeting, on 17 September 2014, the Vice-Minister of Justice of Paraguay, Ever Martinez, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

16. At the 29th meeting, on 22 September 2014, the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain, Abdulla Abdullatif Abdulla, delivered a statement to the Human Rights Council.

G. Election of members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

17. At its 42nd meeting, on 26 September 2014, the Human Rights Council elected, pursuant to its resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, seven experts to the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee. The Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/HRC/27/17 and Add.1) containing the nomination of candidates for election, in accordance with Council decision 6/102, and the biographical data of the candidates.

18. The candidates were as follows:

<i>Nominating Member State</i>	<i>Expert nominated</i>
African States	
Morocco	Mohamed Bennani
Nigeria	Obiora Okafor
Asia-Pacific States	
Pakistan	Ahmer Bilal Soofi
Republic of Korea	Changrok Soh
Eastern European States	
Romania	Laura Crăciunean
Latin American and Caribbean States	
Guatemala	Anantonia Reyes Prado
Western European and other States	
France	Laurence Boisson de Chazournes

19. The number of candidates for each of the regional groups corresponded to the number of seats available in each of these groups. The practice of holding a secret ballot pursuant to paragraph 70 of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 was dispensed with and Mohamed Bennani, Obiora Okafor, Ahmer Bilal Soofi, Changrok Soh, Laura Crăciunean, Anantonia Reyes Prado and Laurence Boisson de Chazournes were elected as members of the Advisory Committee by consensus (see annex IV).

H. Selection and appointment of mandate holders

20. At its 42nd meeting, on 26 September 2014, the Human Rights Council decided to postpone its approval of the list of candidates presented by the President of the Human Rights Council for the seven vacancies for special procedures mandate holders (see below) to an organizational meeting of the Council to be held any time before the end of the twentieth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (from 27 October to 7 November 2014). It was also decided that the term of office of the current mandate holders would be extended until their successors take up their functions.

21. The following special procedures mandate holders were due to be appointed:

- Independent Expert on capacity-building and technical cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire in the field of human rights;

- Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan;
- Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation;
- Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities;
- Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (member from Asia-Pacific States);
- Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (member from Eastern European States);
- Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (member from Western European and other States).

22. At its organizational meeting, on 6 November 2014, the Human Rights Council appointed seven special procedures mandate holders in accordance with Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21 and its decision 6/102 (see annex V).

I. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

23. At the 42nd meeting, on 26 September 2014, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft President's statement A/HRC/27/L.52.

24. At the same meeting, the representative of Ethiopia, also on behalf of Costa Rica, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and Thailand, made general comments in relation to the draft President's statement.

25. Also at the same meeting, the draft President's statement was adopted by the Council (PRST 27/1).

Reports of the Advisory Committee

26. At the 42nd meeting, on 26 September 2014, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft President's statement A/HRC/27/L.53.

27. At the same meeting, the draft President's statement was adopted by the Council (PRST 27/2).

Protection of the human rights of migrants at sea

28. At the 42nd meeting, on 26 September 2014, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft President's statement A/HRC/27/L.54.

29. At the same meeting, the draft President's statement was adopted by the Council (PRST 27/3).

The Ebola epidemic

30. At the 42nd meeting, on 26 September 2014, the President of the Human Rights Council introduced draft President's statement A/HRC/27/L.55.

31. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cuba, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States) and Sierra Leone made general comments in relation to the draft President's statement.

32. Also at the same meeting, the draft President's statement was adopted by the Council (PRST 27/4).

J. Adoption of the report of the session

33. At the 42nd meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representatives of Australia, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Malta, Norway and Switzerland made statements as observer States with regard to adopted resolutions.

34. At the same meeting, the Vice-President and Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council made a statement in connection with the draft report of the Council on its twenty-seventh session.

35. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council adopted the draft report (A/HRC/27/2) ad referendum and decided to entrust the Rapporteur with its finalization.

36. At the same meeting, the observer for International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Amnesty International; Article 19 – International Centre Against Censorship, The; Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development; Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies; CIVICUS – World Alliance for Citizen Participation; Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative; Conectas Direitos Humanos; East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defender Project; Human Rights House Foundation; International Federation for Human Rights League; International Lesbian and Gay Association) made a statement in connection with the session.

37. Also at the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council made a closing statement.

II. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

A. Update by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

38. At the 1st meeting, on 8 September 2014, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement providing an update of the activities of his Office.

39. During the ensuing general debate, at the 1st, 2nd and 3rd meetings, on the same day, the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, the Congo, Costa Rica (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Egypt¹ (also on behalf of Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe), Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), France, Gabon, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of)² (also on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Ireland, Italy (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Georgia, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine), Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait (on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council), Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco (also on behalf of the International Organization of la Francophonie), Namibia, Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Arab Emirates (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola, Armenia, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Honduras, Iceland, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mozambique, Nepal, the Netherlands, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Holy See;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Agence Internationale pour le Developpement; Allied Rainbow Communities International; Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies; Centre for Reproductive Rights, Inc., The; CIVICUS – World Alliance for

¹ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

² Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

Citizen Participation; Human Rights House Foundation; Human Rights Watch; International Federation for Human Rights Leagues; International Muslim Women's Union; International Service for Human Rights; Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development; United Nations Watch; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik; World Muslim Congress.

40. At the 3rd meeting, on 8 September 2014, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Algeria, Morocco, the Russian Federation, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Ukraine.

41. At the same meeting, on the same day, statements in exercise of a second right of reply were made by the representatives of Algeria and Morocco.

B. Reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

42. At the 12th meeting, on 12 September 2014, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented thematic reports prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary-General under agenda items 2 and 3.

43. At its 12th meeting, on 12 September 2014, 14th meeting, on 15 September 2014, and 16th meeting, on 16 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on thematic reports presented by the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights (see chapter III, C below).

44. At the 30th meeting, on 22 September 2014, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (see chapter VII below).

45. At the 38th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented oral country updates and country reports of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General submitted under agenda items 2 and 10 (see chapter X, D below).

III. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

A. Interactive dialogue with special procedures mandate holders

Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

46. At the 3rd meeting, on 8 September 2014, the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, Rosa Kornfeld-Matte, presented her report (A/HRC/27/46).

47. During the ensuing interactive dialogue at the 3rd meeting, on 8 September 2014, and the 5th meeting, on 9 September 2014, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Costa Rica (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Cuba, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Philippines, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Belgium, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Malaysia, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta;

(e) Observers for national human rights institutions: Conseil National des Droits de l'homme Maroc; International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC);

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Friends World Committee for Consultation; HelpAge International; IDPC Consortium; International Longevity Center Global Alliance, Ltd.; International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse.

48. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and its consequences

49. At the 3rd meeting, on 8 September 2014, the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and its consequences, Urmila Bhoola, presented her and her predecessor's report (A/HRC/27/53 and Add.1-3).

50. At the same meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Ghana, Kazakhstan and Mauritania made statements as the States concerned.

51. Also at the same meeting, the Commission Nationale des droits de l'homme de Mauritanie made a statement.

52. During the ensuing interactive dialogue at the 3rd meeting, on 8 September 2014, and the 5th meeting, on 9 September 2014, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, China, Costa Rica (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Cuba, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Morocco, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Philippines, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Belgium, Ecuador, Egypt, Greece, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Latvia, Spain, Thailand, Holy See;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Children's Fund;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta;

(f) Observer for a national human rights institution: Equality and Human Rights Commission of Great Britain (by video message);

(g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities) (also on behalf of Association Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII; Association Points-Coeur; Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul; Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers; Edmund Rice International Limited; International Catholic Child Bureau; International Institute of Mary Our Help of the Salesians of Don Bosco; International Kolping Society; International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus (MIAMSI); International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development – VIDES; International Young Christian Workers; Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs and International Movement of Catholic Students); World Movement of Christian Workers); Center for Environmental and Management Studies; International Catholic Child Bureau (also on behalf of Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul; Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd; Franciscans International; International Movement ATD Fourth World); International Humanist and Ethical Union; Liberation; Organisation pour la Communication en Afrique et de Promotion de la Cooperation Economique Internationale – OCAPROCE Internationale; United Schools International; World Barua Organization (WBO).

53. At the 5th meeting, on 9 September 2014, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

54. At the 3rd meeting, on 8 September 2014, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of Qatar.

55. At the 6th meeting, on 9 September 2014, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of China and Japan.

56. At the same meeting, a statement in exercise of a second right of reply was made by the representative of Japan.

Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation

57. At the 6th meeting, on 9 September 2014, the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, Catarina de Albuquerque, presented her report (A/HRC/27/55 and Add.1-5).

58. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil and Jordan made statements as the States concerned.

59. During the ensuing interactive dialogue at the 6th meeting, on 9 September 2014, and the 8th meeting, on 10 September 2014, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Chile, China, Costa Rica (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ethiopia, Germany, India, Ireland, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uruguay³ (also on behalf of Bangladesh, Brazil, Croatia, Egypt, France, Germany, Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bangladesh, Barbados, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Iraq, Latvia, Madagascar, Mali, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tuvalu, Uruguay;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Environment Programme;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: Conseil National des Droits de l'homme Maroc;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19 – International Centre Against Censorship, The; Association of World Citizens; Defence for Children International; Franciscans International; Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL); Liberation; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik; World Barua Organization (WBO).

60. At the 6th meeting, on 9 September 2014, and 8th meeting, on 10 September 2014, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes

61. At the 6th meeting, on 9 September 2014, the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, Baskut Tuncak, presented his report (A/HRC/27/54).

62. During the ensuing interactive dialogue at the 6th meeting, on 9 September 2014, and the 8th meeting, on 10 September 2014, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Chile, China, Costa Rica (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and

³ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

Caribbean States), Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), India, Ireland, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Mali, Nigeria, Spain, Uruguay;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Environment Programme;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International; Human Rights Now; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik.

63. At the 6th meeting, on 9 September 2014, and 8th meeting, on 10 September 2014, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

64. At the 8th meeting, on 10 September 2014, the Chairperson of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, Patricia Arias, presented the Working Group's report (A/HRC/27/50 and Add.1).

65. At the same meeting, the representative of Comoros made a statement as the State concerned.

66. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chairperson questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Chile, China, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Russian Federation, South Africa, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Switzerland, Ukraine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-khoei Foundation; Canners International Permanent Committee; World Barua Organization (WBO).

67. At the same meeting, the Chairperson answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

68. At the 8th meeting, on 10 September 2014, the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, Alfred de Zayas, presented his report (A/HRC/27/51).

69. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, China, Cuba, Indonesia, Morocco, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), South Africa, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Iran (Islamic Republic of), Sri Lanka;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Federation of Cuban Women; Indian Council of South America (CISA); International Association of Schools of Social Work; International Institute for Peace; International Peace Bureau; Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture; Organisation pour la Communication en Afrique et de Promotion de la Cooperation Economique Internationale – OCAPROCE Internationale; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

70. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence

71. At the 9th meeting, on 10 September 2014, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, Pablo De Greiff, presented his report (A/HRC/27/56 and Add.1-3).

72. At the same meeting, the representatives of Spain and Uruguay made statements as the States concerned.

73. During the ensuing interactive dialogue at the 9th meeting, on 10 September 2014, and the 11th meeting, on 12 September 2014, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Costa Rica (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Cuba, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, the United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Switzerland, Tunisia;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International; Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS) Asociación Civil; Colombian Commission of Jurists; Human Rights Now; International Educational Development, Inc.; Liberation; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik.

74. At the 9th meeting, on 10 September 2014, and 11th meeting, on 12 September 2014, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

75. At the 9th meeting, on 10 September 2014, the Chairperson of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, Mads Andenas, presented the Working Group's reports (A/HRC/27/47, A/HRC/27/48 and Add.1-7).

76. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil, Greece, Hungary and Morocco made statements as the States concerned.

77. Also at the same meeting, the Conseil National des Droits de l'homme Maroc and the Greek National Commission for Human Rights made statements.

78. During the ensuing interactive dialogue at the 9th meeting, on 10 September 2014, and the 11th meeting, on 12 September 2014, the following made statements and asked the Chairperson questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Costa Rica (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Cuba, France, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Maldives, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola, Bahrain, Belgium, Croatia, Iraq, Latvia, Norway, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, the State of Palestine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Alsalam Foundation; Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc; Amnesty International; Commission to Study the Organization of Peace; Conectas Direitos Humanos; France Libertés : Fondation Danielle Mitterrand; Human Rights House Foundation; International Muslim Women's Union.

79. At the 11th meeting, on 12 September 2014, the Chairperson answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

80. At the 9th meeting, on 10 September 2014, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of the Russian Federation.

Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

81. At the 11th meeting, on 12 September 2014, the Chairperson of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, Ariel Dulitzky, presented the report of the Working Group (A/HRC/27/49 and Add.1-2).

82. At the same meeting, the representative of Spain made a statement as the State concerned.

83. Also at the same meeting, the Defensor del Pueblo de España made a statement (by video message).

84. During the ensuing interactive dialogue at the 11th and 12th meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Chairperson questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina, Chile, China, Costa Rica (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Cuba, France, Ireland, Japan, Montenegro, Morocco, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Latvia, Nepal, Panama, Rwanda, Serbia, Sri Lanka;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: African Technical Association; African Technology Development Link; Alsalam Foundation; Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc; Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network (AITPN); Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights; International Service for Human Rights.

85. At the 11th and 12th meetings, on the same day, the Chairperson answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

86. Also at the 12th meeting, on the same day, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Bahrain, Burundi, China, Japan, and Ukraine.

Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples

87. At the 19th meeting, on 17 September 2014, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Victoria Lucia Tauli-Corpuz, presented her and her predecessor's report (A/HRC/27/52 and Add.1-4).

88. At the same meeting, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Albert Deterville, presented the reports of the Expert Mechanism (A/HRC/27/64, A/HRC/27/65, A/HRC/27/66 and A/HRC/27/67) (see chapter V, C below).

89. At the 21st meeting, on the same day, the representatives of Canada, Panama and Peru made statements as the States concerned.

90. At the same meeting, the Canadian Human Rights Commission made a statement.

91. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur and the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Expert Mechanism questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil, Chile, China, the Congo, Costa Rica (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Denmark⁴ (also on behalf of Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden), Estonia, Ireland, Mexico, Morocco, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador, El Salvador, Iraq, Malaysia, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Ukraine, and the Holy See;

(c) Observers for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: International Labour Organization, United Nations Children's Fund;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC);

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Foodfirst Information and Action Network (FIAN); Franciscans International; Indian Council of South America (CISA); International Institute for Peace; International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR) (also on behalf of National Coalition Against Racial Discrimination); Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (also on behalf of Indigenous World Association); Minority Rights Group; VIVAT International (also on behalf of Franciscans International); World Environment and Resources Council (WERC).

92. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

93. Also at the same meeting, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

⁴ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

94. At the same meeting, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of the Russian Federation.

B. Panels

Panel discussion on history teaching and memorialization processes

95. At its 4th meeting, on 9 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a panel discussion on history teaching and memorialization processes, in accordance with Council resolution 25/19.

96. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel. The Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Farida Shaheed, made introductory remarks and moderated the discussion for the panel.

97. At the same meeting, the panellists Dubravka Stojanovic, Sami Adwan, Marie Wilson, and Pablo de Greiff made statements.

98. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two slots, which were held at the same meeting, on the same day. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Austria, China, Estonia, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Ireland, Morocco, Sierra Leone;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Colombia, Lithuania, Uruguay;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Baha'i International Community; International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik.

99. At the end of the first speaking slot, the panellists answered questions and made comments, and a video presentation "Acting Together on the World Stage: Performance and the Creative Transformation of Conflict" was screened.

100. The following made statements during the second speaking slot:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, France, Indonesia, Italy, Pakistan, Romania, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United States of America, Viet Nam;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Armenia, Israel, Rwanda, Serbia, Turkey;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Human Rights Now, ONG Hope International.

101. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made concluding remarks.

Panel discussion on the protection of the human rights of persons deprived of their liberty

102. At the 7th meeting, on 10 September 2014, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 24/12, the Council held a panel discussion on the protection of the human rights of persons deprived of their liberty.

103. The Director of the Research and Right to Development Division of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for

the panel. The Chairperson of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, Mads Andenas, moderated the discussion for the panel.

104. At the same meeting, the panellists Nigel Rodley, Martin Schönleich, Mario Coriolano, Taghreed Jaber, Gertrude Brinek, and Piera Barzano made statements. The Council divided the panel discussion into two slots.

105. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Austria, Burkina Faso, Estonia, France, Morocco, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Colombia, Portugal, Switzerland;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observer for a national human rights institution: The Office of Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia;

(f) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Friends World Committee for Consultation; International Catholic Child Bureau; Penal Reform International (also on behalf of American Civil Liberties Union; Centre for Legal and Social Studies (CELS); The International Legal Foundation Ltd).

106. At the end of the first slot, at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

107. During the discussion for the second slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, China, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Denmark, Egypt, Iceland, Iraq, Ukraine, Uruguay;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Children's Fund;

(d) Observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Association for the Prevention of Torture; Defence for Children International.

108. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Panel discussion on the right to privacy in the digital age

109. At the 10th meeting, on 12 September 2014, pursuant to Human Rights Council decision 25/117, the Council held a panel discussion on the right to privacy in the digital age.

110. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel. The Associate Professor at Nottingham University, Marko Milanovic, moderated the discussion for the panel.

111. At the same meeting, the panellists Catalina Botero, Sarah Cleveland, Yves Nissim, and Carly Nyst made statements. The Council divided the panel discussion into two slots.

112. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Cuba (also on behalf of Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Estonia, Germany (also on behalf of Austria, Brazil, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Norway, Switzerland), India, Indonesia, Ireland, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Canada, Belgium, Malaysia;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Civil Liberties Union (also on behalf of Human Rights Watch); Association for Progressive Communications (APC).

113. At the end of the first slot, at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

114. During the discussion for the second slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, China, France, Italy, Romania, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Ecuador, the Netherlands, Slovenia;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19 – International Centre Against Censorship, The; Korea Center for United Nations Human Rights Policy.

115. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Panel discussion on the protection of the family and its members

116. At its 13th meeting, on 15 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a panel discussion on the protection of the family and its members, in accordance with Council resolution 26/11.

117. The Director of the Research and Right to Development Division of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel. The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the United Nations Office and other international organizations at Geneva, Yvette Stevens, made introductory remarks and moderated the discussion.

118. At the same meeting, the panellists Aslan Khuseinovich Abashidze, Hiranti Wijemanne, Karen Bogenscheinder, Rosa Inés Floriano Carrera and Zitha Mokomane made statements.

119. The ensuing panel discussion was divided into two slots, which were held at the same meeting, on the same day. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Australia⁵ (also on behalf of Guatemala, Mexico, New Zealand and the United States of America), Chile, Costa Rica (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Egypt⁶ (also on behalf of Bangladesh, China, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Uganda), Finland⁷ (also on behalf of Denmark, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Russian Federation (also on behalf of Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, Zimbabwe), Slovenia⁸ (also on behalf of Austria, Croatia), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Australia, Austria, Canada, Colombia, France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States of America, Uruguay), the United States of America (also on behalf of Chile, Colombia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay), Uruguay (also on behalf of Argentina, Canada, Ethiopia, Honduras, Italy, Maldives, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zambia);

(b) Observer for an intergovernmental institution: European Union;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Allied Rainbow Communities International (on behalf of Amnesty International; Article 19 – International Centre Against Censorship; International Service for Human Rights; International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission; International Lesbian and Gay Association), Howard Center for Family, Religion and Society, Plan International, Inc. (on behalf of SOS Children's Villages International; Defence for Children International; International Federation Terre des Hommes; Groupe des ONG pour la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant; International Federation of Social Workers; Save the Children International; World Vision International);

120. At the end of the first speaking slot the panellists answered questions and made comments.

121. The following made statements during the second speaking slot:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: the Czech Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Germany, Iran (Islamic Republic of)⁹ (also on behalf of Egypt and Pakistan), Ireland, Namibia, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the League of Arab States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Egypt, Qatar, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic;

⁵ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

⁶ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

⁷ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

⁸ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

⁹ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities) (also on behalf of Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII; Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul; Edmund Rice International Limited; Association internationale des charites – International association of charities; International Catholic Child Bureau; International Institute of Mary Our Help of the Salesians of Don Bosco; New Humanity; Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs and International Movement of Catholic Students); International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development – VIDES; World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations), Groupe des ONG pour la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant.

122. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made concluding remarks.

Half-day panel discussion on the rights of indigenous peoples

123. At its 20th meeting, on 17 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a half-day panel discussion on the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples in natural disaster risk reduction, and prevention and preparedness initiatives, in accordance with Council resolutions 18/8 and 24/10.

124. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel. The Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, made introductory remarks and moderated the discussion.

125. At the same meeting, the panellists Albert Deterville, Alejandro Maldonado, Giovanni Reyes, Aissatou Oumarou Ibrahim, and Margareta Wahlström made statements. The Council divided the panel discussion into two slots.

126. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: the Congo, Costa Rica (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Estonia, Germany, Mexico, the Philippines, the United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, Denmark, El Salvador;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Indian Council of South America (CISA); International Association of Schools of Social Work.

127. At the end of the first slot, at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

128. During the discussion for the second slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Brazil, Ireland, Morocco, the Russian Federation;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Finland;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Asia Indigenous People Pact; International Movement Against all Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR); Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada.

129. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made concluding remarks.

Panel discussion on the role of prevention in the promotion and protection of human rights

130. At the 23rd meeting, on 18 September 2014, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 24/16, the Council held a panel discussion on the role of prevention in the promotion and protection of human rights.

131. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel. The Adviser on Human Rights and Refugees at Quaker United Nations Office, Rachel Brett, moderated the discussion for the panel.

132. At the same meeting, the panellists Rita Izsák, Benyam Dawit Mezmur, Sima Samar, Mark Thomson, and Renato Zerbini Ribeiro Leão made statements. The Council divided the panel discussion into two slots.

133. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Australia¹⁰ (also on behalf of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ghana, Hungary the Netherlands, Nigeria, Rwanda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay), Austria, Estonia, India, Maldives, Morocco, the Russian Federation (also on behalf of Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam), Senegal¹¹ (on behalf of members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Lithuania, Poland, the Republic of Moldova;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: African Technology Development Link; Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc.

134. At the end of the first slot, at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

135. During the discussion for the second slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Cuba, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola, Australia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Slovenia, the Sudan, Timor-Leste, Ukraine;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(d) Observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Association for Democracy in Africa; United Schools International.

¹⁰ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

¹¹ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

136. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Panel discussion on ensuring use of remotely piloted aircraft or armed drones in counter-terrorism and military operations in accordance with international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law

137. At the 28th meeting, on 22 September 2014, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 25/22, the Council held a panel discussion on ensuring use of remotely piloted aircraft or armed drones in counter-terrorism and military operations in accordance with international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law.

138. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel. The Co-Director of the Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict at the Oxford University, Dapo Akande, moderated the discussion for the panel.

139. At the same meeting, the panellists Shahzad Akbar, Alex Conte, Ben Emmerson, Christof Heyns, and Pardiss Kebriaei made statements. The Council divided the panel discussion into two slots.

140. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: China, Cuba, France, Germany, Ireland, Pakistan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Ecuador, the Netherlands;

(c) Observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: American Civil Liberties Union; Amnesty International; Organization for Defending Victims of Violence.

141. At the end of the first slot, at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

142. During the discussion for the second slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Brazil, Chile, Indonesia, the Russian Federation, South Africa;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Open Society Institute; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

143. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

Panel discussion on accelerating global efforts to end violence against children

144. At the 31st meeting, on 23 September 2014, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 25/10, the Council held a panel discussion on accelerating global efforts to end violence against children.

145. The Director of the Research and Right to Development Division of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for

the panel. The Associate Director for Child Protection of the Programme Division at the United Nations Children's Fund, Susan Bissell, moderated the discussion for the panel.

146. At the same meeting, the panellists Marta Santos Pais, Pavel Astakhov, Benyam Dawit Mezmur, Fatiha Hadj Salah, Jorge Freyre and Laila Khondkar made statements. The Council divided the panel discussion into two slots.

147. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), the Philippines (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Sweden¹² (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway), Timor-Leste¹³ (also on behalf of Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe), the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Croatia, Paraguay, Tunisia;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights;

(e) Observer for a non-governmental organization: Save the Children International (also on behalf of Child Helpline International; Groupe des ONG pour la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant; International Catholic Child Bureau; Myochikai (Arigatou International); SOS Children's Villages International; Terre des Hommes Federation Internationale).

148. At the end of the first slot, at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

149. During the discussion for the second slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Austria, India, Mexico, Montenegro, the United Arab Emirates;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lithuania, Spain, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Ukraine;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: British Humanist Association; International Institute for Non-aligned Studies; World Organisation Against Torture (also on behalf of Defence for Children International).

150. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

C. General debate on agenda item 3

151. At the 12th meeting, on 12 September 2014, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development, Tamara Kunanayakam, presented the report of the Working Group on its fifteenth session (A/HRC/27/45).

¹² Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

¹³ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

152. At the same meeting, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented the thematic reports prepared by the High Commissioner, the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.

153. At its 12th meeting, on 12 September 2014, 14th meeting, on 15 September 2014, and 16th meeting, on 16 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on thematic reports under agenda items 2 and 3, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Chile, Costa Rica (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Cuba, Estonia, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of)¹⁴ (also on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Ireland, Italy (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine), Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Morocco (also on behalf of Chile, Denmark, Ghana, Indonesia), Pakistan (also on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone (also on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, the Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Zambia, Zimbabwe), South Africa, Thailand¹⁵ (also on behalf of Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay), the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Albania, Angola, Armenia, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Iceland, Iraq, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Panama, the Republic of Moldova, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Ukraine;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organization: United Nations Children's Fund;

¹⁴ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

¹⁵ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

- (d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;
- (e) Observer for the Holy See;
- (f) Observer for a national human rights institution: South African Human Rights Commission (also on behalf of Australian Human Rights Commission, Canadian Human Rights Commission, Defensor del Pueblo de Bolivia, Defensor del Pueblo de la República de Colombia, Defensoría del Pueblo de la República de Ecuador, Defensoría del Pueblo of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, German Institute for Human Rights, Great Britain Equality and Human Rights Commission, Greek National Commission for Human Rights, Human Rights Defender of the Republic of Armenia, Instituto Nacional de Derechos Humanos de Chile, National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia, National Human Rights Commission of Nepal, Netherlands Institute for Human Rights, New Zealand Human Rights Commission, Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, Office of the Public Defender of Georgia, Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Procuraduría de los Derechos Humanos de Guatemala, Scottish Human Rights Commission, Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights);
- (g) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development; Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs; Africa Culture Internationale; African Technical Association; African Technology Development Link; Agence Internationale pour le Développement; Agir Ensemble pour les Droits de l'Homme; Alsalam Foundation; Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc; Amnesty International; Article 19 – International Centre Against Censorship, The; Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network (AITPN); Asian Legal Resource Centre; Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities); Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers; Heart's Home; International Institute of Mary Our Help of the Salesians of Don Bosco; International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education; International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education, Development; New Humanity); Auspice Stella; BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights; British Humanist Association; Center for Inquiry; Center for Reproductive Rights, Inc., The; Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy; CIVICUS – World Alliance for Citizen Participation (also on behalf of Article 19 – International Centre Against Censorship, The); Commission to Study the Organization of Peace; Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (also on behalf of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development); Conectas Direitos Humanos (also on behalf of Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS), Asociación Civil; Centro Regional de Derechos Humanos y Justicia de Género); European Centre for Law and Justice, The / Centre Europeen pour le droit, les Justice et les droits de l'homme; European Union of Public Relations; Franciscans International; Friends World Committee for Consultation; Human Rights Now; Il Cenacolo; Indian Council of South America (CISA); Institut international pour la paix, la justice et les droits de l'Homme – IIPJDH; International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists; International Buddhist Relief Organisation; International Catholic Child Bureau; International Educational Development, Inc.; International Institute for Peace; International Muslim Women's Union; International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of CIVICUS); Lawyers for Lawyers; Liberal International (World Liberal Union) (also on behalf of International Network of Liberal Women); Liberation; Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development; Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association; Organisation Mondiale des associations pour l'éducation prénatale; Organisation pour la Communication en Afrique et de Promotion de la Coopération Economique Internationale – OCAPROCE Internationale; Organization for Defending Victims of Violence; Rencontre Africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme; Soka Gakkai International (also on behalf of Al-Hakim Foundation; Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center; CIVICUS – World Alliance

for Citizen Participation; Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education; Foundation for GAIA; Human Rights Education Associates (HREA); Institute for Planetary Synthesis; International Association for Religious Freedom; International Catholic Child Bureau; International Federation of University Women; International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR); International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD); International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education; Myochikai (Arigatou Foundation); Planetary Association for Clean Energy (PACE); Servas International; Soroptimist International; Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem (OSMTH); Teresian Association; United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY Peacebuilders)); United Nations Watch; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik; World Barua Organization (WBO); World Environment and Resources Council (WERC); World Evangelical Alliance (WEA); World Muslim Congress.

154. At the 14th meeting, on 15 September 2014, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of China, Egypt, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, and Ukraine.

155. At the same meeting, statements in exercise of a second right of reply were made by the representatives of Japan and the Republic of Korea.

156. At the 16th meeting, on 16 September 2014, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Belarus, China, and Viet Nam.

D. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Enforced or involuntary disappearances

157. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of France introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.1, sponsored by Argentina, France, Japan and Morocco and co-sponsored by Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Switzerland, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Subsequently, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Lithuania, Maldives, Monaco, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Togo, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors.

158. At the same meeting, the representative of Argentina made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

159. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution. The Chief of the Programme Support and Management Services of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement in relation to the budgetary implications of the draft resolution.

160. At the same meeting, the representatives of India and the Russian Federation made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In its statement, the representative of India disassociated the delegation from the consensus on preambular paragraph 9 of the draft resolution.

161. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/1).

The right to development

162. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.3, sponsored by the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement) and co-sponsored by Brazil and China. Subsequently, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

163. At the same meeting, the representatives of Pakistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

164. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

165. At the same meeting, the representatives of France, Italy (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

166. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czech Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Germany, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

United States of America

Abstaining:

Japan, Republic of Korea, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

167. Draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.3 was adopted by 42 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions (resolution 27/2).

168. At the 41st meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representatives of Sierra Leone and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia made statements in explanation of vote after the vote.

Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence

169. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Switzerland introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.4, sponsored by Argentina, Austria, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Maldives, Morocco, Peru, Switzerland and Uruguay, and co-sponsored by Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary,

Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the State of Palestine, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, and the United States of America. Subsequently, Albania, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Chad, Chile, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Honduras, Ireland, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors.

170. At the same meeting, the representative of Switzerland orally revised the draft resolution.

171. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Argentina made general comments in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised.

172. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

173. At the same meeting, the draft resolution as orally revised was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/3).

Local government and human rights

174. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of the Republic of Korea, also on behalf of Chile, Egypt and Romania, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.6, sponsored by Chile, Egypt, the Republic of Korea and Romania, and co-sponsored by Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Peru, the Republic of Moldova, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and the United States of America. Subsequently, Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Georgia, Honduras, Indonesia, Israel, Maldives, Malta, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Senegal, and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

175. At the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/4).

The safety of journalists

176. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Austria introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.7, sponsored by Austria, Brazil, France, Greece, Morocco, Qatar and Tunisia, and co-sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the State of Palestine, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Yemen. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Barbados, Botswana, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Somalia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Ukraine, and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

177. At the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/5).

Panel discussion on realizing the equal enjoyment of the right to education by every girl

178. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of the United Arab Emirates introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.8, sponsored by the United Arab Emirates and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Montenegro, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Spain, the State of Palestine, the Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Yemen. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chad, the Congo, Ecuador, Haiti, Indonesia, Ireland, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malta, Monaco, Nicaragua, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Singapore, Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam joined the sponsors.

179. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

180. At the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/6).

181. At the 41st meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representative of Japan made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation

182. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representatives of Germany and Spain introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.11/Rev.1, sponsored by Germany and Spain and co-sponsored by Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uruguay and Yemen. Subsequently, Algeria, Angola, Australia, Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Chile, the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the State of Palestine, Timor-Leste, Togo and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

183. At the same meeting, the representatives of South Africa and the United States of America made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In its statement, the representative of the United States of America disassociated the delegation from the consensus on preambular paragraph 21 of the draft resolution.

184. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/7).

185. At the 41st meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representatives of Argentina and India made statements in explanation of vote after the vote. In its statement, the representative of India disassociated the delegation from the consensus on operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution.

Promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal

186. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of the Russian Federation, also on behalf of Brazil, the Congo, Cyprus, Greece, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco and the Republic of Korea, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.14, sponsored by Brazil, the Congo, Cyprus, Greece, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, and co-sponsored by Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Ecuador, Ethiopia (on behalf of Group of African States), Finland, Ireland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines and Tajikistan joined the sponsors.

187. At the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/8).

Mandate of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

188. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.16, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine, the Sudan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Belarus, the Congo, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Philippines, Senegal, South Sudan and the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) joined the sponsors.

189. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

190. At the same meeting, the representative of Italy (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

191. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Italy (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Montenegro, Republic of Korea, Romania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru

192. Draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.16 was adopted by 29 votes to 14, with 4 abstentions (resolution 27/9).

The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

193. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.17, sponsored by Cuba and co-sponsored by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Peru, South Africa, the State of Palestine, the Sudan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Angola, Belarus, Chile, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Senegal, South Sudan, the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

194. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba orally revised the draft resolution.

195. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Italy (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

196. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Italy (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Montenegro, Republic of Korea, Romania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Mexico

197. Draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.17 as orally revised was adopted by 32 votes to 14, with 1 abstention (resolution 27/10).

198. At the 41st meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representative of Argentina made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

199. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement.

Preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights

200. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Burkina Faso, also on behalf of Colombia and New Zealand, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.19/Rev.1, sponsored by Burkina Faso, Colombia and New Zealand, and co-sponsored by Australia, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Switzerland, Turkey, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Haiti, Honduras, Japan, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Serbia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the sponsors.

201. At the same meeting, the representatives of Pakistan, Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the States members and observers of the Gulf Cooperation Council) and South Africa made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In its statement, the representative of Pakistan disassociated the delegation from the consensus on operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution.

202. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/11).

203. At the 41st meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representative of India made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote, disassociating the delegation from the consensus on preambular paragraph 4 and operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of the draft resolution.

World Programme for Human Rights Education: adoption of the plan of action for the third phase

204. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Costa Rica, also on behalf of Italy, Morocco, the Philippines, Senegal, Slovenia and Switzerland, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.20, sponsored by Costa Rica, Italy, Morocco, the Philippines, Senegal, Slovenia and Switzerland, and co-sponsored by Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Mexico, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and Uruguay. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Czech Republic, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Maldives, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors.

205. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

206. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

207. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/12).

Human rights and indigenous peoples

208. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Mexico, also on behalf of Guatemala, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.22, sponsored by Guatemala and Mexico, and co-sponsored by Albania, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, the Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Djibouti, El Salvador, Estonia, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Spain, Sri Lanka, the United States of America and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Cyprus, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Slovenia, Ukraine and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

209. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

210. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

211. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/13).

Preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age as a human rights concern

212. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representatives of Botswana and Ireland, also on behalf of Austria, Mongolia and Uruguay, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.23, sponsored by Austria, Botswana, Ireland, Mongolia and Uruguay, and co-sponsored by Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Chile, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Israel, Libya, Maldives, Mali, Malta, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Togo and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the sponsors.

213. At the same meeting, the representative of Pakistan made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

214. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

215. Also at the same meeting, the representative of South Africa made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

216. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/14).

217. At the 41st meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representatives of India and the United States of America made statements in explanation of vote after the vote. In its statement, the representative of India disassociated the delegation from the consensus on preambular paragraph 6 and operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution.

The right of the child to engage in play and recreational activities

218. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Romania introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.28, sponsored by Brazil, Norway and Romania, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, Tunisia and Turkey. Subsequently, Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Barbados, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Estonia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Oman, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Lewis, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Yemen joined the sponsors.

219. At the same meeting, the representative of South Africa made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

220. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/15).

221. At the 41st meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

222. At the 40th meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.2, sponsored by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. Subsequently, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States) and the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) joined the sponsors.

223. At the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, orally revised the draft resolution.

224. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America introduced amendment A/HRC/27/L.33 to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.2 as orally revised. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.33 was sponsored by France, Greece, Poland, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden joined the sponsors.

225. At the same meeting, the representative of Switzerland introduced amendment A/HRC/27/L.44 to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.2 as orally revised. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.44 was sponsored by Denmark, France, Greece, Liechtenstein, Norway, Poland, Romania, Switzerland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland,

Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden joined the sponsors.

226. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Cuba, Japan, Pakistan, the United States of America and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made general comments in relation to the draft resolution, as orally revised, and the amendments.

227. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised. The Chief of the Programme Support and Management Services of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement in relation to the budgetary implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

228. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Cuba, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.33. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Austria, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Montenegro, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America

Against:

Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Abstaining:

Gabon, Kazakhstan

229. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.33 was rejected by 15 votes to 30, with 2 abstentions.

230. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Cuba, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.44. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Austria, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Montenegro, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America

Against:

Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Abstaining:

Gabon, Kazakhstan

231. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.44 was rejected by 15 votes to 30, with 2 abstentions.

232. At the same meeting, the representatives of Italy (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the United States of America made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

233. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of Italy (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as orally revised. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Montenegro, Republic of Korea, Romania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Costa Rica, Kazakhstan

234. Draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.2 as orally revised was adopted by 31 votes to 14, with 2 abstentions (resolution 27/21 and Corr.1).

Intensifying global efforts and sharing good practices to effectively eliminate female genital mutilation

235. At the 40th meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representatives of Burkina Faso and Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.12, sponsored by Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States) and co-sponsored by Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Slovakia and Thailand. Subsequently, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Honduras, Japan, Latvia, Maldives, Nicaragua, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

236. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

237. At the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/22).

Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes

238. At the 40th meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representatives of Côte d'Ivoire and Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.13, sponsored by Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States). Subsequently, Austria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Costa Rica, Cuba, Maldives, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors.

239. At the same meeting, the representatives of Côte d'Ivoire and Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States) orally revised the draft resolution.

240. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised. The Chief of the Programme Support and Management Services of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement in relation to the budgetary implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

241. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote, disassociating the delegation from the consensus on the draft resolution as orally revised.

242. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution as orally revised was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/23).

243. At the 41st meeting, on the same day, the representative of Japan made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

Equal participation in political and public affairs

244. At the 40th meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representative of the Czech Republic, also on behalf of Botswana, Indonesia, the Netherlands and Peru, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.29/Rev.1, sponsored by Botswana, the Czech Republic, Indonesia, the Netherlands and Peru, and co-sponsored by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey and the United States of America. Subsequently, Armenia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Congo, Ecuador, Honduras, Japan, Mexico, Panama, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Senegal, Serbia, the State of Palestine, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the sponsors.

245. At the same meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

246. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

247. At the same meeting, the representatives of Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote. In its statement, the representative of the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council) disassociated the delegations of the States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council from the consensus on operative paragraphs 4(h) and 4(i) of the draft resolution. In its statement, the representative of South Africa disassociated the delegation from the consensus on operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution. In its statement, the representative of Saudi Arabia disassociated the delegation from the consensus on preambular paragraphs 2 and 8 and operative paragraphs 2 and 4(c) of the draft resolution.

248. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/24).

Effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights: the activities of culture funds

249. At the 41st meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representative of Argentina, also on behalf of Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.26, sponsored by Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and co-sponsored by Chile, El Salvador, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Lebanon, Paraguay and Peru. Subsequently, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Nicaragua, Panama, the Philippines and the State of Palestine joined the sponsors.

250. At the same meeting, the representatives of Algeria, Brazil, Cuba, Morocco, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

251. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of France, Italy (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council), Mexico, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

252. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Czech Republic, Germany, Japan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Austria, Estonia, France, Ireland, Italy, Montenegro, Republic of Korea, Romania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

253. Draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.26 was adopted by 33 votes to 5, with 9 abstentions (resolution 27/30).

254. At the same meeting, the representative of South Africa made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

Civil society space

255. At the 41st meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representatives of Ireland and Tunisia, also on behalf of Chile, Japan and Sierra Leone, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24, sponsored by Chile, Ireland, Japan, Sierra Leone and Tunisia, and co-sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain,

Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and Yemen. Subsequently, Albania, Angola, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Honduras, Malta, Mexico, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, the State of Palestine, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste and Ukraine joined the sponsors.

256. At the same meeting, the representative of Ireland, also on behalf of Chile, Japan, Sierra Leone and Tunisia, orally revised the draft resolution. The oral revisions took into consideration amendment A/HRC/27/L.37 to this draft resolution. Consequently, no action was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.37.

257. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Cuba, also on behalf of Bahrain, China, Egypt, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced amendment A/HRC/27/L.34 to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24 as orally revised. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.34 was sponsored by Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

258. At the same meeting, the representative of India introduced amendments A/HRC/27/L.35, also on behalf of Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and A/HRC/27/L.41 to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24 as orally revised. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.35 was sponsored by Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Amendment A/HRC/27/L.41 was sponsored by Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

259. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced amendments A/HRC/27/L.36, A/HRC/27/L.38, A/HRC/27/L.39 and A/HRC/27/L.40 to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24 as orally revised. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.36 was sponsored by Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Amendments A/HRC/27/L.38 and A/HRC/27/L.39 were sponsored by Bahrain, China, Egypt, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Amendment A/HRC/27/L.40 was sponsored by Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

260. At the same meeting, the representative of China, also on behalf of Bahrain, Cuba, Egypt, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced amendment A/HRC/27/L.42 to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24 as orally revised. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.42 was sponsored by Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

261. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, also on behalf of Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, the Russian Federation and the United Arab Emirates, introduced amendment A/HRC/27/L.43 to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24 as orally revised. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.43 was sponsored by Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

262. At the same meeting, the representatives of Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Japan, Montenegro, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone and the United States of America made general comments in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised and the amendments.

263. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution as orally revised.

264. At the same meeting, the representatives of Algeria, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic and South Africa made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.34.

265. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.34. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, China, Congo, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Gabon, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Namibia, Philippines, Viet Nam

266. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.34 was rejected by 15 votes to 25, with 7 abstentions.

267. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.35.

268. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.35. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Brazil, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Congo, Gabon, Kazakhstan, Philippines

269. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.35 was rejected by 18 votes to 25, with 4 abstentions.

270. At the same meeting, the representatives of Germany and Montenegro made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.36.

271. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.36. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, China, Congo, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Gabon, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines

272. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.36 was rejected by 17 votes to 26, with 4 abstentions.

273. At the same meeting, the representatives of Estonia and France made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.38.

274. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.38. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Kuwait, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Congo, Gabon, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines

275. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.38 was rejected by 14 votes to 27, with 6 abstentions.

276. At the same meeting, the representatives of Estonia and France made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.39.

277. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.39. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Kuwait, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Congo, Gabon, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines

278. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.39 was rejected by 14 votes to 27, with 6 abstentions.

279. At the same meeting, the representatives of Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.40.

280. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.40. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Congo, Gabon, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines

281. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.40 was rejected by 15 votes to 26, with 5 abstentions.¹⁶

282. At the same meeting, the representative of Costa Rica made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.41.

283. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.41. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Brazil, China, Congo, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Gabon, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines

284. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.41 was rejected by 19 votes to 24, with 4 abstentions.

285. At the same meeting, the representative of the Czech Republic made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.42.

286. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.42. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

¹⁶ Saudi Arabia did not cast a vote. The representative of Saudi Arabia subsequently stated that the delegation had intended to vote in favour.

Algeria, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Gabon, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines, South Africa

287. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.42 was rejected by 15 votes to 27, with 5 abstentions.

288. At the same meeting, the representatives of Austria and Japan made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.43.

289. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Ireland, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.43. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, China, Congo, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Kuwait, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Gabon, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Namibia, South Africa

290. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.43 was rejected by 15 votes to 27, with 5 abstentions.

291. At the same meeting, the representatives of China, India, Indonesia, Kuwait (on behalf of the States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council), Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Viet Nam made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised. In its statement, the representative of India disassociated the delegation from the consensus on preambular paragraphs 8 and 9 and operative paragraphs 10, 12 and 14 of the draft resolution as orally revised. In its statement, the representative of Saudi Arabia disassociated the delegation from the consensus on operative paragraphs 2 and 15 of the draft resolution as orally revised. In its statement, the representative of Kuwait (on behalf of the States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council) disassociated the delegations of the States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council from the consensus on preambular paragraph 6 and operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution as orally revised. In its statement, the representative of China disassociated the delegation from the consensus on preambular paragraphs 8 and 9 and operative paragraphs 10 and 12 of the draft resolution as orally revised. In its statement, the representative of South Africa disassociated the delegation from the consensus on the draft resolution as orally revised.

292. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution as orally revised was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/31 and Corr.1).

IV. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

A. Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic

293. At the 16th meeting, on 16 September 2014, the Chairperson of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, presented the report of the Commission (A/HRC/27/60), pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 25/23.

294. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

295. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 16th and 17th meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Chairperson questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, China, Cuba, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Maldives, Morocco, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Greece, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, the Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observer for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies; International Federation for Human Rights Leagues; Presse Embleme Campagne; Union of Arab Jurists; United Nations Watch; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik.

296. At the 17th meeting, on the same day, the Chairperson answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

B. General debate on agenda item 4

297. At its 17th and 18th meetings, on 16 September 2014, and its 19th meeting, on 17 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 4, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Austria, China, Cuba, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of)¹⁷ (also on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Ireland, Italy (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Japan, Montenegro, Morocco, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America;

¹⁷ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

(b) Representatives of observer States: Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Canada, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Eritrea, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Myanmar, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: African Development Association; African Technical Association; African Technology Development Link; Agence Internationale pour le Developpement; Al-khoei Foundation; Alsalam Foundation; Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc; Amnesty International; Article 19 – International Centre Against Censorship, The; Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network (AITPN); Asian Legal Resource Centre; Association of World Citizens; Baha'i International Community; British Humanist Association; Center for Environmental and Management Studies; Center for Inquiry; Centre Europe – Tiers Monde – Europe-Third World Centre; Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy; CIVICUS – World Alliance for Citizen Participation; Colombian Commission of Jurists; Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations (also on behalf of B'nai B'rith); Federation of Cuban Women; France Libertes; Fondation Danielle Mitterrand; Franciscans International; Helios Life Association; Human Rights House Foundation; Human Rights Watch; Il Cenacolo; Indian Council of South America (CISA); Institut international pour la paix, la justice et les droits de l'Homme – IIPJDH; International Association for Democracy in Africa; International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists; International Association of Schools of Social Work; International Buddhist Relief Organisation; International Federation for Human Rights Leagues; International Humanist and Ethical Union; International Institute for Peace; International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR); International Muslim Women's Union; Jubilee Campaign; Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture; Liberation; Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development; Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association; Organisation pour la Communication en Afrique et de Promotion de la Cooperation Economique Internationale – OCAPROCE Internationale; Organization for Defending Victims of Violence; Presse Embleme Campagne; Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme; Society for Threatened Peoples; Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment; Syriac Universal Alliance, The. Federation Syriaque Internationale; United Nations Watch; United Schools International; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik; Victorious Youths Movement; VIVAT International; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Women's Human Rights International Association (also on behalf of International Educational Development, Inc.); World Barua Organization (WBO); World Environment and Resources Council (WERC); World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) (also on behalf of Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities)); World Jewish Congress; World Muslim Congress.

298. At the 18th meeting, on 16 September 2014, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Japan, Maldives, Morocco, Niger, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, the State of Palestine, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

299. At the same meeting, statements in exercise of a second right of reply were made by the representatives of Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Ethiopia, Morocco.

300. At the 19th meeting, on 17 September 2014, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of China, Cuba, the Russian Federation and the Sudan.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

The continuing grave deterioration in the human rights and humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic

301. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representatives of Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also on behalf of France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Turkey and the United States of America, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.5/Rev.1, sponsored by France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Arab Emirates. Subsequently, Andorra, Bahrain, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Malta, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Sweden and Switzerland joined the sponsors.

302. At the same meeting, the representatives of Algeria, Italy (on behalf of the European Union) and the Russian Federation made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

303. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

304. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, China, Cuba, Mexico and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

305. At the same meeting, at the request of the representative of the Russian Federation, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Austria, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Gabon, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Against:

Algeria, China, Cuba, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining:

Congo, Ethiopia, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Namibia, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Viet Nam

306. Draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.5/Rev.1 was adopted by 32 votes to 5, with 10 abstentions (resolution 27/16).

V. Human rights bodies and mechanisms

A. Complaint procedure

307. At its 12th meeting, on 12 September 2014, and its 30th meeting, on 22 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held closed meetings of the complaint procedure.

308. At the 31st meeting, on 23 September 2014, the President made a statement on the outcome of the meetings, stating that the Human Rights Council had examined, in closed meetings, the human rights situation in Cameroon, under the complaint procedure established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1. The Council decided to discontinue the consideration of the situation.

B. Interactive dialogue with the Advisory Committee

309. At the 19th meeting, on 17 September 2014, the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee, Mario Luis Coriolano, presented the reports of the Committee (A/HRC/27/57, A/HRC/27/58, A/HRC/27/59 and A/HRC/27/62).

310. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Chairperson questions:

- (a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Argentina, China, Costa Rica, the Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- (b) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;
- (c) Observer for the International Olympic Committee;
- (d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development; Organization for Defending Victims of Violence.

311. At the same meeting, the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

C. Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

312. At the 19th meeting, on 17 September 2014, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Albert Deterville, presented the reports of the Expert Mechanism (A/HRC/27/64, A/HRC/27/65, A/HRC/27/66 and A/HRC/27/67).

313. At its 21st meeting, on the same day, the Human Rights Council held an interactive dialogue on the human rights of indigenous peoples under agenda items 3 and 5 (see chapter III, A above).

D. Open-ended inter-governmental working group on a draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace

314. At the 27th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the open-ended inter-governmental working group on a draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace, Christian Guillermet-Fernández, presented the report of the working group on its second session, held from 30 June to 4 July 2014 (A/HRC/27/63).

E. General debate on agenda item 5

315. At its 27th meeting, on 19 September 2014, and its 29th meeting, on 22 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 5, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Botswana, Costa Rica (also on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Cuba, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Germany, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine), Latvia¹⁸ (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay), Morocco, Pakistan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), El Salvador, Hungary, Norway, Sri Lanka, Switzerland;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al-khoei Foundation; Alsalam Foundation; Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc; Associations of World Citizens; Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII (also on behalf of Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul; International Fellowship of Reconciliation; International Institute of Mary Our Help of the Salesians of Don Bosco; International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development – VIDES; Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs and International Movement of Catholic Students)); Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy; CIVICUS – World Alliance for Citizen Participation; Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative; Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) (also on behalf of International Alliance of Women; World Student Christian Association; World Young Women's Christian Association); Il Cenacolo; International Buddhist Foundation (IBF); International Buddhist Relief Organisation; International Lesbian and Gay Association; International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR); International Service for Human Rights; Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture; Liberation; Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development; Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association; Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme; Society Studies Centre (MADA ssc); United Nations Watch; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; World Association for the School as an Instrument of Peace; World Barua Organization (WBO); World Muslim Congress.

¹⁸ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

316. At the 29th meeting, on 22 September 2014, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of Malaysia.

F. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Promotion of the right to peace

317. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.15/Rev.1, sponsored by Cuba (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), and co-sponsored by Angola, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine and the Sudan. Subsequently, Belarus, China, the Congo, Indonesia, Namibia, Senegal, South Sudan, Togo and the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) joined the sponsors.

318. At the same meeting, the representative of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

319. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

320. At the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Ireland, Italy, Montenegro, Romania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

321. Draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.15/Rev.1 was adopted by 33 votes to 9, with 5 abstentions (resolution 27/17).

VI. Universal periodic review

322. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/251, Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, Council decision 17/119 and President's statements PRST/8/1 and PRST/9/2 on modalities and practices for the universal periodic review process, the Council considered the outcome of the reviews conducted during the nineteenth session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review held from 28 April to 9 May 2014.

323. In accordance with resolution 5/1, the President outlined that all recommendations must be part of the final document of the UPR and accordingly, the State under Review should clearly communicate its position on all recommendations either by indicating that it "supports" or "notes" the concerned recommendations.

A. Consideration of the universal periodic review outcomes

324. In accordance with paragraph 4.3 of President's statement 8/1, the following section contains a summary of the views expressed on the outcome by States under review, Member and Observer States of the Council, as well as general comments made by other relevant stakeholders before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary.

Norway

325. The review of Norway was held on 28 April 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Norway in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/NOR/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/NOR/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/NOR/3).

326. At its 22 meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Norway (see section C below).

327. The outcome of the review of Norway comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/3), the views of Norway concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/3/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

328. The Norwegian delegation, headed by Ambassador Steffen Kongstad, stated that Norway strongly supports the UPR, which represents a unique opportunity for all countries to undertake a review of their human rights situation.

329. The delegation stated that throughout the process, the Government of Norway had transparent cooperation with civil society. A draft report was circulated among civil society actors in Norway, and they were invited to give their views. Their critical assessment and

constructive advice on areas where there was disagreement with the Government or where improvement was deemed to have been needed, has been of key importance to the process.

330. The UPR has contributed to a strengthened dialogue between civil society and the Norwegian authorities on a range of human rights related issues.

331. Norway received 203 recommendations on a number of issues, including the establishment of a new national human rights institution, ratification of international instruments, racism, discrimination, and violence against women. All recommendations were welcomed. Each of the recommendations was subject to careful consideration by relevant authorities. Norway has accepted 150 recommendations. Extensive comments were provided in the Addendum including explanations as to the reasons for not accepting certain recommendations.

332. The Norwegian delegation thanked the missions that contributed to a useful dialogue during the review of Norway. The delegation also thanked representatives from civil society for their many and constructive contributions. It noted that civil society has a crucial role in making the UPR a credible and useful process.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

333. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Norway, 12 delegations made statements. Where available, written statements of those delegations, which were unable to deliver their statements due to time constraints, are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council.¹⁹

334. The Islamic Republic of Iran stated that it was highly expected that accepted recommendations will be fully and effectively implemented by Norway. Iran expressed concerns about the lack of updated data on the use of solitary confinement and on cases of domestic violence, discrimination against and allegations of mistreatment of migrants, persons from migrant backgrounds, asylum seekers and refugees, discrimination against minorities and indigenous peoples, and persistent hate speech against minorities, xenophobia and Islamophobic statements. It called on Norway to address those concerns.

335. Romania congratulated Norway on the successful completion of its second UPR. The serious preparation of the report, the wide consultation with stakeholders, the attention paid to all recommendations showed willingness on the part of Norway to uphold the highest human rights standards. Romania also congratulated Norway for its unwavering commitment to the promotion of human rights at the international level.

336. Sierra Leone stated that the report submitted by Norway reflected a willingness to consider ways to further promote and protect human rights. It commended Norway for establishing a national human rights institution which will be effective as of 1 January 2015 and was also pleased to note that it is a priority of Norway to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances. Sierra Leone noted that Norway did not accept the recommendation to ratify the optional protocols to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Covenant on the rights of the Child.

337. Sudan thanked Norway for its report, statement and clarifications. The participation of Norway in the UPR shows its willingness to have a positive impact on this process. Sudan thanked Norway for accepting some of the recommendations it had made.

¹⁹ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

338. Togo commended Norway for its commitment to universal human rights values. Togo was pleased to note that Norway has favourably received its recommendation, inviting Norway to step up efforts to work effectively against racial profiling in all public and private spheres. Togo welcomed the willingness of Norway to continue its full cooperation with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms.

339. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela thanked Norway for its presentation. Venezuela participated constructively in the review of Norway and submitted recommendations with a view to having Norway step up efforts to combat the ongoing stigmatization and discrimination of ethnic minorities, particularly the Roma and migrants. Venezuela hoped that the willingness expressed by the Government of Norway will take the form of tangible actions which will help to improve the human rights situation for those vulnerable groups. Venezuela expressed the willingness to continue cooperation with the Government of Norway within the framework of the work of the Human Rights Council, so as to make further progress in improving the human rights situation in Norway.

340. Viet Nam expressed its appreciation to Norway for the acceptance of a considerable number of recommendations, including the two recommendations Viet Nam had made on discrimination against ethnic minorities and on domestic violence.

341. Algeria welcomed and thanked the Norwegian delegation for participating in the adoption of the report. It noted with satisfaction that Norway accepted 177 of the 203 recommendations including the two recommendations made by Algeria. It wished Norway success in implementing the accepted recommendations.

342. Angola congratulated the Norwegian delegation for presenting a detailed report. It welcomed Norway's dedication to the promotion and protection of human rights and its close cooperation with the human rights mechanisms. Angola noted the strides made by Norway in achieving equality between men and women. It thanked Norway for the technical assistance provided as part of human rights training. Angola wished Norway success in implementing the accepted recommendations.

343. Botswana commended the Government of Norway for measures undertaken to address inequality and discrimination. Norway accepted many recommendations which demonstrated its long standing commitment to human rights both at the national and international levels. Botswana noted with appreciation Norway's acceptance of the two recommendations it has made. It applauded Norway's commitment to the protection of children's rights, and was particularly encouraged by the asylum process with legal safeguards for children.

344. Bulgaria congratulated Norway for the legislative and institutional progress that has been made since the first review. It welcomed the decision to establish a new independent national human rights institution and took positive note of the fact that Norway attaches great importance to ensuring a rapid asylum process with legal safeguards for children, as well as providing good living conditions during the process. Bulgaria urged Norway to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

345. Côte d'Ivoire warmly welcomed the Norwegian delegation and thanked the delegation for the responses and additional information provided. It noted the acceptance of many recommendations and stated that it was aware that Norway will do everything in its power to ensure the implementation of these accepted recommendations. Côte d'Ivoire saluted the Norwegian Government for its efforts in ensuring equality and enjoyment of human rights for all citizens. It encouraged Norway to continue its good level of cooperation with the international mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

346. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Norway, 6 other stakeholders made statements.

347. European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Association urged Norway to develop a new national action plan to address the continuing challenges faced by LGBT persons; and to allocate resources to train administrators and service providers on sexual orientation and gender identity issues. It called on Norway to: authorise the Anti-Discrimination Ombud to award compensation to victims of discrimination; coordinate national efforts to tackle hate crimes within the Ministry of Justice, the National Police Directorate and the Police; include gender identity and gender expression in those provisions of the penal code relating to hate crime and hate speech; provide national standards for adequate care to victims of hate crime and domestic violence; remove the requirement of sterilization for the changing of legal gender markers; ensure safe spaces and housing for LGBTI asylum seekers; and to improve access to health services and hormone treatment for transgender asylum seekers.

348. World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry stated that disability-based discrimination is an ongoing problem in Norway, and fundamental changes in the law are required, along with other measures, to fulfil the obligations set forth in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). It expressed regret that Norway has not accepted to ratify the Optional Protocol to CRPD and urged Norway to withdraw its declarations on Articles 12 and 14 of CRPD. It encouraged Norway to take necessary action to develop laws and policies to replace the regimes of substitute decision-making by supported decision-making which respects the person's autonomy, will and preferences. It urged Norway to repeal legal provisions authorising detention on the mental health grounds.

349. International Humanist and Ethical Union commended Norway particularly for its human rights record on LGBTI issues and civil and political liberties. It expressed concern about the 2012 amendment to the Constitution that enshrined the state church system, requiring the head of state to be a church member, and anchoring the state values within specific religious heritage. It recommended revision of the Constitution with the aim of securing equality and non-discrimination. It also expressed concern about the Government's attempts to amend the secondary school subject of Religion, Philosophies of Life and Ethics to explicitly incorporate Christianity by name, and to ensure that 55 percent of the course covers Christianity.

350. Save the Children noted with regret that the Government of Norway rejected those recommendations relating to the signing and ratifying of the third Option Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It also expressed concern that the Government did not provide a clear position on those recommendations calling on Norway to facilitate access to justice for children by making the service of the Children's Houses available and accessible to all victimised children up to the age of 18 years. It noted that not all children are referred to these centres, as one of the barriers has been national regulations that limit the right to judicial examination to children below the age of 16 years. Save the Children called on the Government to ensure that the services of the Children's House is available to all children regardless of age.

351. Action Canada for Population and Development welcomed the acceptance of a number of recommendations relating to sexuality and gender and looked forward to hearing the results of the public consultation on the proposed amendments to the Penal Code with regard to provisions relating to violence. It urged Norway to widen the definition of rape to include all kinds of non-consensual sexual activity; to complete regular national surveys on sexual violence to enhance knowledge and develop effective policies, education and

campaigns; to ensure that the police make use of forensic information from sexual assault clinics; ensure that national plans of action on forced marriages include reference to rape and sexual violence. Increased training on sexual violence and gender stereotypes is essential for people working with victims of sexual violence.

352. Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik welcomed Norway's acceptance of many recommendations but expressed disappointment that Norway had rejected recommendations to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Although Norway had a good human rights repertoire, it can still improve its human rights situation.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

353. The President stated that based on the information provided, of the 203 recommendations received, 150 recommendations enjoy the support of Norway and 53 recommendations are noted.

354. The Norwegian delegation stated that the UPR is an on-going process with the implementation phases of the process being crucial. Norway looks forward to following up on the many useful recommendations received.

355. The delegation concluded by thanking all delegations for participating in the review of Norway. In closing, the delegation emphasized that the promotion and protection of human rights is a priority for the Norwegian Government. Although much has been achieved, Norway still faced some challenges and the Norwegian Government continually strives to make improvements. The UPR process provides a unique opportunity to address these challenges and raise awareness of the importance of strengthening national implementation.

Albania

356. The review of Albania was held on 28 April 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Albania in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/ALB/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/ALB/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/ALB/3).

357. At its 22nd meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Albania (see section C below).

358. The outcome of the review of Albania comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/4), the views of Albania concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/4/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

359. The delegation reported that Albania supported 161 recommendations out of total 165 recommendations, partially supported 3 recommendations (nos. 106.6, 106.7, 106.21)

and noted one recommendation (no 106.22). The Government carried out a series of activities to promote and protect human rights. Several strategies and action plans were adopted and have been implemented. The rule of law and respect for and protection of human rights remained important objectives of the government programs, including objectives related to education, health care, gender equality and social inclusion.

360. Albania extended a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders and consequently, two Special Rapporteurs visited the country. The Government pledged that it would continue working with the special procedure mandate holders in order to implement their recommendations.

361. The delegation stated that Albania has been considering the possibility of recognising the competence to receive and consider individual complaints of Committees of those human rights treaties that Albania was a party. Albania set up a working group to evaluate and to make proposals regarding the ratification of the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Code.

362. The delegation stated that the protection and promotion of human rights was a priority of the Government, and thus, the authorities would continue to fulfil its international obligations by implementing human rights related legislation and policies, increasing public awareness on human rights and cooperation among different stakeholders.

363. The independent institutions such as People's Advocate and the Commissioner for the Protection against Discrimination played significant and proactive roles in promoting and protecting human rights.

364. The delegation clarified that the amendments to the Penal Code adopted in 2012 and 2013 were in compliance with the relevant provisions of international human rights treaties, the Law on Protection from Discrimination and with the legal practice of Constitutional Court. Those amendments established domestic violence, rape and sexual violence in the marriage, sexual harassment and psychological violence as separate offences and increased punishment for such crimes. Furthermore, the 2013 amendments to the Criminal Code introduced a new article on blood feud, providing for a more severe punishment for such crimes.

365. In the past years, important reforms had been undertaken in order to protect human rights of persons deprived of their liberty and to implement policies regarding the protection of rights of those persons, aligned with European standards. In this respect, amendments to the laws on the rights and treatment of prisoners and detainees and on prison police were initiated in November 2013. The draft law on the rights and treatment of prisoners and detainees covered a wide range of aspects with an aim of improving conditions in prisons, including access to health care, complaints mechanisms and protection of personal data. It was planned to revise the General Regulation of Prisons and to draft a new internal Regulations for each penitentiary institution. The Law on Amnesty was adopted to reduce overcrowding in prisons. Due to the implementation of the Amnesty Law, which kicked off in April 2014, prison overcrowding decreased from 29 percent to 11 percent.

366. Regarding the improvement of the judiciary and the fight against corruption, the delegation stated that, in 2014, the adoption of legal amendments was planned in close consultation with the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe, which might require relevant constitutional changes.

367. The delegation explained that legal criteria for the recognition of minorities were based on historical considerations and on requirements set by the relevant international conventions, including the principle of self-identification. The Greek, Macedonian and Serbo-Montenegrin minorities had the status of national minorities, and Roma and

Aromanian/ Vlach minorities were recognised as ethno-linguistic minorities. The distinction drawn between national and ethno-linguistic minorities had no negative or discriminatory effect in respect to the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and for the protection of the rights of individuals belonging to those two minorities. According to the data of the 2011 census, minorities constituted about 1.4 percent of the total population.

368. Regarding the protection of minorities, the delegation expressed the Government's commitment to implement the recommendations put forward in the 2014 resolution of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. In the road map on the fulfilment of the five priorities of the European Commission (adopted in May 2014) several measures were included with a view to protecting minorities. In this respect, a working group was established under the auspice of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, involving representatives of state institutions and non-state organisations in order to examine the existing legal and policy framework on minorities and to prepare proposals on how to improve the domestic legislation and policies.

369. The delegation noted that Albania ratified 18 international human rights instruments and 41 instruments of the Council of Europe. Albania's application for the membership of the Human Rights Council for 2015–2017 was associated with its continuous efforts to build democratic society based on human rights.

370. The delegation assured that Albania would continue to promote human rights within the United Nations system, including through its active engagement in the work of the General Assembly and the Third Committee.

371. With a view to strengthening the protection of international human rights system, Albania took up a number of commitments, including working to adhere the principles of universality and indivisibility of human rights and of impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity in its endeavours; upholding the principle of universality of the universal periodic review and putting forward recommendations in non-selective manner to all states under review; ensuring full enjoyment of human rights by all and protecting human rights of persons belonging to ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities; supporting initiatives at the regional and international levels in order to combat intolerance and discrimination based on religion, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or any other grounds, supporting initiatives aimed at fostering interreligious and intercultural dialogue; and working towards inclusion of human rights perspective in the post-2015 development agenda.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

372. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Albania, 13 delegations made statements.

373. Algeria noted with appreciation the acceptance by Albania of a large number of recommendations, including two recommendations made by Algeria on strengthening the role and resources of human rights institutions and combating violence against women and children.

374. Angola commended Albania for the progress achieved in the promotion and protection of human rights through the adoption of a policy aimed at harmonising its legislation with the international human rights instruments. The implementation of the recommendations accepted would reinforce Albania's efforts aimed at improving access to education and health care, the prevention of domestic violence and the promotion of gender equality.

375. Bulgaria commended Albania for its measures to implement recommendations of the first cycle of the review and for its cooperation with human rights mechanisms. It noted with satisfaction the measures taken to improve legal framework, especially the 2013 amendments to the Criminal Code in order to address internal human trafficking, and to promote the rights of women, ensure gender equality and to combat domestic violence. It recommended that Albania continue strengthening measures to ensure gender equality, especially in labour market.

376. China noted with appreciation Albania's active engagement in the review and the acceptance of a large number of recommendations. It expressed hope that the Government would continue to implement effectively the National Strategy for Gender Equality, Reduction of Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence and the National Action Plan on the rights of children, in view of Albania's acceptance of a recommendation on those issues put forward by China. China noted progress achieved in the protection and promotion of human rights, including the rights of women, children, Roma and of other vulnerable groups as well as in the improvement of legal and institutional framework to combat human trafficking and blood feuds.

377. The Council of Europe highlighted the importance of the recommendations made by various bodies of the Council of Europe to Albania in three priority areas: ineffective delivery of justice; discrimination of minorities and social exclusion of Roma, and corruption, money laundering and organised crime. The Council of Europe welcomed the measures that have been already taken by the Government to address those priority areas. It commended Albania for the ratification of the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.

378. Kuwait commended Albania for its continuous efforts to enhance the cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms and to improve the protection and promotion of human rights. It noted with satisfaction the legislative reforms in various areas, including education, health care and anti-corruption, and the rights of persons with disabilities.

379. Morocco noted with appreciation Albania's acceptance of three recommendations put forward by Morocco. It commended Albania for its efforts to harmonise its national legislation with international standards and noted the improvement in legislation regarding the protection of the rights of children, women and of persons with disabilities. It noted the cooperation with the United Nations bodies and the ratification of new instruments on individual complaints.

380. Nigeria commended Albania for supporting most of the recommendations put forward during the review. It noted with appreciation the adoption of strategies and action plans on various areas, including domestic violence, the rights of the child, combating human trafficking. Nigeria commended Albania for its efforts to improve legal framework related to the protection from discrimination, the rights of the child and of persons with disabilities and the fight against corruption.

381. Romania commended Albania for the progress achieved since its first periodic review. It noted that despite the fact that Albania did not support a part of the second recommendation put forward by Romania (abolishing any possible legal grounds for differentiated treatment between national and ethno-linguistic minorities) Albania would implement the 2014 resolution (CM/ResCMN (2014)1) of the Council of Europe which addressed a similar issue and aimed at eliminating discrimination against the citizens of Albania.

382. Sierra Leone noted that Albania supported a large number of recommendations and considered that some of those recommendations had been in the process of implementation, including the recommendations on child labour and trafficking of children put forward by

Sierra Leone. It encouraged Albania to continue increasing the provision of necessary resources for the Office of the Ombudsman.

383. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia noted with appreciation that Albania supported most of the recommendations put forward during the review. It expressed confidence that the Government would make necessary efforts to implement the recommendations related to the new Law on Administrative and Territorial Divisions in line with the provisions of the European Charter of Local Self-Government of the Council of Europe.

384. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the ratification by Albania of various human rights instruments, including the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances and Albania's readiness to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention. It noted Albania's efforts in improving legal framework to prevent gender discrimination and domestic violence. It also commended Albania for its efforts in and achievement of the implementation of the recommendations accepted during its first review and the achievements.

385. Viet Nam noted with appreciation the large number of recommendations that were supported by Albania. It also noted with satisfaction that Albania supported two recommendations made by Viet Nam to further improve national institutions and human rights infrastructure and allocate resources for implementing current national strategies, programmes and measures.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

386. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Albania, 6 other stakeholders made statements.

387. The People's Advocate of Albania listed several challenges that the country continued to face, including strengthening the rule of law; harmonising the national legislation with the international law, and strengthening capacity and independence of human rights institutions. Furthermore, it highlighted several areas that require stepping up the efforts, namely in the area of prevention of child exploitation and child labour, adoption of a new law on minorities, addressing causes of the phenomenon of blood feud, providing compensation to victims during the Communist rule, strengthening mechanisms in order to address domestic violence, addressing the issue of mandatory medical treatment in prison type of hospitals, protection of the rights of persons with disabilities; implementation of the legislation regarding the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, and the fight against corruption.

388. The European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation noted that Albania had undertaken steps to improve its legislation in order to protect the LGBTI community from discrimination. It commended the Government for developing a plan of measures against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. It urged Albania inter alia to pay attention to the implementation of the Anti-Discrimination Law and of the amendments to the Penal Code, protecting LGBTI people from potential hate crimes, ensure legal recognition of same sex partnership, and to include LGBTI persons' concerns into the new Strategy for Social Inclusion.

389. Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII noted with satisfaction the measures that the Government planned to combat the phenomenon of blood feuds. It recommended that the Government inter alia create a national reconciliation process through the Transitional Justice; establish a Coordination Council to address the phenomenon of blood feud; conduct public awareness campaigns to promote reconciliation and a culture based on non-violence and respect of human rights.

390. In their joint statement, Save the Children International and World Vision International noted with satisfaction the acceptance of recommendations regarding the rights of children. In respect to the implementation of those recommendations, the necessity of sufficient budget allocations to ensure inclusive education and to conduct national awareness raising campaigns against violence and availability of child protection services nationwide was highlighted in the joint statement. Emergency centres, rehabilitation and reintegration programs had to be budgeted and embedded in the social protection services. Save the Children International and World Vision International noted with appreciation the Government's willingness to consult with civil society in the universal periodic review process and looked forward to such cooperation during the stage of the follow-up to the review.

391. Amnesty International welcomed Albania's commitment to integrate the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances into domestic legislation as well as the acceptance of several recommendations by Albania to investigate and punish abuses by law enforcement officials, end discrimination against Roma and Egyptian communities and to address domestic violence. However, Amnesty International noted with regret that Albania continued to deny Egyptians minority status. Roma and Egyptians continued to live in inadequate housing and to be vulnerable to forced eviction. The implementation of national plans for the integration of Roma remained slow. A high level of domestic violence continued to be reported, concluded Amnesty International.

392. Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik noted with appreciation that only one recommendation was noted out of 165 recommendations by Albania. It welcomed Albania's decision to accept a number of asylum seekers but was concerned about the health situation of some of them.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

393. The President stated that based on the information provided out of 165 recommendations received, 161 enjoyed the support of Albania, additional clarification was provided on another 3 recommendations, indicating which part was supported and which part was noted, and the rest, which was one recommendation, was noted.

394. In conclusion, the delegation assured the commitment of Albania towards its obligation to implement recommendations put forward during the review, while recognising challenges ahead. Albania has been also committed to strengthen the United Nations human rights system, including boosting the capacity of the Human Rights Council to respond effectively to gross human rights violations, strengthening cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, working towards further advancement of international human rights norms and standards, strengthening efforts to promote gender equality, empower women and to promote the rights of the most vulnerable groups and strengthening the protection and promotion of the rights of older persons.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

395. The review of the Democratic Republic of the Congo was held on 29 April 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/COD/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/COD/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/COD/3).

396. At its 22nd meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see section C below).

397. The outcome of the review of the Democratic Republic of the Congo comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/5), the views of the Democratic Republic of the Congo concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group.

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

398. The delegation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo noted that the UPR Working Group session that was held on 29 April 2014 was an opportunity for its country to report to the Council of Human Rights on efforts and progress made in the implementation of the recommendations received during the first cycle.

399. The delegation highlighted that out of the 229 recommendations received the Democratic Republic of the Congo accepted 190, noted 38 and delayed the position on one recommendation. This latter was formulated by Belgium as follows:” Ensure that all persons, including members of the national army, the police and intelligence service, who are suspected of having committed crimes of international law and other grave human rights violations, are brought before the courts in fair trials that do not lead to the death penalty.” The delegation stated that the Government ensured that people’s fundamental rights were protected and that perpetrators of criminal acts were pursued. However, it noted that as the death penalty was not abrogated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, it was impossible to accept the recommendation presented by Belgium.

400. The delegation noted that concrete initiatives were carried out by the Government to implement the UPR recommendations. The Government has clustered all the accepted recommendations into 25 thematic groups and has identified the Ministries which are in charge of each group. Furthermore, a plan of action for the implementation of the recommendations is prepared by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights and will be adopted, at a workshop, by all the concerned stakeholders, namely the representatives of the Government and of the civil society, and development partners.

401. Regarding recommendations on sexual and gender based violence; the delegation announced the adoption in August 2014, of an action plan on the fight against sexual violence for the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARCD). The delegation stated that the phenomenon of sexual violence had slightly decreased since the end of the war in the Eastern part of the country. It added that the Government called on the continuation of the collaboration with the MONUSCO, in particular the “Brigade d’intervention spéciale”, in order to totally dismantle all the armed groups.

402. The delegation explained that the action plan for the FARCD focused at reducing the violence attributable to the armed forces by strengthening the prevention and the fight against impunity and that it was based on four pillars: prevention; repression; communication and follow-up/monitoring.

403. The delegation stated that the Government continued to implement the action plan to end the recruitment of children associated with the Congolese armed forces and security forces signed in October 2012. In May 2013, a ministerial decree required that all the members of the FARCD combat the recruitment and use of child soldiers within the armed

forces. The delegation added that thanks to these efforts, the number of children separated from the armed groups had increased from 2,894 in 2013 to 5,609 in 2014. It also stated that there were no child soldiers in the FARDC and that the phenomenon was linked to the presence of armed groups in the country.

404. With regard to the establishment of a national human rights commission, the delegation noted that this institution was not operational due to the fact that the representatives of the civil society had not yet chosen the commissioners.

405. The delegation said that the Government had taken measures to submit the reports due to treaty bodies. The fourth report on the implementation of the International Covenant to the Civil and Political Rights has been sent to the Secretary General of the United Nations.

406. In conclusion, the delegation reaffirmed that the Democratic Republic of the Congo remained committed to implement the UPR recommendations and all the commitments made under the international instruments that it had ratified.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

407. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 13 delegations made statements. The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints²⁰ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

408. Angola welcomed the commitment of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the protection and promotion of the human rights despite the crisis that the country was going through. Angola was aware that peace and security remained essential factors for the implementation of the accepted recommendations and welcomed the efforts by the Democratic Republic of the Congo to achieve effective and lasting peace.

409. Botswana commended the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the measures undertaken to restore the peace and stability which were crucial for the promotion and protection of human rights. It commended the Government for the initiatives that led to the signing of a number of agreements including the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region and the Nairobi Declaration. Botswana welcomed the concrete steps taken in addressing sexual and gender-based violence. It called on the international community to extend the necessary technical assistance and capacity in the implementation of the recommendations.

410. Chad noted with satisfaction that the Democratic Republic of the Congo made significant efforts for the promotion and protection of the human rights. It thanked the Congolese authorities for having accepted the recommendation that it had presented at the UPR Working Group in April 2014.

411. China was grateful that the Democratic Republic of the Congo accepted its recommendations. It stated that the international community should fully acknowledge the efforts and progress made by the Congolese Government on restoring stability, combating sexual violence, protecting the rights of women and children, further in judiciary reform, and ending impunity. China called upon the relevant UN bodies to provide assistance to the country in the implementation of the UPR recommendations.

²⁰ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

412. The Congo congratulated the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the progresses made since the last UPR through the adoption of legal documents and the measures taken to protect vulnerable people and prevent the violence against women and children. The Congo welcomed also the efforts undertaken to eradicate all forms of discrimination and violence.

413. Côte d'Ivoire thanked the Democratic Republic of the Congo for having accepted the recommendations that it had made. It also encouraged the Government in its efforts aimed at strengthening the legal mechanisms and instruments of the promotion and protection of the human rights.

414. Cuba noted the implementation of the recommendations of the first cycle despite the difficult situation that the Democratic Republic of the Congo faced and the inability to carry out its development plans throughout the national territory. This was demonstrated, among others, by plans for the construction and rehabilitation of schools, increase of the resources allocated to education and adoption of national plans for poverty reduction.

415. Djibouti encouraged the Democratic Republic of the Congo in its efforts in promoting and protecting human rights. It also encouraged the Congolese authorities to continue the current reforms of the justice and security sectors.

416. Egypt commended the Democratic Republic of the Congo for its support of the recommendations that Egypt made regarding the adoption of a social security code; elimination of the sale and trafficking of children for sexual exploitation; fight against maternal and infant mortality; access for women and girls to basic health care services, and free and compulsory education for all children without discrimination.

417. Ethiopia was pleased to note that the recommendations that it made enjoyed the support of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It was encouraged by the commitment of the Government to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement organs and by the acceptance of the recommendation to enhance measures to progressively ensure free primary education. Ethiopia called on the United Nations human rights mechanisms and special funds and programmes to assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the implementation of the recommendations.

418. Gabon recognised the efforts undertaken by the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the promotion and protection of the human rights, in particular the strengthening of the capacities of the national human rights institutions. Gabon recommended that the Government continue to take measures to fight against sexual violence.

419. The United States of America appreciated the recommendations made by several States for the Democratic Republic of the Congo to increase efforts to address impunity for extrajudicial killings and arbitrary detention. It also welcomed the pledge to increase support to victims of sexual and gender based violence. The United States of America welcomed the acceptance of the recommendation to establish, in conjunction with the civil society and the international community, independent and impartial specialised mixed chambers to address human rights violations. It was also encouraged that the Democratic Republic of the Congo supported recommendations to allow for full freedom of expression and assembly and urged the Government to fully implement these recommendations.

420. Mali welcomed the support by the Democratic Republic of the Congo of several recommendations on the fight against gender based violence. Efforts made in this area will strengthen the measures already taken by the Government in the implementation of its 2009 action plan. Mali invited the international community to continue assisting the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the implementation of the recommendations.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

421. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 10 other stakeholders made statements. The statements of the stakeholders that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints²¹ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

422. In a joint statement, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development welcomed the acceptance by the DRC of almost all of the recommendations made on the rights of the child. They however drew attention to the situation of the most vulnerable among children, namely street children, “child witches” and children living in rural and remote areas. They recommended that the Democratic Republic of the Congo accelerate the implementation of Law No. 09/001 of 10 January 2009 on the protection of the child; punish by law adults who accuse children of witchcraft; ensure that primary education can be free; ensure equality to the labour market by professional training for the least favoured among youth; and bring perpetrators of violence against children to justice.

423. World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) highlighted the practice of war rape. It noted that the Government expressed a constructive approach in the UPR. It also realized the substantial security challenges. This however could not justify the number of 40.000 rape cases, as advanced by the country itself. Judicial reform could have been speeded up to deal with war rape and promote rule of law. WEA also highlighted corruption which received alarmingly little attention during the UPR despite the fact it was rampant in the country. WEA noted that the country was laden with a mineral wealth extravaganza. It underlined that there was a golden opportunity for the Government to promote human rights and deal with inequality. It made a recommendation on elections to ensure a balanced representation of the people in Government.

424. International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) noted that Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community suffered persecution from the population in general and the police in particular, including arbitrary and illegal imprisonment, intimidation and extortion. Homosexuals were doubly discriminated against as regards their right to health linked to their sexuality, especially HIV-AIDS. They were stigmatized and not necessarily allowed health care. ILGA hoped that recommendations from the UPR will ensure improvement in the life of LGBT in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

425. International Catholic Child Bureau (ICCB) underlined its participation along with other partners in the establishment by the Ministry of Justice of juvenile justice system and mechanisms. It noted that the Government has made an effort to establish secondary courts in Kinshasa to allow for the Court in N’djili to work in a better fashion. However, efforts needed to continue to be made in order to ensure they were judges in children courts and to support the functioning of child courts, Ombudsman committees, and social assistants as well as providing financial and logistical support to NGOs. ICCB reported on bad prison conditions of children detained in Kinshasa, Mbuji-Mayi and Kananga.

426. Franciscans International welcomed the commitment taken by the Democratic Republic of the Congo during its second UPR, especially with regard to the reform of security services, and the struggle against impunity, sexual violence and forced labour for children. It noted significant and grave violations of human rights and very little attention given to this during the UPR. Nonetheless, it welcomed efforts made by the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the mining sector ensuring traceability, transparency and classification of mining sites. However, the effects on the living conditions of the

²¹ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

population were still insufficient. It recommended that the Democratic Republic of the Congo finalize its revision of the mining code; intensify its efforts to certify, trace the minerals and monitor mining artisanal sites; and consolidate the State's authority throughout the country, especially in the East to neutralize armed groups still active in some mining sites.

427. Amnesty International (AI) welcomed the support by the Democratic Republic of the Congo of the majority of the recommendations made during its review and called on the Government to implement them without delay. AI welcomed the Government's support of recommendations to address impunity, including its commitment to incorporate the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court into domestic legislation. It was concerned however that a legislative proposal on the domestication of the Rome Statute was rejected by Parliament in May 2014. It urged the Government to submit new legislative proposals to Parliament to incorporate the Rome Statute in domestic law and to establish specialized chambers in the Congolese Court of Appeal tasked with hearing international crimes committed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo between 1993 and 2003. AI was concerned that current legislation included provision for the death penalty. It urged the Government to reconsider its position and to take steps towards its abolition. AI was disappointed that recommendations to adopt a law on the protection of human rights defenders were rejected. It urged the Government to reconsider these recommendations and to investigate all alleged violations against human rights defenders, including killings, arbitrary arrests, threats and intimidation, and to bring those responsible to justice.

428. Action Canada for Population and Development (ACPD) commended the Government's acceptance of recommendations on early marriages, female genital mutilation, young women's education, sexual and gender-based violence, and gender equality. ACPD urged the Government to devote adequate funds to the department responsible for eliminating and addressing sexual violence and to create and implement a plan to monitor the effective utilization of these funds. It also called on the Government to increase its efforts to sensitize and raise the awareness of individuals regarding the laws against gender-based violence and the various legal instruments available to hold perpetrators accountable. In promoting efforts to ensure gender equality, ACPD urged the Government to decriminalize abortion. Finally, it was concerned with the lack of attention paid to the discrimination facing individuals with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions during the review. It urged the Government to reject the proposed bill which would criminalize so-called sexual practices against nature and in doing so uphold and promote individuals' rights to privacy.

429. United Nations Watch noted the severe and large-scale sexual and gender-based violence occurring in the country. In addition, it was gravely concerned over the lack of progress in combating violence against civil society activists and journalists. It regretted that the Democratic Republic of the Congo had rejected key UPR recommendations in this regard. Human rights activists were frequently subjected to death threats, arbitrary arrest, rape, beatings and in some cases torture or even killing by Government agents or armed groups. The magnitude of systematic sexual violence against citizens in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was deplorable, as was the violence perpetrated against journalists and human rights workers.

430. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) reminded the Democratic Republic of the Congo that it had to demonstrate its support for the Security Council resolution 1325 by ensuring women's representation at all decision-making levels for the conflict's resolution, and by bringing this resolution to the attention of all public institutions of the country. Moreover, given that mining activities in the country had proven to have a negative impact on human rights and the rule of law, WILPF encouraged the Government to refrain from developing new mining projects until the adoption and

implementation of a policy containing measures to protect the population from the negative impact of mining on human rights. WILPF also suggested recommendations on the limitation of arms trade and proliferation of light weapons in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as these were direct factors hindering the enjoyment of human rights and facilitating acts of gender-based violence. It reiterated its recommendation by calling upon the Government to ratify the Arms Trade Treaty.

431. In a joint statement, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Refugees International (RI) welcomed the observations and recommendations with regard to the situation of the human rights of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Given the scale of internal displacement in the country, they were disappointed to see that only minimal attention to the plight of these 2.6 million was given. They noted that IDPs in the country often lived in a dire situation: they lacked access to basic services, food, water and shelter. They also faced serious protection concerns. NRC and RI hoped that the UPR recommendation on IDPs would be given priority in the Government's implementation plan. They commended the Government for starting the ratification process of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa and encouraged the Government to complete the ratification process. They also recommended that the Democratic Republic of the Congo respond to the needs of IDPs and ensure that the conditions were met for Congolese IDPs to find durable solutions to their plight.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

432. The President stated that based on the information provided, out of 229 recommendations received, 190 enjoy the support of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and 39 are noted.

433. In its concluding remarks, the delegation thanked the representatives of States and human rights organisations, who had actively participated in the review, for their interest in the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It reiterated that the Government remained faithful to its international commitments and to the ideas of peace and human rights protection. The delegation added that the Government needed peace as well as the support of the Human Rights Council to consolidate the efforts and progresses necessary for the promotion of human rights.

Cote d'Ivoire

434. The review of Cote d'Ivoire was held on 29 April 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by Cote d'Ivoire in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/CIV/1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/CIV/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/CIV/3).

435. At its 24th meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Cote d'Ivoire (see section C below).

436. The outcome of the review of Cote d'Ivoire comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/6) the views of Cote d'Ivoire concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or

issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/6/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

437. The head of delegation, H.E. Kouadio Adjoumani, Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations Office at Geneva, welcomed the opportunity to address the Human Rights Council to present the addendum to the second report of the Universal Periodic Review.

438. First referring to the follow-up on the UPR initial cycle, Côte d'Ivoire mentioned its national report (A/HRC/WG.6/19/CIV/1) presented to the Working Group. The document was divided into three main pillars that deal with the developments in its normative and institutional framework, the monitoring and implementation of recommendations and commitments from its first UPR, and its expectations in terms of capacity building and technical assistance.

439. Over the course of the second UPR Working Group, 186 recommendations were made to Côte d'Ivoire, which endorsed 178, deferred 6 and rejected 2 of them. The delegation expressed its content for participating in this exercise, which allows assessing the ability of member-states to incorporate the various mechanisms set up by the United Nations to promote human rights, the measures taken to give them effect and the progress achieved in this area.

440. During its second UPR, Côte d'Ivoire requested and obtained the Working Group's consent to decide later on six recommendations. These recommendations related to accession to international human rights instruments, cooperation with Special Procedures and Treaty Bodies, equality, non-discrimination and protection of vulnerable persons.

441. During the plenary session, an addendum to the national report containing the government's response to these recommendations was distributed. Half of them were accepted (128.1, 128.2 and 128.3), whereas the other half was rejected (128.4, 128.5 and 128.6).

442. The set of recommendations that was accepted by Côte d'Ivoire over the course of its UPR second cycle will be divided between public and partially public institutions potentially responsible for their implementation. At the end of this process, an extensive restitution and awareness campaign reaching out to civil society will be organized. A follow up committee composed by human rights experts from different ministries will work to monitor its implementation.

443. The delegation noted that since its last review, various measures have been taken towards the implementation of the accepted recommendations. These include:

444. The enactment of the law on the reform of the Independent Electoral Commission, whose members are appointed from the ruling party, the political opposition parties and civil society;

445. The adoption of a communication regarding the recruitment of young women into the National Gendarmerie starting from the 2015–2016 academic calendar. A quota of 10% of the positions available, for both officers and sub-officers, will be allocated to women

446. The continuation of the process of national reconciliation. Surveys were conducted in the field to determine liabilities, as well as losses suffered by the victims of the electoral crisis. To this effect, the Commission on Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation has begun its start public hearings.

447. Côte d'Ivoire expressed its gratitude for the international community's support and requested Member-states to continue to back the country in its efforts towards the construction and consolidation of the rule of law. The delegation mentioned the government's intent to produce a mid-term review in 2016 on the effective implementation of the recommendations made to it over the course of its UPR second cycle in 2014.

448. The Ivorian delegation also noted the delays in submitting reports to the Treaty Bodies. To cope with this situation, the Government will soon set up an inter-ministerial committee to draft all pending reports. As a remedy, the delegation noted that the country has been demonstrating a very good cooperation and openness to all United Nations mechanisms, most notably those related to human rights.

449. Côte d'Ivoire renewed its engagement with the Special Procedures, resulting in the government's approval to several visit requests from different mandate-holders, including the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, and the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

450. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Cote d'Ivoire, 16 delegations made statements. The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints²² are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

451. Cuba highlighted the efforts made by Cote d'Ivoire in the implementation of the recommendations accepted during the first UPR cycle, in particular following the situation of instability that the country went through and its consequences that had not been yet totally eliminated. Cuba thanked Cote d'Ivoire for accepting its recommendations, made on strengthening efforts on reducing poverty, and urged the international community to support Cote d'Ivoire in its efforts.

452. Djibouti encouraged Cote d'Ivoire to pursue its efforts at preserving and promoting human rights and called upon the international community to provide support to the Cote d'Ivoire in this effort.

453. Egypt commended the support of Cote d'Ivoire to a high number of recommendations presented during UPR session, including strengthening measures to expand women's access to land, to microfinance and microcredit at low interest rates; continuing to ensure in practice protection of children against sale and trafficking; reducing the rates of maternal mortality; ensuring that toxic waste was treated in an environmentally sound manner. It urged the country to continue its efforts.

454. Equatorial Guinea indicated that the efforts of Cote d'Ivoire in the implementation of recommendations formulated during the UPR first cycle reflected the willingness to improve the human right situation in the country and to continue the reconciliation process and social cohesion. It noted the establishment in 2012 of the National Human Right Commission of conformity with Paris Principles and that the access to justice, social services and education of the citizens was improved.

455. Ethiopia was pleased to note that the two recommendations made by Ethiopia were accepted by Cote d'Ivoire. It appreciated the progress made by the country to strengthen its

²² <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

efforts for peace and development. Ethiopia encouraged Cote d'Ivoire to continue its efforts in fighting poverty and unemployment and indicated that the elaboration of the National Development Plan manifested the commitment of the country in advancing development.

456. Gabon commended Cote d'Ivoire for cooperating with international human rights procedures and mechanisms. It recognized that significant progress had been achieved by the country in implementing certain categories of fundamental rights for its people. While welcoming the progress achieved by Cote d'Ivoire in the area of national reconciliation, Gabon recommended sparing no efforts to reach lasting and final peace in the country which will guarantee full enjoyment of all human rights.

457. Mali noted with satisfaction the exemplary cooperation of Cote d'Ivoire with UPR Working Group and others Human Right Council mechanisms. It congratulated the country for accepting nearly all of the recommendations. It was pleased to see the progress made in the areas of national reconciliation, democratic governance and improvement of human right situation. Mali also welcomed the achievements of the government in strengthening peace and security in the country.

458. Morocco welcomed Cote d'Ivoire's acceptance of a large number of recommendations. It expressed its satisfaction that the country plans to establish an Inter-ministerial body for coordinating the preparation of its National Periodic report, an initiative that reveals the determination of the country to make the progress in this area. It also welcomed the interaction of Cote d'Ivoire with the Special Procedures and its experience in the transitional justice.

459. Niger noted with satisfaction the progress made by Cote d'Ivoire, particularly in the areas of national reconciliation, strengthening of judicial system and reconstruction of the country through the implementation of the National Development Plan. It indicated that these actions had a positive impact on the political and security situation in the country and the well-being of its people. Niger also noted the initiatives of government to combat sexual violence against women and girls.

460. Nigeria commended Cote d'Ivoire for its continued engagement with the UPR process and OHCHR. It encouraged the country to continue harmonising the national legislation in line with International Human Rights laws and introducing government bodies to promote and protect human rights. Nigeria commended Cote d'Ivoire for its alignment with several international instruments including the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the Optional Protocols of CRC and to CEDAW. It urged to continue its efforts to protect and promote human rights of its people.

461. Sierra Leone commended Cote d'Ivoire's acceptance of a high number of recommendations and its readiness to advance human rights norms in the country. Sierra Leone was pleased to note that Cote d'Ivoire took into consideration its recommendations, in particular the adoption of a comprehensive law on the trafficking in persons; ensuring the conformity with the Paris Principles of NHRI; and submitting their outstanding reports to the concerned Treaty Bodies.

462. South Africa commended Cote d'Ivoire on the efforts made to improve the human rights situation of its people as well as on the fulfilment of its international obligations through national and sectorial policies. It welcomed the adoption of the National Development Plan and the conformity of the National Human Right Commission in line with the Paris Principles. South Africa commended the acceptance by Cote d'Ivoire of more than 170 recommendations and its determination to implement them. It referred to Cote d'Ivoire's seven priority areas including violence against women, prison policy and reporting to Treaty Bodies.

463. Sudan welcomed the efforts deployed by Cote d'Ivoire. It also welcomed the acceptance by the country of nearly all the UPR recommendations and wished Cote d'Ivoire success.

464. Togo thanked Cote d'Ivoire for its firm determination to fulfil its international obligations in the area of human rights. It noted with satisfaction that despite the post-crisis situation that it continues to go through, Cote d'Ivoire accepted nearly all of the recommendations, including those made by Togo, inviting Ivorian authorities to continue its efforts in order to identify the victims of war and compensate them for any harm.

465. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the reform of the National Human Right Commission in order to ensure that it complies with Paris Principles. It stressed the fact that the genuine dialogue and cooperation were fundamental to achieve peace in Cote d'Ivoire. Venezuela encouraged the country to continue its social policy to improve the living conditions of its people especially the most vulnerable.

466. Algeria noted that Cote d'Ivoire will spare no efforts to bringing back the national reconciliation and strengthening different institutions with the view of better promotion and protection of human rights. It also noted with satisfaction that Cote d'Ivoire has adhered to a number of international instruments and new laws have been adopted to establish a new High Authority for Audio-visual communication and National Human Rights Commission had been established. Algeria stated that efforts had been made by the country to strengthen peace, combat violence against women and improve prison conditions.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

467. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Cote d'Ivoire 8 other stakeholders made statements.

468. International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) praised Côte d'Ivoire for accepting recommendations made by Djibouti and Italy to protect civil society and enlarge its capacities at the country level. Furthermore, the recent enacting of the law protecting human rights defenders was an encouraging signal that the country was willing to preserve and widen its democratic space. ISHR encouraged Cote d'Ivoire to play a positive role in the regional and international human rights mechanisms. ISHR regretted, however, the rejection of a recommendation made by the Netherlands regarding measures to prevent gender and sexual orientation discrimination. It urged Côte d'Ivoire to fully cooperate with the newly elected Independent Expert and speed up its replies to communications sent by Special Procedures mandate-holders.

469. World Organization Against Torture (OMCT) welcomed Côte d'Ivoire's ratification of OP-CAT. It also praised the country for reviewing its penal code in order to include torture as a crime, as well for submitting its initial report to the Committee Against Torture. However, OMCT and its partner expressed their grave concern for the serious and persistent violations of human rights in Côte d'Ivoire including the practice of torture, noting that reparations for victims were virtually non-existent and deplored the lack of effective measures for the implementation of CAT especially in view of the upcoming elections and the mounting tensions.

470. International Catholic Child Bureau (ICCB) saluted the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It was noted, however, that the 2014–2016 Action Plan in favour of persons with disabilities had not yet been adopted by the country's Council of Ministers. ICCB recommended the establishment of pilot schools with Braille educational facilities. Furthermore, the precarious situation of domestic workers, especially young girls, was of great concern. Among other measures, the ratification of Convention 189 of the International Labour Organization was recommended. Recommendations were also made to improve the conditions of children in conflict with the

law. ICCB referred to a 2012 report informing that young girls and boys were detained together in prisons and mentioned that in 2013 in MACA prisons minors were put in adult cells as a punishment.

471. Franciscans International (FI) praised Côte d'Ivoire for accepting recommendations on facilitating the issuance of birth certificates and for taking steps towards simplifying this process during its second UPR, even though challenges in this regard still remained. FI acknowledged that despite the efforts undertaken by Cote d'Ivoire to favour under a special regime the registration of children born during the crisis, the rate of registration remained at an unsatisfactory level. It recommended the Ivorian government to take effective measures to guarantee an easy issuance of birth certificates without any costs for its population, and to organize awareness campaigns on the importance of parents registering their children as soon as they were born.

472. Organisation pour la Communication en Afrique et de Promotion de la Cooperation Economique Internationale (OCAPROCE Internationale) congratulated Côte d'Ivoire for its National Plan in combating domestic sexual violence and discrimination against women, and for the provision of free medical care for mothers and children. However, it noted that, in spite of recent efforts, the legislative framework on the protection of women was still incipient referring to the persistence of harmful practices. OCAPROCE recommended increasing and facilitating access of women victims of violence to courts and tribunals, and affirmative actions to increase the overall participation of women in society. It stressed prosecution of perpetrators of sexual violence during the crisis. Finally OCAPROCE recommended the separation of quarters of children, women and men in detention facilities.

473. CIVICUS welcomed Côte d'Ivoire's adoption of a number of recommendations to create a more enabling environment for civil society and ensure that the fundamental rights of all Ivoirians were respected and protected. However, despite the country's commitments during its UPR examination, CIVICUS noted that the government had simultaneously taken steps to limit the space for civil society, and freedom of expression and the media at the national level. It raised concerns with the death of two journalists as well as the arrests and detentions of others for publishing reports criticizing government actions. CIVICUS urged the government to take all necessary measures to implement recommendations it accepted to prevent the harassment of journalists and civil society activists.

474. International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) praised Cote d'Ivoire for accepting the vast majority of recommendations received over the course of its examination. Steps to combat impunity were noted. FIDH welcomed the establishment of a Special Unit for inquiries and investigations on the post electoral crisis that led to more than 3000 deaths, in spite of hindrances that still remained. It recommended that cooperation between the Commission on Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation and the judiciary branch be strengthened. Finally, FIDH and its partners noted with regret that recommendations regarding sexual orientations were rejected by Côte d'Ivoire and appealed to authorities to guarantee the principle of non-discrimination for all citizens, referring to a 2014 rampage of a LGBT association.

475. Rencontre Africaine pour la Defense des Droits de l'Homme (RADDHO) praised the country for its efforts in the socio economic and political spheres to overcome the crisis that divided and paralyzed Côte d'Ivoire. However it noted with concern that gender violence still persisted in Ivorian society (including Female Genital Mutilation) and that overcrowding and poor conditions in prisons were still serious issues. RADDHO stressed that children continue to be exploited and were victims of violence especially in rural areas. It also raised its concern with the recent departure of several political parties. RADDHO also highlighted the dysfunctional judiciary system. It encouraged the Ivorian government to strengthen its cooperation with Human Rights Council's mechanisms and exhort its

authorities to engage in an inclusive social and political dialogue with the civil society in order to speed up the national reconciliation process.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

476. The President stated that based on the information provided out of 186 recommendations received, 181 enjoyed the support of Cote d'Ivoire, and 5 were noted.

477. The head of delegation thanked the participants for their support and constructive contributions to its UPR. Referring to the Minister of Justice's statement during the UPR Working Group in April 2014 he underlined that Côte d'Ivoire remained convinced that human rights were an essential pillar and asset in the process of rebuilding a nation. That is the reason why they were conceived as the foundation of the country's development.

478. Côte d'Ivoire reminded that the support of the international community, in particular of UN agencies, allowed the country to find a solution for the crisis it had faced. In view of the challenges that remain, the Ivorian government, aware of the magnitude of the task ahead, intends to make every effort to successfully overcome them.

479. Finally, the Head of delegation called on all parties to engage with the Ivorian people and its government to continue to assist in the follow-up process of its commitments to allow Cote d'Ivoire remain in its legitimate place on the international scene. It also saluted the Human Rights Council for its engagement, as well as material and technical support, which allowed the country to find a solution for the post-electoral conflict.

Portugal

480. The review of Portugal was held on 30 April 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Portugal in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/PRT/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/PRT/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/PRT/3).

481. At its 24th meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Portugal (see section C below).

482. The outcome of the review of Portugal comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/7), the views of Portugal concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/7/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

483. The head of the delegation of Portugal, Ambassador Pedro Nuno Bártolo, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations Office in Geneva, thanked the other delegations, civil society and the Ombudsman of Portugal for their contributions to the review. Expressing himself in Portuguese, he hoped that this language would in future become an official language of the United Nations.

484. Portugal's strong commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms was enshrined in the Constitution and it was a Government priority, both domestically, and in external action; achieving universal respect for all human rights was the main priority. Portugal was proud to be the first country in Europe, and probably in the world, to abolish the death penalty more than 150 years ago. Portugal's candidacy for membership of the Human Rights Council in the period 2015–2017, was building upon this firm commitment towards the universal realization of human rights.

485. From the outset, Portugal had supported the universal periodic review as a prime mechanism for the promotion and protection of human rights through open dialogue between states. Implementation of the wide range of recommendations received in the first Review in 2009 had contributed to the improvement of the human rights situation in Portugal.

486. Portugal believed that its record in the promotion and protection of human rights had been widely acknowledged by the Human Rights Council in its Second Universal Period Review and it thanked the 74 delegations that had actively participated in the Review, the members of the troika and the Secretariat for their work.

487. The 151 recommendations which were received were all welcomed and carefully examined by the Government. Portugal had immediately accepted 67 recommendations, but was unable to accept five. The positions on the remaining 79 recommendations were presented in the addendum to the Report of the Working Group. Of the total of 151 recommendations, 139 were accepted and the delegation underlined that 117 of these corresponded to national priorities and measures that were already being implemented. There were only 12 recommendations which Portugal was unable to accept. It was grateful for the remaining 22 recommendations; their implementation would certainly contribute to the full realization of human rights in Portugal.

488. Portugal was thoroughly engaged in its preparations for the second Review and would be equally committed in the implementation of the resulting recommendations. This task will be developed in the framework of the National Human Rights Committee, an inter-ministerial coordination body that also involves representatives from civil society in its work. This body was created in 2010, specifically following a commitment made by Portugal during its first Review.

489. Since the first Review, Portugal had had to implement a severe financial adjustment programme, under which it had to take harsh austerity measures which had had an undeniable social and economic impact. Numerous delegations drew attention to the need to assess the human rights impact of such policies; this was already one of Portugal's priorities. As indicated in the interactive dialogue, Portugal had taken several measures to mitigate the social impact of the crisis. The positive results arising from the Programme of Social emergency, which was created in 2011, was a good example.

490. Portugal was determined to seek to guarantee that no one, and the most vulnerable persons in particular, can be prevented from enjoying their human rights within the standards defined by the United Nations. With this objective in mind, the full and effective integration of Roma communities and the implementation of the National Strategy that had been adopted in 2013 for that purpose had been prioritized. Another example was the programme "Choices", which aimed at the promotion of the social inclusion of children, young people at risk and the children of migrants and other minorities in particular.

491. Several recommendations were accepted which concerned the prevention of and fight against domestic and gender violence, which was also one of the main human rights priorities of the Government. The delegation referred to some of the measures in this field which included those related to combatting female genital mutilation.

492. Portugal underlined that the issues covered by the recommendations which it was unable to accept nevertheless deserved great attention. The protection of migrant workers and members of their families was a good example of this. As a country of immigration and emigration, Portugal attached great importance to this reality. Its national policies on the integration of migrant communities had gained wide international recognition. No member state of the European Union was a party to the Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families, however, Portugal granted a degree of protection to migrant communities that went beyond the Convention. The delegation provided examples, including the provision of access to education and health services for migrants in an irregular situation.

493. Portugal favoured a sectorial approach rather than a single national action plan for human rights and the delegation mentioned plans in various domains which covered all those which would be contemplated in a single action plan. The full implementation of the measures contained in these plans was a priority.

494. The creation, in 2010, of the Portuguese National Human Rights Committee had reinforced coordination and coherence in the implementation of the human rights obligations with a comprehensive Annual Programme and the active participation of civil society.

495. Portugal attached great priority to the fight against discrimination, in all its forms, reflecting that compromise in its policies and its legislation. The delegation underlined the prohibition of all kinds of discrimination due to sexual orientation. Civil marriage between people of the same sex had been provided for in legislation since 2010.

496. The delegation highlighted the role of the Ombudsman as an independent body, which had been enshrined in national legislation and the Constitution for almost 40 years. As well as analysing complaints related to the acts or omissions of the public administration and making recommendations, it could also act on its own initiative. The competences of the institution were strengthened in 2013 and it also became a national independent institution for monitoring the application of treaties and international conventions in terms of human rights. It had been accredited with "A" status, according to the Paris Principles, since 1999. The Government considered its role to be of great importance and closely collaborated with it while respecting its independent status.

497. Portugal will engage in implementing the 139 accepted recommendations in the coming period, conscious that no state had a perfect record and that only the effort of each and every state will allow effective realization of the human rights for all across the world. It was a firm believer in the added value of the universal periodic review mechanism, its principles and objectives.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

498. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Portugal, 15 delegations made statements.

499. The Council of Europe congratulated Portugal for the successful review and wished to evoke the recommendations made by its various monitoring bodies. It noted three priority areas among these recommendations: social exclusion and discrimination against Roma; the excessive length of judicial proceedings; and poor conditions of detention, in particular overcrowding. It welcomed the measures which the Government had already undertaken to address these and congratulated Portugal for the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combatting violence against women and domestic violence.

500. Egypt was encouraged by Portugal's efforts in combatting racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, eliminating violence against women and promoting social and economic rights. It encouraged Portugal to share the best practices it has recorded with the Human Rights Council. It welcomed the acceptance by Portugal of all its recommendations, which related to the harmonization of national legislation with its obligations under ICERD, drafting a plan of action for people of African descent and providing protection for the family as the natural unit of society.

501. India thanked Portugal for the responses in the addendum and in its statement and commended its receptive and constructive engagement with the universal periodic review mechanism. It was encouraged by the acceptance of 67 recommendations immediately after the review and subsequent acceptance of an additional 72 recommendations. It appreciated acceptance of its three recommendations relating to the Roma community and the issue of trafficking for the purposes of labour exploitation, especially in children. India believed that Portugal had gained much from its participation and would continue its efforts to implement the recommendations in the coming years.

502. The Islamic Republic of Iran thanked the delegation for its statement and had high expectations that the accepted recommendations would be implemented. It urged Portugal to boost its efforts to address the following issues: racism and discrimination against immigrants and foreigners, particularly Roma and persons of African descent, in access to education, healthcare, employment and housing; racism and manifestations of xenophobia; detention conditions, ill-treatment of detainees and prison overcrowding; poor health conditions in prisons, high mortality rates and drug abuse by detainees; domestic violence and the high level of deaths of women as a result of domestic violence. It called for these issues to be addressed in comprehensive manner.

503. Morocco noted the importance which Portugal had attached to the protection of human rights, particularly the rights of migrants and their protection from discrimination and violence as well as the importance given to inter-cultural dialogue. It also noted the efforts towards the integration of migrants, as was shown in the guarantees of access to education for migrants, including those in an irregular situation. Morocco congratulated Portugal for its excellent interaction with the universal periodic review mechanism and its acceptance of Morocco's recommendations and almost all of those made to it.

504. Nigeria was encouraged by the policies of Portugal aimed at ameliorating the hardships experience by irregular migrants, including the provision of access to education for their children. It urged Portugal to introduce policies aimed at the prevention of racial discrimination. It also called on Portugal to accede to the international conventions which it had yet to ratify; to incorporate the international conventions into domestic statutes and continue the promotion and protection of human rights. Nigeria endorsed Portugal's universal periodic review.

505. Qatar was grateful for Portugal's presentation and the clarifications which were provided in relation to the recommendations. It noted some of the measures adopted to develop and promote human rights and wished to commend Portugal's close co-operation with the Human Rights Council with a view to meeting its international commitments in the area of human rights. It noted that Portugal accepted most of the recommendations provided to it including the two recommendations from Qatar. This attested to its commitment to uphold human rights.

506. Romania congratulated Portugal for its cooperation and considered that its attitude demonstrated a genuine commitment to human rights. Portugal distinguished itself in promoting economic, social and cultural rights. It appreciated the commitment to promoting human rights domestically and internationally.

507. Sierra Leone commended Portugal for its compliance with the universal periodic review mechanism and noted the goodwill shown by accepting recommendations and working on their implementation. It noted that its own recommendations had been considered favourably. Sierra Leone commended the achievements to date.

508. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela appreciated Portugal's acceptance of recommendations on themes of common concern, such as education, mechanisms for combatting racism and discrimination against migrants and ethnic minorities as well as measures to assist women victims of domestic and gender-based violence. It recognized that, despite the huge challenges arising from the economic crisis, Portugal had initiated measures to promote education for children, youth and older women who lacked resources. It appreciated Portugal's open cooperation with the universal periodic review which had resulted in productive dialogue and the acceptance of the majority of the recommendations made.

509. Viet Nam thanked Portugal for the additional information provided and its renewed engagement towards meeting its international human rights obligations, despite the economic difficulties which it faced. It noted the acceptance of Viet Nam's recommendations and wished Portugal success in the implementation of the recommendations which it had accepted.

510. Algeria welcomed the acceptance by Portugal of most of the recommendations including its own recommendation relating to the strengthening of measures, particularly preventive measures, in combatting all forms of racial discrimination and measures aimed at increasing equality for vulnerable groups, particularly through the use of positive measures. It regretted that Portugal had not looked favourably upon its recommendation concerning accession to the ICRMW. Algeria wished Portugal success in the implementation of the accepted recommendations.

511. Angola encouraged Portugal to continue its policies for the protection and promotion of human rights, particularly those relating to integration of migrants and other foreigners residing in Portugal, and to make all possible efforts to ensure effective access to justice for citizens. It congratulated Portugal for its acceptance of almost all of the recommendations it received, including those of Angola, which demonstrated the willingness of the authorities to deepen cooperation with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council. It welcomed the fruitful cooperation between it and Portugal in the field of human rights.

512. Bulgaria welcomed Portugal's efforts to implement the recommendations made in the first universal periodic review. It appreciated that, in line with Bulgaria's recommendation in the first review, Portugal continued the collection of specific data and the use of standardized reporting methods concerning victims of domestic violence and that combatting violence against women and domestic violence remained a priority. It noted the ongoing implementation of the action plan related to the latter as well as the full implementation of the action plan against trafficking in human trafficking. It also welcomed the ongoing reforms to the judicial system.

513. Côte d'Ivoire thanked Portugal for the attention given to the recommendations made to it and for the endorsement of its own recommendations. It was also grateful for the additional information provided during the current meeting. It expressed its support to Portugal in its efforts towards ensuring equality and the enjoyment of equality for all citizens on its territory as well as the strengthening of legal mechanisms and related measures. It encouraged Portugal to continue its cooperation with the international mechanisms for the protection of human rights.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

514. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Portugal, 4 other stakeholders made statements.

515. The Provedor de Justiça (Ombudsman) noted that Portugal's acceptance of 139 recommendations was an indicator of its commitment to the respect of fundamental rights. It was concerned about and attentive to the effects of the economic crisis and the austerity measures adopted by the Government, particularly on persons exposed to increased risks of exclusion, but recognized the Government's efforts to mitigate the effects. The current challenges faced demanded special attention and innovative methods in order to achieve a fair and equal society. It expressed its commitment to work alongside the international community in protecting and promoting human rights.

516. The European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Federation welcomed Portugal's commitment in the struggle against discrimination against LGBT people. Despite important legislative and policy advances LGBT people were still subject to violence and discrimination in several fields. It welcomed the recommendation of Brazil in paragraph 127.51 of the Report of the Working Group and encouraged the Portugal to reconsider its position on this recommendation. It made recommendations relating to: the need for comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, including the explicit prohibition of gender identity as grounds for discrimination; the creation of public services mandated to address discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity; collection of data in these fields; and amending the system for registration of criminal complaints of hate crimes to include the motivation. Portugal was encouraged to continue anti-discrimination policies, including trainings for public officials in these fields.

517. Amnesty International was concerned that the austerity measures had had a negative effect on the enjoyment of economic and social rights in particular by the most vulnerable groups in society. It welcomed Portugal's support of the recommendations to mitigate this and called on the Government to carry out a human rights' assessment of its economic recovery plans and policies. Amnesty International urged swift action on the recommendations to combat overcrowding and improve prison conditions and prompt and thorough investigations into all allegations of the excessive use of force and ill-treatment by police and prison guards. It further welcome the support for recommendations relating to combating discrimination and called for the establishment of a national data gathering system to assess the extent of discrimination and revision of the Criminal Code to prohibit hate crimes. It was disappointed that Portugal rejected a recommendation to allow the adoption of children by same-sex couples and called on it to reconsider this.

518. Action Canada for Population and Development congratulated Portugal on its acceptance of recommendations concerning migrants and domestic violence, but was disappointed that the recommendation related to the co-adoption by same-sex couples was not accepted and urged Portugal to remove the obstacles and eliminate discriminatory practices that hampered LGBT individuals from full and equal enjoyment of their rights and approve the bill which would allow them to co-adopt. It also called for approval of the law to prohibit discrimination against people based on their HIV status and address concerns about of women living with HIV in health priorities and plans related to achieving equality. The comprehensive sexuality education curriculum should be aligned with a strategy to reach all children and laws adopted to legalize sex work in a manner similar to the measure in 2000 which reduced HIV transmission among drug users by half. Specific regulations pertaining to sex workers' labour rights should be integrated into the Labour Code.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

519. The President stated that, based on the information provided, out of 151 recommendations received, 139 enjoyed the support of Portugal and the rest were noted.

520. Portugal was grateful for the comments received and had taken due note of all of them. It particularly appreciated the participation of civil society and the Ombudsman. Portugal was committed to the follow-up to the 139 recommendations in an ongoing process over the next four years. The follow-up would be done as part of the work of the National Human Rights Committee and in close cooperation with civil society. In 2016, it intended to submit an interim report on the results achieved. It was convinced that the overall outcome would be positive.

521. In conclusion, it hoped that, thanks to the open and cooperative dialogue and the cooperation of civil society as well as United Nations agencies and other international bodies, the universal periodic review would continue to play a key role in the realization of universal human rights for all.

Bhutan

522. The review of Bhutan was held on 30 April 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Bhutan in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/BTN/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/BTN/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/BTN/3).

523. At its 24th meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Bhutan (see section C below).

524. The outcome of the review of Bhutan comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/8), the views of Bhutan concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/8/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

525. Bhutan thanked all delegations for their participation in the review in the Working Group and offered its congratulations to the newly appointed High Commissioner.

526. Bhutan received 163 recommendations of which 103 were accepted during the Working Group: the remaining 60 recommendations were further considered. After consultations, four additional recommendations were accepted and two partially accepted. Bhutan clarified that that did not mean that other recommendations were rejected: many of the important recommendations received were already being implemented or were addressed sufficiently in some form or another. Bhutan provided explanations to each of the 60 remaining recommendations in the addendum.

527. Bhutan noted that a large number of recommendations asked it to consider the possibility of acceding to the core international human rights instruments. The Government

was fully aware of the importance of that issue. Bhutan intended in the future to expand gradually the range of its international human rights commitments, with due regard to the financial and resources implications, including the reporting burden, and the need to amend legislation and practices.

528. Bhutan stated that in order to give meaningful effect to any international obligations, it must first build the necessary legal, political and social institutions, as well as develop the human resources and capacities of the country before assuming those obligations. In the meanwhile, the Multi-Sectoral Task Force established by the Government would continue to undertake its study of relevant international instruments to consider the feasibility of their ratification.

529. On engagement with human rights mechanisms, including mandate holders, Bhutan stated that it remained committed to constructive engagement with the human rights mechanisms of the United Nations. Bhutan had received and would continue to receive the visits of Special Rapporteurs and other mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, taking into account its capacity, national priorities as well as the need for adequate preparations for such visits. Bhutan emphasized that, in keeping with its commitments, it had recently received a useful and successful visit of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education.

530. Bhutan stated that it looked forward to a fruitful engagement and remained open for further cooperation and collaboration with the international community in collective pursuit of the promotion and protection of human rights.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

531. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Bhutan, 15 delegations made statements. The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints²³ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

532. Singapore appreciated Bhutan's constructive participation in the Universal Periodic Review process. Singapore noted that Bhutan's detailed update on human rights policies and the high level of the representation of the delegation reaffirmed the seriousness and commitment of Bhutan to the promotion and protection of human rights. Singapore was pleased with Bhutan's positive response to the recommendations received during the Working Group and noted in particular that Bhutan had accepted the two recommendations made by Singapore.

533. Sri Lanka appreciated Bhutan's constructive engagement with the Universal Periodic Review and that two of the recommendations it made enjoyed the support of Bhutan. Sri Lanka commended Bhutan's progress in achieving most of the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in the areas of education and poverty reduction. Sri Lanka referred to important advances made by Bhutan in strengthening the legal framework for the rights of women and children. Sri Lanka recognized efforts made by Bhutan to place environmental conservation at the core of its development strategy, which contributed to the achievement of sustainable development.

534. Sudan thanked Bhutan for the explanations it provided and its presentation. Sudan appreciated the efforts made by Bhutan in its cooperation with the Universal Periodic Review. Sudan noted that Bhutan had considered the recommendations made to it and

²³ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

thanked Bhutan for accepting the recommendation made by Sudan. Sudan recommended the adoption of the outcome document on Bhutan.

535. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the responses during the review, which highlighted Bhutan's commitment to upholding human rights. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the social policies of Bhutan guaranteeing the right of Bhutanese to access free health services, from primary to tertiary care. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that the implementation of the Five Year Plan had yielded excellent results in combatting poverty, which had been reduced from 23 percent in 2007 to 12 percent in 2012. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela recognized the notable progress made by Bhutan in complying with the recommendations accepted in the first cycle of the Universal Periodic Review and the willingness demonstrated by the Government to achieve that goal.

536. Viet Nam commended the progress made by Bhutan in promoting and protecting human rights of its people since its previous Universal Periodic Review. Viet Nam referred to important achievements made by Bhutan, particularly in the areas of health, education, social welfare, poverty reduction and improvement of the national legal framework, as reflected in its Five Year plan and pro-poor policies. Viet Nam appreciated Bhutan's acceptance of 103 recommendations, two of which had been made by Viet Nam.

537. Afghanistan commended Bhutan for the constructive manner of its participation in the Universal Periodic Review process and was pleased to note that the two recommendations Afghanistan made enjoyed the support of Bhutan. Afghanistan, as a fellow South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) member, welcomed Bhutan's progress and commitment to respect, promote and protect human rights. Afghanistan appreciated the steps taken by Bhutan to implement the Universal Periodic Review recommendations.

538. Algeria congratulated Bhutan for accepting most of the recommendations made during the review, including one formulated by Algeria relating to the continuation of the measures to improve conditions of access to education for all, without discrimination and access to health services. Algeria regretted that Bhutan had not considered favourably its second recommendation concerning the ratification of international instruments on human rights. In that regard, Algeria urged Bhutan to continue its efforts to ratify: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the International Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.

539. Brunei Darussalam appreciated Bhutan's continued commitment to further protect and promote constitutionally recognized fundamental rights and freedoms. Brunei Darussalam was encouraged by Bhutan's various efforts to ensure quality education, to build a skilled workforce and to promote youth entrepreneurship. Brunei Darussalam welcomed Bhutan's support of the recommendations it had made on those matters.

540. Cambodia welcomed Bhutan's continued efforts in ensuring the socio-economic rights of its people through the implementation of its various Governmental programmes and commitments, including to uphold the rule of law and to strengthen democracy. Cambodia was pleased to note Bhutan's acceptance of a majority of recommendations, including two made by Cambodia on encouraging greater political participation of women and furthering of efforts to reduce poverty, particularly in rural areas.

541. China welcomed Bhutan's constructive engagement in the review and its positive feedback to the recommendations received. China thanked Bhutan for accepting its recommendations to continue adopting effective measures to promote youth employment and to reduce poverty for the realisation of balanced and inclusive growth. China wished Bhutan much success in advancing the development of its human rights course.

542. Cuba thanked Bhutan for the additional information provided on its Universal Periodic Review. Cuba highlighted that Bhutan had accepted a high number of recommendations during the review and that the acceptance of a substantial number of recommendations illustrated the commitment of Bhutan to the promotion and protection of all human rights of its citizens. Cuba thanked Bhutan for accepting the recommendation made by Cuba aimed at continuing the implementation of a more concrete social protection system through the initiatives set out in the national report.

543. Ethiopia commended Bhutan for accepting a significant number of recommendations, including those made by Ethiopia. Ethiopia welcomed Bhutan's enhanced legislative framework and poverty reduction programmes. Ethiopia encouraged Bhutan to develop appropriate normative mechanisms to further strengthen women's empowerment. Ethiopia called on the United Nations human rights mechanisms, special funds and programmes to provide requested technical and capacity building assistance to Bhutan.

544. India admired Bhutan for its commitment to democracy and a free press, its achievements in poverty reduction and its holistic approach to development and national happiness. India was encouraged by Bhutan's acceptance immediately of 103 recommendations and its later acceptance of an additional 6 recommendations out of 163 recommendations received, which included those made by India on increasing women's participation and expediting public access to information. India believed that Bhutan had gained much from its participation in the Universal Periodic Review and wished Bhutan every success in implementing accepted recommendations.

545. Kuwait welcomed the progress and achievements made in Bhutan in promoting and protecting human rights. Kuwait applauded the efforts of Bhutan in consolidating democracy in the form of elections organized in 2011 and 2013. Kuwait referred to the importance Bhutan attached to promoting women's roles in society and to trying to uphold the rights of the child. Kuwait thanked Bhutan for accepting the recommendation it had made to continue the programmes related to poverty reduction and continue the efforts to create a stronger system of social protection.

546. Lao People's Democratic Republic appreciated Bhutan's acceptance of a large number of recommendations, the steps taken to implement them and efforts to create enabling conditions for its people to exercise their rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of speech, opinion and expression and independence of the media. Lao People's Democratic Republic commended Bhutan for significant improvements made in the areas of poverty alleviation, youth employment, ensuring gender equality and access to free education and health care services.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

547. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Bhutan, 1 other stakeholder made a statement.

548. Jubilee Campaign welcomed Bhutan's positive participation in its Universal Periodic Review and, in the spirit of engagement, urged Bhutan to ratify key international human rights treaties, including the two main International Covenants. Jubilee Campaign stated that, although Bhutan acknowledged the religious diversity in the country and protected the right to freedom of religion and belief in a limited form, there were several areas of legislation and practice which gave rise to concern. Jubilee Campaign expressed concern at overly restrictive measures compelling others to change their religion and, in that regard, called for the amendment of specific provisions in the Constitution, Penal Code and Religious Organizations Act. Jubilee Campaign called on Bhutan to ensure the treatment of all religious communities existing in the country, in particular by clarifying the

eligibility of non-Buddhist and non-Hindu groups to obtain registration under the Religious Organizations Act. Jubilee Campaign also asked Bhutan to tackle injustices relating to burial rights and to extend an invitation to the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

549. The President stated that based on the information provided out of 163 recommendations received, 109 enjoy the support of Bhutan, and the rest, 54, are noted.

550. Bhutan thanked the delegations and the non-governmental representative for their comments, which had been taken due note of. The delegation reiterated that in principle Bhutan had accepted the recommendations made. Bhutan believed that, for any country to be in a position to assume its important obligations, positive results could only be achieved after the necessary legal, political and social institutions and human resources were in place. Bhutan reiterated that it had come a long way in terms of socio-economic development through its holistic and people-centred vision of development.

551. The delegation reaffirmed that people had the freedom to embrace and practice religion of their choice provided it was a choice made of their own free will. Bhutan highlighted that the right to freedom of religion was guaranteed under article 7 (4) of the Constitution, however, to protect the majority of the population who were vulnerable to compulsion and inducement section 463(A) of the Penal Code stated that “a defendant shall be guilty of the offense of compelling others to belong to another faith if the defendant uses coercion or other forms of inducement to cause the conversion of a person from one faith to another”.

552. Bhutan reiterated that as long as a person was not compelled to belong to another faith by means of coercion or inducement, the right to freedom of practice any religion of choice was guaranteed. Bhutan stated that a number of fundamental rights were guaranteed under the Constitution such as freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of association, the right against arbitrary arrest or detention, right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty and the right of every person to approach the court in matters arising out of the Constitution. Bhutan emphasized that if a person felt that his or her right had been breached then she or he had the right to initiate proceedings before the court, for the enforcement of his or her right.

553. Bhutan pointed out that it had made significant progress in advancing the cause of development through the generous support and cooperation of its bilateral and multilateral development partners and would continue to strive for the well-being of its people through its development framework and for the further promotion and protection of all human rights.

Dominica

554. The review of Dominica was held on 1 May 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Dominica in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/DMA/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/DMA/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/DMA/3).

555. At its 25th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Dominica (see section C below).

556. The outcome of the review of Dominica comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/9), the views of Dominica concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group.

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

557. The delegation of Dominica stated that the Government of Dominica, at the nineteen session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, highlighted the achievements of the country in education, healthcare, social services, protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, and its support to indigenous people, women and the elderly. Dominica also expressed its commitment to human rights, social justice and equity, as enshrined in the Dominican Constitution. Nonetheless, any change to the social order and the expansion of rights should be driven by its people and reflect their collective will. The people's representatives, therefore, cannot accede to international obligations without the consent of the people. Dominica remained committed to those international obligations that it has accepted, in spite of resource constraints, both technical and financial, which make it difficult to meet some of the international commitments. Training and technical assistance was therefore necessary. Dominica accepted the offer of assistance from the OHCHR and other Member States and looked forward to their continued support and collaboration.

558. Regarding the recommendations made at the review of Dominica, the delegation stated that the Government was in the process of ratifying the following conventions: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances; Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure; Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; and ILO Convention No. 189 concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers.

559. The Government was also considering the establishment of a national human rights institution or Office of the Ombudsperson in line with the Paris Principles with an aim at strengthening legislation and public policies on human rights, and promoting human rights education and capacity building.

560. With regard to cooperation with international mechanisms and bodies, Dominica was seeking for technical assistance in order to further advance the dissemination of human rights, and it was making efforts in meeting its commitments under the international instruments to which Dominica is a Party. In this connection, it will strengthen cooperation with Treaty Bodies by requesting necessary technical assistance. Dominica would also request technical assistance from the international community, including from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, in particular for the submission of its reports to the human rights mechanisms. Dominica will also request greater efforts by OHCHR to further assist small states in the Caribbean such as Dominica to address challenges related to the harmonization and integration of international obligations with national legislation, as well as the increasing reporting obligations attendant thereto.

561. On equality and non-discrimination, Dominica will strengthen its efforts to fight against discrimination, guaranteeing the physical and mental integrity of the population; it will continue its work towards the eradication of acts of racism and other forms of discrimination and intolerance; it will take further steps to protect the rights of persons with disabilities and the rights of women and children, including through strengthening support services.

562. Regarding violence against women and children, Dominica will continue its efforts in eliminating it providing a safe environment for women and children; it will speed-up the process of adoption of the national strategic plan on gender-based violence; it will ensure that relevant agencies have sufficient resources and staff to enforce existing domestic violence laws; it will take further measures to address domestic violence and physical child abuse, including by ensuring adequate reporting of child abuse, and respond to child abuse by establishing a comprehensive child protection policy. Dominica will also adopt a comprehensive list of hazardous work prohibited to children and amend its laws to raise the minimum age for employment to at least 15 years and to expressly prohibit the use, procuring or offering of a child for pornography.

563. The delegation stated that the Government will continue to prioritise poverty alleviation in its socio-economic development and continue strengthening social plans and programmes under implementation to combat poverty, exclusion and social inequality, with particular attention to those most vulnerable sectors for which it is extremely important to have the support, assistance and cooperation of the community of nations.

564. In the same vein, Dominica will further strengthen measures to ensure equal access to health services for all, while giving special attention to the needs of children, women and elderly persons; and continue, in cooperation with WHO, to improve its national health care system and ensure access to quality health care for all.

565. Dominica will also continue its efforts to promote and protect the full enjoyment of the right to education for all, to provide an inclusive education for all children, in particular children with disabilities and migrant children, and to strengthen its national cultural policy.

566. Regarding persons with disabilities, Dominica shall promote cross-cutting measures to prevent discrimination against them in the education system, including measures to allow for their safe physical access to education centres and classrooms. It will also strengthen measures aimed at guaranteeing the full integration of persons with disabilities through an inclusive education plan; and will take steps to ensure the provision of inclusive education for all children with disabilities, including specialised centres for assessment and support.

567. The delegation stated that recommendations related to the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights were noted.

568. In conclusion, the delegation expressed the Government of Dominica gratitude to the OHCHR for its assistance, and to those Member States that have assisted Dominica to provide universal access to education, healthcare, water and sanitation, housing, and social services especially to indigenous Caribbean people, the disabled and the elderly. The delegation noted that countries like Dominica that have made commitments under international treaties and conventions, were unable to meet their obligations especially in reporting and monitoring due to resource constraints. Training, technical assistance, public education and continuous engagements should be provided where necessary. Dominica called on all Member States that are in a position to assist to provide support to those countries that are having difficulties meeting their obligations, and to collaborate with OHCHR in providing relevant assistance.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

569. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Dominica, nine delegations made statements.

570. Morocco welcomed the efforts made by Dominica to improve access to education, health and social services, and Dominica's commitment in the field of human rights, social justice and equality. Morocco took note of the constraints faced by Dominica in the implementation of its international obligations and of its intention to create an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

571. Nigeria was encouraged by the engagement of Dominica with the UPR process and OHCHR, and by the zero tolerance policy with regard to the violations of the rights of migrant workers. The steps taken by Dominica to eliminate all forms of discrimination and xenophobia were commendable. Nigeria endorsed the review of Dominica.

572. Sierra Leone acknowledged the need for technical assistance, and the technical and resources constraints Dominica faced, and it appreciated Dominica's acceptance of all of Sierra Leone's recommendations. Sierra Leone hoped that the Government of Dominica will be able to fully integrate the accepted recommendations into its national legislation and implement them accordingly, and to engage more actively with treaty bodies.

573. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that since its first review, Dominica has achieved a number of objectives including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Venezuela highlighted Dominica's efforts in the field of human rights despite the challenges due to the climate change and the difficulties created by the crisis of the capitalist economy. Venezuela recommended the adoption of the Working Group's report on the UPR of Dominica.

574. Algeria congratulated Dominica for having accepted the majority of the recommendations made during its review and noted with satisfaction the acceptance of its recommendation on strengthening cooperation with treaty bodies and the request for technical assistance in this regard. Algeria recommended the adoption of the Working Group's report.

575. Armenia thanked the Government of Dominica for accepting the two recommendations it made, particularly the recommendation to accede to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. Armenia was looking forward to the implementation of the recommendations.

576. China welcomed Dominica's engagement in the review and its commitment on accepted recommendations. It thanked Dominica for accepting its recommendation on efforts to prioritise poverty alleviation and the right to development. China understood Dominica's difficulty in finding human and financial resources for the implementation of recommendations and treaty obligations. It called upon the international community to urgently provide Dominica with technical assistance and capacity-building support in full consultations with Dominica's Government.

577. Cuba acknowledged the efforts made by Dominica in the implementation of the recommendations received during the first UPR cycle, and Dominica's commitment in the UPR mechanism. Cuba noted with satisfaction the adoption of national policies on gender balance and women's empowerment, and improvement in the field of health and education, which is now universal and free of charge. Cuba appreciated Dominica's acceptance of its recommendations on national cultural policies and the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS.

578. Jamaica noted Dominica's acceptance of the majority of the recommendations made during its second periodic review, including several pertaining to the signing or ratification of various international human rights instruments, a step that would substantially increase treaty reporting obligations. Jamaica was encouraged by the Council's support for the provision of technical assistance to Dominica, and urged its Government to pursue all avenues to this end. In designing appropriate technical assistance for Dominica, its needs and existing resources should be taken into account.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

579. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Dominica, three other stakeholders made statements.

580. The International Lesbian and Gay Association was disappointed at the response given by the Government of Dominica to the recommendations on sexual orientation and gender identity, specifically those asking for the repeal of legislation discriminating against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons. The International Lesbian and Gay Association stated that the Government did not effectively respond to complaints on human rights abuses against LGBT persons and made recommendations in this regard, including the removal of the Anti Buggery Laws for the legislation of Dominica.

581. Amnesty International regretted that Dominica was unable to submit a national report as part of its UPR and that it rejected all recommendations pertaining to sexual orientation and gender identity, and decriminalization of same sex sexual intercourse. Amnesty International urged Dominica's Government to repeal all legislation discriminating LGBT persons. While taking note of Dominica's self-imposed moratorium on death penalty, Amnesty International expressed disappointment about the rejection of recommendations asking for the abolition of death penalty.

582. Action Canada for Population and Development stated that it was concerned by the criminalization of sexual conducts, especially with regard to LGBT persons. The lack of protection renders them invisible to the eyes of law, leads to increased stigma and discrimination, and makes any effort for the prevention of HIV/AIDS inadequate. Action Canada for Population and Development noted that Dominica also rejected recommendations on LGBT persons and their rights at the first UPR cycle. Action Canada for Population and Development recommended Dominica the creation of a national human rights institution with the capacity of considering individual complaints, and a study on the status of LGBT persons in the country.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

583. The President stated that based on the information provided out of 116 recommendations received, 79 enjoy the support of Dominica, and 37 are noted.

584. The delegation of Dominica thanked those Member States that have helped Dominica in improving the education and the health care systems, and the housing situation. The delegation pointed out that Dominican people holds no animus towards persons who have same-sex relationships. Stating that Dominica, either state institutions or non-state actors, persecute and/or discriminate LGTB persons, is a serious misrepresentation of the reality. Non-governmental organizations should respect the right of peoples to self-determination, including the right to determine the laws which will govern them. Dominica strongly expressed its concern about these reiterated attacks that falsify the reality of the LGTB persons' situation in the country.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

585. The review of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was held on 1 May 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Democratic People's Republic of Korea in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/PRK/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/PRK/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/PRK/3).

586. At its 25th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (see section C below).

587. The outcome of the review of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/10), the views of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/10/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

588. The delegation stated that the UPR mechanism was as an important means in assessing the human rights situation of all countries on the basis of impartiality and objectivity as it ensures equals treatment to all countries, and plays a positive role in removing the outdated practice of singling out specific countries.

589. The delegation recalled that during the 19th session it had an open and sincere interactive dialogue with many countries, through which it received encouraging comments, and gave responses to questions, comments and recommendations received.

590. The delegation expressed its gratitude towards countries that had encouraged the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's stands and efforts for the promotion of human rights, making numerous constructive recommendations during the review. It also thanked the Troika members and the secretariat for their contribution in the drafting of the report.

591. The delegation stated that of the 268 recommendations received during the review, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had rejected 83 on the ground, as these recommendations seriously distorted the reality and slandered the country and were driven by sinister political motivations.

592. The Government distributed the report concerning the second cycle of the UPR to all relevant national institutions and organizations that had participated in the preparation of the country's national report and carefully reviewed the recommendations in broad consultations. The Government's position on the recommendations was then submitted in writing and is contained in document A/HRC/27/10/add.1.

593. Overall, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had decided to accept most of the recommendations received. This was the result of serious consultations held with relevant national institutions and an expression of the Government's full commitment to

respecting other countries' opinions and to making great efforts for the promotion and protection of human rights.

594. It was noted that several recommendations had been made for the country to enact more domestic laws for the enjoyment of human rights and continuously improve human rights mechanisms. Such recommendations encourage the Government's efforts to protect human rights and coincide with the State's policy of giving priority to the people's convenience. As is known, the country is a people-centred socialist state, which maintains as the supreme principle of the state's activities putting the people at the centre of all considerations.

595. The delegation expressed its conviction that recommendations will be fully implemented through the reinforcement of the domestic legal framework and the dramatic turning point to be achieved in the national economy. In practice, the conditions and environment for the implementation of accepted recommendations already exist and some of these recommendations are either currently under implementation or will be implemented by concrete measures.

596. The delegation referred to recommendations to take further detailed measures in accordance to domestic law for the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, including children and women. Thanks to the country's policy of "love for future generation" and sparing nothing for the country's children who are regarded as king of the country, several measures have been taken and a number of facilities built to promote their welfare. Measures have also been taken to ensure that women exercise their full rights in state and social affairs by increasing the advancement of women in governmental services.

597. The Government will continue to give top priority to the maximum promotion of the rights of special groups, including children, women, old persons and people with disabilities and implement in detail relevant legislation already in place.

598. The Government will give serious consideration and take active measures to implement recommendations which referred to the country's obligations under international human rights instruments to which it is party, and accession to instruments to which it is not yet party and cooperation with human rights organizations.

599. The delegation indicated that though conditions and circumstances were not yet in place, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea decided to take note of some 50 recommendations, with the intention to seek ways for their implementation. Some of these contained elements that do not correspond to the reality in the country, such as recommendation 124.124. However, it was decided to take note of these, paying attention to and making continuous efforts to prevent such situations from happening. The delegation indicated that it had noted such recommendations, which were attributable to a lack of understanding, as it respected the views of recommending countries and expressed the hope that such misunderstandings will be cleared away.

600. The delegation added that it had decided not to accept a further 10 of the recommendations that had been deferred because those recommendations go against the principled position of the country to oppose politicization of human rights and contradict the country's legal system. Most of the recommendations which are unacceptable were based on distorted information provided by the hostile forces in order to defame the image of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and ultimately dismantle its social system. In recent years, hostile forces have deliberately neglected the reality about the enjoyment of genuine human rights by the Korean people. It referred to recommendation 124.123 which states that the penal code prohibits people from leaving their country freely, which is a complete distortion of reality.

601. Likewise, the recommendation to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The delegation indicated that it was the consistent policy of the Government to maintain genuine dialogue and cooperation on the principle of respect for sovereignty and equality. It rejected the forcible adoption of anti-DPRK "resolutions" every year and the "special rapporteur" which are the result of politicization, selectivity and double standards in the field of human rights which are opposed by the country.

602. The delegation indicated that the Government deemed cooperation and technical assistance by the international human rights organs to be useful and is willing to accept this. However, such action should not be abused as a means to interfere in internal affairs.

603. As mentioned during the interactive dialogue, strenuous efforts have been made for the realisation of international cooperation in the field of human rights. It recalled efforts made in this regard with OHCHR and treaty bodies and its participation in the UPR's first and second cycle.

604. With regard to recommendations related to accession to international human rights instruments, the delegation recalled that it had acceded to the major international human rights instruments and discharged its obligations under these treaties. Preparation for the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which was signed last year, are currently underway and the possibility to sign or accede to other conventions is being examined.

605. The delegation was pleased to inform the Human Rights Council that on 9 September 2014, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography had been signed.

606. This was one of the reasons why some recommendations were partly accepted such as recommendation 124.7.

607. The delegation recalled the many challenges and obstacles faced by the country and the suffering and pain suffered by the entirety of the Korean people from the nearly 70 years of national division forced by outside forces. Despite these, the country will accomplish ultimate victory and enhance human rights mechanisms in its own style, meeting the demands of the reality of the people. It will also strengthen cooperation and dialogue among countries and fulfil its obligations in the field of human rights.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

608. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, 16 delegations made statements. The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints²⁴ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

609. The Republic of Korea noted the Government's presentation of its position on its second UPR. It regretted the continued refusal to address several important recommendations based on rights ensured in ICCPR and urged the Government to follow up on the recommendations outlined in the Commission of Inquiry's report and to cooperate fully with human rights mechanisms including the Special Rapporteur on the country. It hoped that the Government takes the necessary measures to resolve the issue of abductees, prisoners of war and separated families.

²⁴ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

610. The Russian Federation welcomed the fact that Democratic People's Republic of Korea had undergone the second cycle of the UPR, and hoped that it would enhance its measures to protect and encourage human rights.

611. Singapore noted with appreciation the participation and constructive engagement with the UPR. It was pleased to learn that the Government had accepted its recommendations: to continue to strengthen its domestic legal framework and implement its international human rights obligations; and to continue its cooperation and dialogue with relevant international organisations with the aim to address the economic and social needs of its people.

612. Sudan welcomed the acceptance by the Government of recommendations, including those it had made, and acknowledged its cooperation with the UPR process.

613. The Syrian Arab Republic expressed appreciation for the country's constructive participation in its second UPR. It commended the acceptance of a large number of recommendations including those it had made. It encouraged the Government to continue plans and programmes to enhance the standard of living of its people and stressed the need for support from the international community, particularly to alleviate the impact of economic sanctions imposed on the country.

614. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was pleased with the country's engagement in the process noting that it had accepted 113 of 268 recommendations received, including those it had made. It encouraged the Government to fully cooperate with the Special Procedures and to impose an immediate moratorium on executions as a first step towards the abolition of the death penalty.

615. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed the Government's engagement with the UPR. It noted that the Commission of Inquiry found that widespread human rights violations, at times amounting to probable crimes against humanity, were carried out. It regretted that 83 recommendations did not enjoy the Government's support, particularly those related to issues such as the Commission of Inquiry and cooperation with the Special Rapporteur. It urged the Government to take concrete steps to implement all UPR recommendations.

616. The United States of America acknowledged action taken to accede to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It was disappointed by the Government's refusal to cooperate with human rights mechanisms and joined calls for it to dismantle political prison camps, abandon the use of torture, arbitrary detention, summary executions and forced abortions. It urged the country to work to resolve the issue of abductions and disappearances of citizens of other countries and to cooperate with the High Commissioner and his office.

617. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela indicated that the review made clear that only through dialogue and cooperation can challenges and achievements in human rights be examined in an impartial manner and not through the imposition of mandates against sovereign states, as in the present case, in a pathetic demonstration of politicization, selectivity and double standards. It highlighted that the country has a 100% school enrolment rate, that education is free, universal and obligatory and that health services are also free and universal.

618. Viet Nam welcomed the acceptance by the Government of its recommendations. It reaffirmed its willingness to share general experience and to provide assistance when appropriate as well as to facilitate and promote genuine dialogue and constructive cooperation between the country and other relevant parties in addressing humanitarian matters, including the issue of abductions.

619. Algeria congratulated the Government for accepting many of the recommendations received including those it had made to: cooperate with the United Nations and international organizations to confront challenges and obstacles in the area of human rights, and to share good practices with other countries in that regard; and promulgate more laws and regulations on economic, social and cultural rights, to improve the legal framework concerning the exercise of human rights. It wished the country success in the implementation of the recommendations.

620. Angola congratulated the Government for its acceptance of a great many of the recommendations received. It welcomed its engagement for the protection of human rights notably through collaboration with human rights mechanisms and progress made for the protection of the rights of children, women and persons with disabilities. It also noted progress on health care and encouraged further action in this regard.

621. Belarus stated that the review had demonstrated the systematic efforts made by the Government to meet its international human rights obligations. It noted the adoption of laws and efforts made on education, health and food security. It welcomed the country's voluntary acceptance of new obligations during the second UPR cycle confirming its determination to protect human rights and expressed understanding of the Government's position with regard to recommendations it was unable to accept.

622. China appreciated the country's commitment to implement accepted recommendations. China was grateful that the government accepted its recommendations on the construction of sanitation facilities and housing constructions in rural areas; continuing to promote economic, social and culture development; and to engage in dialogue and cooperation with human rights mechanisms on the basis of mutual respect and equality. China also called upon the international community to impartially and objectively look at the human rights situation in the country, and whole-heartedly help it with its economic and social progress.

623. Cuba highlighted the high number of recommendations accepted by the Government during its second review, including those it had made. Despite the difficulties imposed on the country, such as political aggression and natural disasters, the Government had achieved important progress in the field of human rights. It highlighted the free, universal health system and the eradication of illiteracy and access to education for all.

624. Estonia welcomed the acceptance of its recommendation. It regretted that the Government had rejected a number of recommendations, including regarding the abolition of the death penalty and that it refused to prohibit the use of torture for the detainees, and to establish a system to prevent sexual violence against female prisoners and to ensure free access to information or to allow the establishment of independent newspapers and other social media.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

625. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, 6 other stakeholders made statements.

626. Amnesty International remained concerned that the Government had refused to accept more than half of the recommendations received. It was also concerned about the outright rejection of the many recommendations to close down political prison camps. It expressed disappointment at the rejection of recommendations to allow the victims of its policy of abduction and enforced disappearance of foreign nationals to return to their countries of origin and to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur or to act on the conclusions of the Commission of Inquiry. It called on the Government to take immediate measures to end the systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations documented by the Commission of Inquiry.

627. United Nations Watch was concerned that the Government rejected many of the report's most basic recommendations, concerning political prison camps, disappearances, guilt by association, and mass starvation. It noted, that as found by the Commission of Inquiry, responsibility for these gross and systematic violations reaches the highest level of political leadership. It stated that in a letter sent to the President of the Swiss Confederation, 20 survivors of atrocities called for the immediate freezing of all Swiss bank accounts held by the leadership of the Democratic Republic of Korea. It encouraged Switzerland to show moral leadership.

628. Jubilee Campaign was concerned that freedom of religion or belief is non-existent in the country, noting that the country is cited as one of the world's worst for the prosecution of Christians. It strongly urged the Government to implement all of the recommendations provided in the report of Commission of Inquiry. It called on the Government to desist from any policy that encourages forced abortion or the murder of the new born babies and to impose an immediate moratorium on the use of the death penalty. It also urged the Government to respect the rights to freedom of thought, conscious and religion or belief.

629. Human Rights Watch was concerned that the Government continued to deny existence of political camps and had rejected all recommendations to close them. It was also concerned that it had rejected recommendations to abolish its "guilt by association" policy and to scrap its hereditary and discriminatory class system known as "songbun". It welcomed the acceptance of recommendations to ensure that humanitarian agencies have access to reach the population in need and urged agencies to request such access and to inform the Human Rights Council of their progress. It stated that the UPR was not suited to respond to mass atrocities and that the Security Council should refer the case to the International Criminal Court.

630. The International Federation for Human Rights Leagues noted that the country bluntly refused to give consideration to as many as 83 recommendations, disregarding its obligations as a member of the United Nations, which include the obligation cooperate with the UPR. It highlighted that, in practice, the death penalty is applied on a large scale in the country and that those sentenced to death are systematically denied a fair trial. It also highlighted that crimes committed in the country qualify as crimes against humanity and urged the Security Council to urgently refer the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the International Criminal Court.

631. Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik welcomed the Government's acceptance of many recommendations in the 2nd Cycle of the UPR, indicating however, that among the recommendations that did not enjoy the support, some were of crucial importance. It expressed concern the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was one of only five countries that had not ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and recommended the immediate accession to the treaty. It also expressed deep concern that it was also one of only two countries to provide, in their constitution, the position of leadership with unlimited authority. It recommended the country incorporate its undertakings under ICCPR, namely article 25, into its constitution.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

632. The President stated that based on the information provided out of 268 recommendations received, 113 enjoy the support of Democratic People's Republic of Korea, additional clarification was provided on one recommendations, and the rest are noted.

633. The delegation expressed its appreciation for the constructive dialogue in the second cycle of the UPR and the adoption of the outcome. The remarks made by all participants, including the NGOs, were noted. It expressed gratitude to all for their encouraging and

constructive remarks. At the same time some remarks are regretful as they are based on the misunderstanding, prejudice and distorted information. The delegation expressed its conviction that when countries and relevant stakeholders have a correct understanding of the reality of the country, any suspicion will be removed once and for all. The views of others are always respected by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and attempts are made to accommodate concerns, such as by partly accepting and implementing recommendations that contain both positive and negative elements.

634. The delegation stated that through their full participation in the two cycles of the UPR valuable experience had been gained. It expressed determination to exhort all efforts to further promote the human rights of its people. Additionally, it would continue to make efforts for the genuine dialogue and cooperation in the field of human rights and fulfil its obligations with respect to the UPR mechanism.

Brunei Darussalam

635. The review of Brunei Darussalam was held on 2 May 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by Brunei Darussalam in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/BRN/1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/BRN/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/BRN/3).

636. At its 25th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Brunei Darussalam (see section C below).

637. The outcome of the review of Brunei Darussalam comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/11), the views of Brunei Darussalam concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/11/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

638. Brunei Darussalam stated that it continued to attach importance to the UPR process as a useful mechanism in providing States with the opportunity to highlight their efforts in improving human rights in their respective countries.

639. Brunei Darussalam described the process undertaken following its review in May 2014.

640. In determining its positions on the recommendations received, a series of extensive inter-agency consultations were held to consider them, involving all the relevant agencies responsible for the implementation process.

641. Brunei Darussalam has accepted 97 out of a total of 189 recommendations, which include those that have already been put into practice or are being implemented. 14 recommendations enjoyed partial support of Brunei Darussalam as Brunei Darussalam can accept one part of the recommendation while taking note of the other part. Brunei Darussalam did not accept 78 recommendations because they may be contrary to the Constitution, the official religion, and national legislation of Brunei Darussalam.

642. With respect to human rights treaties, Brunei Darussalam reiterated that it remained committed to its international obligations noting that it is a party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC). Brunei Darussalam further stated that it submitted a combined initial and second periodic report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 2012, which is scheduled to be reviewed by the Committee next month. Brunei Darussalam also submitted its combined second and third periodic report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2013.

643. Furthermore, Brunei Darussalam noted its ongoing efforts to look into ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD); and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OP-CRC-AC) in the near future.

644. With regard to lifting reservations to the CEDAW and CRC, Brunei Darussalam stated that it wished to retain its reservations without prejudice to the generality of both Conventions. Notwithstanding this, Brunei Darussalam had withdrawn its reservations on Articles 20 (1) and 20 (2) of the CRC relating to the protection of a child without a family, as well as Article 21 (a) pertaining to the law on adoption.

645. On CEDAW, Brunei Darussalam maintains its reservation on Article 9 (2) of the Convention. However, procedures are available for children of women citizens married to foreign nationals to be accorded Brunei citizenship through an application process, pursuant to Section 6 of the Brunei Nationality Act. In view that Brunei Darussalam has a policy of single nationality, children of women citizens may either be registered as Brunei nationals or the nationals as that of the father.

646. On some recommendations regarding promotion and protection of the rights of women, Brunei Darussalam highlighted that women continued to contribute actively to the decision-making processes in the country. They had attained senior positions in various professions, including Ambassador-At-Large; Attorney-General; Deputy Minister; members of the legislative council; as well as Chief Executive Officers in both the public and private sectors. Brunei Darussalam emphasized that this was a result of its Government's longstanding policy in giving girls and women equal access to education; in the workforce; and in national development. Brunei Darussalam added that these efforts for the advancement and empowerment of women in contributing towards the socio-economic developments of the country would continue.

647. Furthermore, Brunei Darussalam drew the attention of the Human Rights Council to the fact that the rights of women are protected through legislations such as the Islamic Family Law Act (Cap 217); Married Women Act (Cap 190); as well as the Women and Girls Protection Act (Cap 120).

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

648. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Brunei Darussalam, 17 delegations made statements. The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints²⁵ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

649. Sri Lanka noted that education and health remained top priorities for the Government of Brunei Darussalam. Sri Lanka also commended the significant

²⁵ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

achievements made in education and on the provision of a comprehensive healthcare system. Sri Lanka further noted the inclusion of environmental policies in the Government strategies under the National Development Plan for a healthy environment.

650. Singapore noted that Brunei Darussalam had accepted a large number of recommendations, including the two recommendations made by Singapore. Singapore stated that as a fellow ASEAN member, it would continue to work closely with Brunei Darussalam to promote the implementation of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration and other human rights instruments to which ASEAN Members States are parties through the various ASEAN human rights bodies, including the ASEAN Inter-governmental Commission on Human Rights.

651. Sudan welcomed the positive engagement and cooperation with the UPR mechanism and the serious consideration of recommendations put forward. Sudan was also pleased to learn that Brunei Darussalam accepted the recommendations submitted by Sudan.

652. Thailand welcomed the acceptance of a large number of recommendations, including those made by Thailand on the empowerment of women and the promotion of the right to education. Thailand stated that it stood ready to share its experiences with and extend cooperation to Brunei Darussalam, including in the framework of the ASEAN Inter-governmental Commission on Human Rights, to implement the accepted recommendations.

653. United States of America appreciated the Government's commitment to protection of the rights of children, as well as women's empowerment and gender equality. United States of America also noted Brunei Darussalam's pledge to advance educational opportunities for all Bruneians. United States of America expressed concern that the enactment of the Penal Code Order of 2013 may undermine Brunei Darussalam's longstanding international human rights commitments, including with regard to the freedoms of religion, of expression, and of association, and the prohibitions on torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. United States of America urged Brunei Darussalam to strengthen respect for internationally-recognized labour rights, including the rights of migrant workers who remain especially vulnerable to forced labour. United States of America also urged Brunei Darussalam to consider ratifying the CAT.

654. Uzbekistan noted the participation of Brunei Darussalam in the UPR process. It highlighted that this shows the country's clear intentions to meet its international obligations with respect to human rights. Uzbekistan also noted that implementing these recommendations under the 2nd cycle of the UPR would make possible strengthening the national system of protection of human rights in the country.

655. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was pleased to see that progress had been made during the review period. It noted that Brunei Darussalam had done well in achieving most of the health targets established in the MDGs by improving services, infrastructure and network for social protection, encouraging more opportunities for its women, children, young people, persons with disabilities and older persons.

656. Viet Nam appreciated Brunei Darussalam's support of the recommendations made by Viet Nam regarding employment facilitation for youth and women, and provision of adequate housing to its people. Viet Nam praised Brunei Darussalam's contribution to and cooperation with human rights institutions at the regional stage, especially through the activities of the ASEAN Inter-governmental Commission on Human Rights.

657. Algeria welcomed the acceptance by Brunei Darussalam of the majority of the recommendations, including one made by Algeria which referred to promoting the situation of women in society and ensuring that women effectively participate in the decision-making process of the country. Algeria urged the Government to reconsider its position on

their second recommendation, which concerned ratification of the two international covenants on civil and political rights, as well as on economic social and cultural rights.

658. Bahrain noted with appreciation the effort made by Brunei Darussalam in order to continue protecting vulnerable groups. Bahrain acknowledged the engagement of Brunei Darussalam and successful interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in Brunei Darussalam. Bahrain also noted with satisfaction Brunei Darussalam's acceptance of recommendations made by Bahrain.

659. Belarus welcomed the significant progress made by Brunei Darussalam in the field of education, health and women's rights, as well as in combating human trafficking.

660. Bhutan took positive note of the 14 additional recommendations that the Government of Brunei Darussalam had accepted after further consultations, which is a reflection of its seriousness to engage positively with the international community in promoting and protecting the human rights of its people.

661. Cambodia commended Brunei Darussalam for its commitments and efforts in enhancing the welfare of its people, especially in addressing the core basic issues of human rights in terms of the rights to education, health, food and shelter. Cambodia appreciated the acceptance of the two recommendations made by Cambodia regarding effective implementation of the human rights instruments ratified by Brunei Darussalam and improving the accessibility for persons with disabilities in the learning and working environment.

662. China appreciated that Brunei Darussalam had accepted its own recommendations to make continuous efforts to implement national strategic plan on education, increase the coverage of education and its quality, and protect women's rights and provide more assistance to poor women and women with disabilities. China expressed hope that Brunei Darussalam will succeed in realizing sustainable social and economic development, and new achievements regarding human rights.

663. Cuba highlighted the high number of accepted recommendations, including those made by Cuba regarding health, education, nutrition and welfare. Cuba stated that Brunei Darussalam's commitment to the UPR and to the promotion and protection of the human rights of its population was evident. Cuba encouraged Brunei Darussalam to continue on the path of success in its efforts to protect and promote the human rights, and to increase the welfare of its people.

664. Djibouti was pleased with the progress made by Brunei Darussalam in ensuring the welfare of its people, in particular in the area of economic and social development. Djibouti also stated that these good practices constituted a model for other countries.

665. India commended Brunei Darussalam on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and on the progress achieved in universal health services and education. India was encouraged to note that Brunei Darussalam accepted a large number of recommendations, including the one made by India for completing the ratification process of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

666. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Brunei Darussalam, 5 other stakeholders made statements.

667. British Humanist Association stated that despite Brunei Darussalam's acceptance to "harmonize its legislation with the international human rights norms" in the first UPR, Brunei Darussalam had disregarded such recommendations and instead implemented a Syariah legal code, much of which works in diametric opposition to those standards set by

international human rights law. It expressed deep regret that Brunei Darussalam rejected a number of recommendations pertaining to the revision or review of the Code, specifically citing Brunei Darussalam's rejection of recommendation 113.74 to increase the age of criminal responsibility, which is currently set at seven years. British Humanist Association also stated that implementation of Syariah Penal Code may discriminate against women expressing particular concern about the refusal to amend Article 375 of the Penal Code that essentially excuses marital rape on the feeble basis that women are accorded sufficient protection in Cap 190 and 217.

668. International Humanist and Ethical Union expressed serious concern about the adoption of the Syariah Penal Code, which disregards, among others, the right to freedom of religion and belief. It also stated that the Syariah penal code might threaten all Bruneians' human rights but women and children particular mention: women not wearing the hijab heavy punishment. It further stated that if the Government's plans are realized, adulterers would be punished by stoning. Women, including victims of sexual violence and assault, were convicted disproportionately in adultery trials and marital rape was permitted by the Syariah Code. Moreover, it noted that the Code deemed children as young as seven criminally responsible with punishments, including life imprisonment and corporal punishment.

669. Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative expressed concern that implementation of many recommendations will not be possible without an extensive review of the human rights implications of the revised penal code and a renewed commitment to UN human rights mechanisms by complying with all reporting obligations, issuing a standing invitation to special procedures and ratifying all core international human rights treaties. It also expressed concern that current restrictions on expression are not compatible with international human rights standards urging the Government to review, with a view to repealing the Local Newspapers Order, the Sedition Act and the Undesirable Act, which all serve to restrict journalistic endeavours and the free and frank expression of ideas. Further, it expressed concern about restrictions on the right to associate, and stressed the importance of repealing the Societies Order and ensuring an environment conducive to civil society. In this connection, it recommended that Brunei Darussalam accept all recommendations related to the establishment of a national human rights institution. Moreover, it expressed concern about the situation of sexual minorities recommending that Brunei Darussalam accept all recommendations based on sexual orientation and gender identity, including the decriminalization of consensual adult same-sex sexual conduct.

670. Amnesty International noted that in measures that could amount to torture, relatively minor offences such as drinking liquor or theft could be punished by whipping or amputation, and even children could be sentenced to amputations. Judicial caning remained a common punishment for crimes such as theft, possession of drugs, and immigration offences. It was disappointed with Brunei Darussalam's rejection to ratify the CAT. It also noted that under the revised Penal Code, conduct such as extra-marital sexual relations and consensual sex between people of the same gender was not only criminalized, but punishable with stoning to death. Further, it expressed concern that the revised Penal Code introduces laws that discriminate against women and girls, including by punishing abortion with public flogging, and out-of-marriage pregnancy with fines or jail terms. Further, it noted that despite guarantees of religious freedom in the Constitution, laws and policies restricted this right for Muslims and non-Muslims alike. The revised Penal Code significantly expanded the scope of the restriction and the penalties for offences, including by imposing the death penalty on offences such as mocking the Prophet Muhammad and by criminalizing exposing Muslim children to the beliefs and practices of any religion other than Islam. Amnesty International urged the Government to urgently bring its new Penal Code in line with international human rights law and standards.

671. Südwind Entwicklungspolitik expressed disappointment that Brunei Darussalam did not accept recommendations, including ratification of the ICCPR, ICESCR, ICERD, CAT, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. Südwind Entwicklungspolitik noted that the adoption of the new penal code that imposes the death penalty for numerous offences, including death by stoning as a specific method of execution for rape, adultery, sodomy and extra-marital sexual relations, would only increase violence in the country. Südwind Entwicklungspolitik also noted that Brunei Darussalam was one of those rare countries that impose the death penalty for the crime of apostasy, which is not in compliance with human rights standards.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

672. The President stated that based on the information provided out of 189 recommendations received, 97 enjoy the support of Brunei Darussalam, and the rest are noted.

673. Brunei Darussalam stated that it remained committed to the promotion and protection of human rights. Brunei Darussalam emphasized that it would continue to work towards the betterment of human rights and to overcome the challenges ahead.

674. Brunei Darussalam also stated that as a member of the international community, it appreciated the values of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect and cooperation reaffirming its engagement in the various regional and international mechanisms to exchange views and experiences towards the fulfilment of the promotion and protection of human rights.

675. Brunei Darussalam concluded that it being a small state of 400,000 people had very limited human resources, hence, Brunei Darussalam would welcome any capacity building and assistance from international organizations.

Costa Rica

676. The review of Costa Rica was held on 5 May 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Costa Rica in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/CRI/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/CRI/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/CRI/3).

677. At its 26th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Costa Rica (see section C below).

678. The outcome of the review of Costa Rica comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/12), the views of Costa Rica concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/12/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

679. Costa Rica indicated that it was a great honour to address the Human Rights Council in the context of the adoption of the Report of the Working Group on the Universal

Periodic Review on Costa Rica, as it allowed Costa Rica to provide additional information with regard to the human rights situation in the country.

680. The universal periodic review mechanism has demonstrated to be a successful opportunity for Costa Rica, since it serves to promote cooperation and dialogue and to guide the formulation of human rights public policies. Its universality ensures equal treatment to all States, and takes into consideration the level of development and characteristics of each country. Costa Rica views this exercise, as an opportunity to report in a comprehensive manner before the international community, on the situation of human rights, and to assess its own progress and challenges in meeting its obligations and commitments.

681. Costa Rica was pleased to report that, from a total of 193 recommendations received during its second review, five had been supported by Costa Rica during the review, which had considered them already as implemented. From the other 188 recommendations that it had left pending to be examined, Costa Rica reported that it supported 173, which included six considered already as implemented and four others, which were partially supported. Costa Rica noted that most of the recommendations received coincided with decisions and policies already under implementation by the State even before the review had taken place, which demonstrated the commitment of the government.

682. Costa Rica indicated that it had taken note of the other 15 recommendations, as it considered that it was not possible to adopt a position on them at this time.

683. The delegation further indicated that many recommendations reiterated a same idea, and in general, Costa Rica considered these as encouraging the country to persevere in its ongoing work towards the promotion and protection of human rights.

684. Costa Rica wished to report on recommendations already considered as fully having been implemented. These included: the ratification of the ILO Convention No. 189 on decent work for domestic workers; the criminalization of trafficking in the Penal Code, which was aggravated when it referred to children; the preparation of the Strategic Plan 2012–2015 of the National Coalition against Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling; the formulation of a Comprehensive Migration Policy 2013–2023; and the National Action Plan on the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities 2012–2024, currently being reviewed and reformulated for the period of 2015–2018.

685. The delegation reported that in May 2014, Costa Rica had ratified the Optional Protocol of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and that the ratification instrument was going to be deposited by the President of the Republic during the 69th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York.

686. Costa Rica highlighted progress made with the establishment of the Inter-institutional Committee on Follow-Up to and Compliance with International Human Rights Obligations and the Permanent Entity for Consultations with Civil Society, that it had reported during the review. With these mechanisms Costa Rica has been able to develop a dialogue with the civil society in the context of the elaboration of various reports.

687. Costa Rica recognized that having an adequate legal framework is not sufficient for the protection of human rights, as regards groups that have been and are subject of exclusion and social prejudices. It noted that for two years and a half, it had been engaged in a process of dialogue with afro-descendants and indigenous peoples, migrants, refugees and civil society organizations, which allowed for the elaboration of the National Policy for a Society Free from Racism, Racial Discrimination and Xenophobia, which entered into force in 2014.

688. With regard to indigenous peoples issues, Costa Rica highlighted the commitment of the Presidency to continue with the processes of dialogue at the highest level, mainly with

regard to conflicts relating to land tenure and the security of its inhabitants, as well as other important issues, such as education, health, housing and social security of the indigenous peoples of Costa Rica. The delegation also referred to the willingness of the new administration to elaborate a comprehensive strategy to address the situation of the territorial rights of the indigenous peoples of Costa Rica.

689. With regard to migrant issues, Costa Rica reported on progress made, inter alia, in the incorporation of a development and human rights approach to this theme, both at the legal level, as well as with regard to public policies. It referred to legislation adopted and the new Comprehensive Migration Policy 2013–2023, which puts Costa Rica at the forefront of migration policies in the region with an inclusive agenda.

690. Costa Rica reported also on progress made in the implementation of the Law Against Trafficking in Persons adopted in 2013, the elaboration of the regulations, the establishment of the Coalition Against the Illicit Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons and the National Fund Against Trafficking in Persons, which is also a unique experience in the region.

691. The protection and development of children has been historically of importance for Costa Rica. It reported on the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the CRC on a communications procedure in early 2014 and highlighted the need that countries, including Costa Rica, pay more attention and allocate more resources to allow children to access services and a quality education and to enjoy a better life.

692. Another fundamental issue for development and democracy is that of gender equality. Costa Rica reiterated its commitment of the current administration with the gender equity policy and the designation of a Minister on the Condition of Women to ensure that the gender policy remains a cross-cutting issue in all political decisions. It further noted that addressing violence against women continues to be a challenge for the country.

693. The delegation also reported on progress and challenges in addressing human rights issues of LGBTI persons. During recent years, the country has been discussing formulas to better guarantee property rights of LGBTI persons, and while the legal options still need to be discussed, some State institutions have been generating positive administrative actions, in which the civil society have played a key role.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

694. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Costa Rica, 15 delegations made statements.

695. Angola recognized the commitment of Costa Rica in protecting and promoting human rights through the ratification of the main international instruments and particularly the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Angola welcomed Costa Rica's acceptance of most recommendations, thus reflecting the commitment of the country to continue cooperating with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.

696. Bulgaria thanked Costa Rica for the progress made in the implementation of a number of recommendations as well as for meeting a number of challenges in this regard. Bulgaria welcomed the efforts made by Costa Rica in protecting and promoting the human rights of children and positively noted the implementation of the National Policy for Children and Adolescents. In line with the recommendations made by Bulgaria during the review, Bulgaria indicated that it will follow with interest the national activities in area of

education for indigenous peoples and the investment on infrastructures in indigenous territories.

697. China welcomed Costa Rica's constructive engagement with the UPR and appreciated positive commitment to further protecting and promoting human rights. China thanked the delegation for having accepted their recommendations at this review which strive to further promote economic and social development, to make poverty elimination a priority and to further improve people's living standards. China wished well to Costa Rica in realizing sustainable economic and social development so that its people can better enjoy all human rights.

698. The Congo welcomed the establishment by Costa Rica of the Inter-Institutional Committee on Follow-up to and Compliance with International Human Rights Obligations in the country. The Congo noted with satisfaction that Costa Rica accepted most of recommendations, particularly those made by the Congo, regarding the implementation of a recommendation made by the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, relating to the draft law on the autonomous development of the indigenous peoples and land restitution.

699. Côte d'Ivoire thanked Costa Rica for the additional information provided and for the attention paid to the recommendations made to the country, including those from Côte d'Ivoire and congratulated Costa Rica for accepting 178 of them. Côte d'Ivoire welcomed the progress made in the area of human rights and encouraged Costa Rica to continue its efforts and good cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms.

700. Cuba wished to reiterate the measures taken by Costa Rica to implement the recommendations from the first cycle of the UPR and highlighted progress made by the country in the area of equality and non-discrimination. Cuba thanked Costa Rica for accepting most recommendations, particularly the one made by Cuba regarding efforts to ensure better access to education and employment. Cuba wished every success to Costa Rica in implementing the recommendations.

701. Djibouti welcomed Costa Rica's commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights and encouraged it to continue its efforts to promote and protect human rights, particularly with regard to vulnerable persons.

702. Morocco noted with satisfaction the progresses made by Costa Rica in respecting and implementing international human rights obligations. Morocco welcomed Costa Rica's accession to the Convention on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances (ICPPED) and to the UNESCO Convention on Cultural Diversity. Morocco also welcomed Costa Rica's determination and continuous efforts to establish a legal and institutional framework which guarantees the protection and promotion of human rights.

703. Niger took note of the progress made by Costa Rica in protecting and promoting human rights through its cooperation with the treaty bodies and its ongoing efforts to ensure the achievement of economic, social and cultural rights of the most vulnerable and marginalized sectors of the population. Morocco welcomed in particular, the results that Costa Rica has made in education which have led to a literacy rate of 97 per cent and its efforts in providing quality health care.

704. Nigeria noted the efforts employed by Costa Rica towards promoting and protecting the enjoyment of human rights and was encouraged by the policies introduced by Costa Rica to improve health care delivery and education. Nigeria called on Costa Rica to assent to international human rights conventions it has yet to ratify, and to strive to adapt international humanitarian law into its domestic statutes. Nigeria called on Costa Rica to continue to cooperate with OHCHR and to promote and protect the human rights of its people.

705. The Philippines noted the efforts made by Costa Rica to improve its migration policies and the stronger measures adopted to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children. The Philippines was pleased that Costa Rica accepted the recommendation made by the Philippines for it to consider possible ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW) and the ILO Convention 189. The Philippines encouraged Costa Rica to provide the necessary resources for the implementation of the UPR recommendations.

706. Sudan expressed highest esteem for the feedback received from the delegation on the recommendations. Sudan appreciated the efforts of Costa Rica and its cooperation with the UPR. It regretted that Costa Rica was unable to accept some recommendations made by Sudan. Sudan wished Costa Rica progress and prosperity in enhancing the rights of its citizens.

707. Togo thanked Costa Rica for the additional information provided. It welcomed that Costa Rica had accepted most recommendations made during its second UPR, in particular the recommendation made by Togo contained in paragraph 128.52 of the Working Group report, calling on Costa Rica to continue its efforts to combat structured racism and to prosecute perpetrators of racist acts.

708. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela highlighted the efforts made by Costa Rica to improve the conditions of indigenous peoples, people of African descent, refugees and migrants as part of the national policy against racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia. Venezuela also welcomed the policies and programs developed by the National Body for Childhood (PANI) to address sexual exploitation and abuses against this vulnerable group as well as to tackle teenage pregnancies. Venezuela recognized efforts made by Costa Rica to address challenges and implement recommendations from the first review, reaffirming its commitment with human rights.

709. Algeria thanked the delegation for the additional information provided. It noted the acceptance by Costa Rica of most of the recommendations received, which reflects the good cooperation that the country has with the universal periodic review mechanism. In particular, Algeria welcomed that Costa Rica had accepted one of the two recommendations made by Morocco to continue its efforts to combat violence against women and children. Algeria wished success to Costa Rica in implementing the recommendations and in promoting human rights.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

710. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Costa Rica, 4 other stakeholders made statements.

711. Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie Van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland referred to prejudices that limit their citizenship. It noted that in Costa Rica 90 per cent of the population reject discrimination based on sexual orientation and 70 per cent agree that the LGBT population should have the same rights and obligations as the rest of the population. It noted that one religious belief should not be over the rights of the population. It thanked countries that had made recommendations to Costa Rica relating to LGBT.

712. The Center for Reproductive Rights Inc. referred to recommendations made to Costa Rica to take steps to guarantee full and effective recognition of sexual and reproductive rights, and emphasised the need to decriminalize abortion, particularly in cases of pregnancy resulting from rape or incest. It regretted that Costa Rica had not accepted recommendations made on reproductive health and rights. It urged Costa Rica to amend the

current law to legalize abortion in case of rape and to adopt a health care protocol to regulate and guarantee access to legal abortion.

713. VIDES International and IMMA welcomed the recommendations relating to the right to education and to health and urged Costa Rica to implement them as soon as possible. It also urged Costa Rica to effectively implement the recommendations relating to physical or sexual violence against children and women. It recommended that Costa Rica adopts comprehensive programmes to eradicate discrimination against the children, and children most vulnerable, so that they can enjoy fully their rights; develops policies to guarantee equal access to quality health services and eradication of corruption; promotes awareness-raising campaigns against the use of drugs and sexual education to prevent early pregnancies; adopts effective measures to eliminate violence against children and women, in particular in schools and at home.

714. Action Canada for Population and Development (ACPD) welcomed the commitment of Costa Rica since its first review, with regard to the rights of LGBTI persons. It noted that during recent years Costa Rica has made major progress in recognizing the identity and gender expression of trans persons, however it still needs to implement and guarantee the access to all identity documents respecting identity and gender expressions, thus giving trans persons access to basic rights often denied. ACPD requested Costa Rica to implement comprehensive, specific and inclusive health protocols. It also called the attention of the Council to medical and surgical practices applied to intersex children that can have physic, psychological and emotional non-reversible consequences, and on which Costa Rica had not received any recommendations. It therefore recommended that protocols for newly born intersex and/or ambiguous sex, which are based on international human rights norms be adopted and implemented.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

715. The President stated that based on the information provided, out of 193 recommendations received, 178 enjoyed the support of Costa Rica and the other 15 were noted.

716. Costa Rica thanked all States that had participated in its review and had contributed with comments and recommendations to consolidate its actions and challenges it faces in addressing human rights issues in the country.

Equatorial Guinea

717. The review of Equatorial Guinea was held on 5 May 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

- (a) The national report submitted by Equatorial Guinea in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/GNQ/1);
- (b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/GNQ/2);
- (c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/GNQ/3).

718. At its 26th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Equatorial Guinea (see section C below).

719. The outcome of the review of Equatorial Guinea comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/13), the views of Equatorial Guinea concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary

commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/13/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

720. The Delegation of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea began its statement expressing it joined its congratulations made to previous speakers. It also expressed, on behalf of the President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, His Excellency Mr. Obiang Nguema MBASOGO, fervent greetings of peace and solidarity for the promotion and defence of human rights in the world.

721. It asserted that when Equatorial Guinea submitted itself to the Universal Periodic Review in its second cycle held on the 5th of May this year in Geneva, the Government gave a detailed report to this Council on the degree of implementation of the recommendations given in the first cycle. The delegation reported that during this second cycle a total of 191 recommendations were made out of which the Government accepted 102, 83 were left to be examined, and 6 were rejected.

722. It stated the Government tried and believed it had succeeded in demonstrating the existence of a clear commitment to the ideals and values of human rights promotion and protection which are inherent to the equality of all citizens.

723. The delegation expressed gratitude for the acknowledgements recognizing the results achieved, as well as for the recommendations made by various delegations gathered in the session, specifically in the interactive dialogue. It also stated that all these recommendations had been carefully analysed and assessed in order to comply with them.

724. It reported that this work had enabled the Government, within an Inter-ministerial Monographic Council, to consider all the recommendations to which response had to be given by the various levels of Government. It added that several of these recommendations were already part of the Government Action Plan.

725. In this context, the delegation reported on concrete steps already taken to implement and guarantee the application of the main topics discussed during the second cycle of the UPR, among others the following:

726. Regarding the recommendations on death penalty, the Government accepted and enacted Resolution No. 426 dated 13th February on a Temporary Amnesty Against Death Penalty, which came into force on a temporary basis the day of its publication. The Government recently presented it before the Dual-Chamber Parliament so that, once ratified, it will definitely be applied.

727. Regarding the ratification of the Rome Statute the delegation reiterated that the Government continued to keep the decision taken in the Declaration of the African Union on its non-recognition.

728. Regarding the creation of an independent National Human Rights Institution, the delegation stated the Government accepted the recommendation and noted that since 1998 it had created a Centre for the Promotion of Human Rights and Democracy, which is not under any institutional hierarchy, is endowed with its own legal personality, and has the capacity to work within and outside the country in the promotion, protection, dissemination and teaching of human rights and democracy.

729. Regarding the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Equatorial Guinea asserted it had accepted the recommendation, which had

already been approved by the Council of Ministers and a decision had been taken to send it to the Parliament for ratification.

730. On the Optional Protocol on the Convention Against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the Government stated it accepted this instrument and decided to send it to the Deputy Chamber and the Senate. It added that the Human Rights Department attached to the Government Presidency had reiterated in several seminars to all uniformed officials and judicial, political and decision-making officials not to tolerate nationally the practice of torture and arbitrary detention, with drastic coercive sanctions when they occur. The Government highlighted that in accordance with this, it arranged free access of the International Committee of the Red Cross to detention centres in all the country, decided to verify site conditions and treatment of detainees held or dispensed and supported the relevant actions of the Attorney General and the National Human Rights Commission in their periodic inspections to such centres.

731. Regarding the elimination of child labour, the delegation stated that the National Committee on the Rights of the Child and CANIGE were the bodies responsible for ensuring children's rights at the national level, with the support of the Government. Equatorial Guinea accepted this recommendation and therefore created a Children's Parliament, as a forum for free expression in which children and adolescents met to discuss issues affecting them, through an open interactive dialogue.

732. On freedom of the press, the delegation stated it accepted the recommendation and expressed that the Government will review and adjust the Press and Media Law to give greater freedom of movement for reporters and greater expression and press freedom. It added that professional associations such as the Press Association of Equatorial Guinea (ASOPGE) and the Association of Professional Journalists of Equatorial Guinea (APPGE) had been authorized. The delegation underscored that no obstacles or prohibition barriers existed in Equatorial Guinea to bring all kinds of information, whether newspapers or national and international journals, or to receive news from various television channels or for the provision of a public internet service, intranet as well as fiber optics.

733. The delegation asserted it took note of the recommendation on the ratification of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption. Nevertheless, it highlighted that actions had been taken to eradicate this evil, as an Anti-Corruption Prosecutor was working in the country, a Court of Auditors had been created and decree no 42/2007 dated 30 July which regulated the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Initiative for Transparency and Good Governance in Extractive Industries, was in force.

734. Equatorial Guinea stated it had accepted and approved the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, and that the government had sent it to the Dual-Chamber Parliament to proceed with the formalities of its adhesion.

735. The delegation asserted the Government made an analysis of all other recommendations of the Second Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review, which was included in the Addendum.

736. The delegation reported to the Human Rights Council that on the 15th September the President, Head of State and Government and President of the Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea, HE Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, delivered the second edition of UNESCO Equatorial Guinea International Award for Research in Life Sciences. The delegation explained that these awards consist of an economic valuation of one hundred thousand dollars and a gold statuette of the late Equatoguinean sculptor of internationally recognized Equatorial Doctor Leandro Mbomio NSUE.

737. Finally, the delegation stated that the government renewed its readiness to continue working, with the assistance and cooperation of the Office of the United Nations Human Rights High Commissioner for Human Rights and reaffirmed its commitment to devote efforts and capacities to reach a national society in which human rights were the values of peaceful and democratic coexistence.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

738. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Equatorial Guinea, 15 delegations made statements. The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints²⁶ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

739. Ethiopia commended Equatorial Guinea for the constructive engagement with the Human Rights Council and for having accepted a significant number of recommendations. Ethiopia thanked Equatorial Guinea for accepting all their recommendations and called the United Nations Human Rights Mechanisms, Special Funds and Programs to provide technical and capacity building assistance to Equatorial Guinea on the basis of the country's priority and request. Ethiopia wished all the best to Equatorial Guinea in their endeavour to implement the accepted recommendations.

740. Gabon welcomed the total cooperation of Equatorial Guinea with the international human rights promotion and protection mechanisms and procedures. Gabon congratulated Equatorial Guinea for the many actions taken in establishing human rights protection and promotion institutions at the national level and encouraged Equatorial Guinea to continue strengthening their capacity in terms of human and material resources in order to bring such institutions in line with the Paris Principles. Gabon called on the international community to support Equatorial Guinea in the implementation of the recommendations.

741. Guinea emphasised the major progresses made by Equatorial Guinea in the area of human rights and particularly for the efforts to implement the recommendations made to the country during its last UPR. Guinea congratulated Equatorial Guinea for the adoption of significant legislative measures to guarantee representation and participation by women in decision making bodies, particularly in Parliament and other State institutions. Guinea noted with appreciation the measures taken by Equatorial Guinea to improve the health situation in the country and in particular those tackling the issue of child mortality.

742. Morocco welcomed the exemplary collaboration of Equatorial Guinea with the UPR. Morocco supported the reforms undertaken by Equatorial Guinean authorities in order to establish a favourable political and legislative environment for the development and enjoyment of human rights. Morocco noted that the acceptance of more than the 80% of the recommendations by Equatorial Guinea showed its will in cooperating with international human rights mechanisms, including the UPR. Morocco expressed confidence in the success of Equatorial Guinea to overcome remaining human rights challenges.

743. Nigeria urged Equatorial Guinea to continue to adapt international humanitarian law into domestic legislations with a view to improving the enjoyment of human rights. Nigeria invited Equatorial Guinea to prioritize education and health of its people and commended Equatorial Guinea for its contribution in fighting the Ebola pandemic. Nigeria recognised that Equatorial Guinea accepted most of the recommendations offered by states and wished Equatorial Guinea success in their implementation.

²⁶ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

744. Sierra Leone commended Equatorial Guinea on the work done so far and noted with appreciation that the recommendations made by Sierra Leone enjoyed the support of the State and were already at the implementation stage. Whilst acknowledging that there are challenges ahead in achieving one hundred per cent implementation, Sierra Leone continued to applaud the compliance of Equatorial Guinea in this process and wished them success in ensuring that those recommendations accepted are fully implemented.

745. South Africa welcomed the commitment by Equatorial Guinea in ensuring the fulfilment of all human rights for its people. South Africa welcomed the efforts made in education and in addressing HIV and AIDS in the context of the Government's National Economic and Social Development Plan for Horizon 2020. South Africa underlined also the efforts made by the government to ensure that the National Commission on Human Rights complies with the Paris Principles. South Africa was encouraged by the adoption of Decree No. 426, declaring a temporary moratorium in the application of the death penalty. South Africa encouraged Equatorial Guinea to continue its efforts towards the promotion, protection and fulfilment of human rights.

746. The Sudan welcomed the delegation of Equatorial Guinea and expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the delegation to bring responses to the questions and information about the recommendations. The Sudan commended Equatorial Guinea on cooperation with the UPR mechanisms and expressed gratitude for accepting the recommendations made by the Sudan. The Sudan wished Equatorial Guinea every success in the implementation of the recommendations.

747. Togo welcomed the Equatorial Guinea's acceptance of almost all the recommendations made by the Working Group during its second cycle, including the recommendations made by Togo. It also underlined the progresses made by Equatorial Guinea in the realization of economic and social rights and in promoting the well-being of the population. Togo invited the international community to provide Equatorial Guinea with support in implementing the recommendations.

748. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed appreciation for the efforts made by Equatorial Guinea to comply with the UPR recommendations, giving full and open cooperation with the mechanism. It welcomed the continuity of Equatorial Guinea's free education policy, as established in the National Education Law, and underscored that more than two thousands teachers were hired for rural and peripheral urban areas, in order to increase school enrolment. It restated its recognition to the government of Equatorial Guinea for the work done.

749. Algeria welcomed the legislative and institutional changes that had been carried out to protect and promote human rights. It stated that the Constitutional reform adopted in 2012 had strengthened the institutional framework to protect human rights, establishing the Office of the People's Defender Office. Algeria noted that Equatorial Guinea ratified several human rights instruments and had incorporated them into its domestic apparatus. Algeria also welcomed the new policies established to ensure advances in the areas of urban planning, housing, electricity, water and sanitation, maternal and child mortality and health in the rural areas.

750. Angola noted that Equatorial Guinea accepted several recommendations made to the country including those made by the delegation regarding efforts to increase schooling rates and access to schools. It welcomed the availability by Equatorial Guinea to continue to cooperate with United Nations bodies, in particular by submitting reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and to the Human Rights Council under the UPR.

751. Armenia thanked Equatorial Guinea for accepting a number of important recommendations, including those made by Armenia. Armenia welcomed the acceptance of

the recommendation to ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. It believed that each state acceding to the convention contributed to the prevention of this odious scourge worldwide.

752. Benin noted with satisfaction the remarkable progresses made by Equatorial Guinea in ratifying several international human rights instruments and welcomed the decision of the government to establish a moratorium in the application of the death penalty. Benin encouraged Equatorial Guinea to accede to the other relevant human rights instruments and to strengthen its programs for the implementation of the economic, social and cultural rights of its people. Benin called upon the international community to support the reforms initiated by the Equatorial Guinean in the framework of the promotion and protection of all human rights.

753. Botswana commended Equatorial Guinea for measures taken to combat trafficking of children and child recruitment as soldiers. Botswana encouraged the government to finalise the ratification and accession to the two Optional Protocols to the Convention of the Rights of the Child. Botswana also commended Equatorial Guinea for the measures taken to reduce child mortality and the improvements in health care services, in particular with regards to maternal and child mortality. Botswana called on the international community to provide the necessary technical assistance and capacity building to Equatorial Guinea for the realisation of the human rights of its people.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

754. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Equatorial Guinea, 4 other stakeholders made statements.

755. Ocaproce International congratulated Equatorial Guinea for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women. It invited Equatorial Guinea to double its efforts to implement the recommendations issued in the previous UPR cycle. It expressed concern about impunity and underscored the need to prosecute criminals, particularly in the context of sexual and domestic violence. It also condemned the existence of many discriminatory practices that favour some children over others, affecting mostly girls and children born out of wedlock, coming from poor families, with disabilities and those belonging to ethnic minorities. It invited Equatorial Guinea, inter alia, to take effective measures to eradicate these forms of discrimination, implement a sectorial plan for promotion of women and gender equality, and double its efforts to prohibit the spread of HIV / AIDS.

756. Human Rights Watch regretted that the UPR indicated there had been no progress by the Equatorial Guinea Government since its 2009 review, and stated that the many and serious concerns offered in this review correspond to those made four years ago. It expressed deep concern that the Government has not implemented its commitment not to tolerate torture and arbitrary detention, and reported on several cases. It was concerned that the moratorium on death penalty was only approved as a temporary measure and regretted that in July President Obiang stated that he continued supporting death penalty. It underlined the need to monitor implementation of commitments and urged OHCHR to help the government launch such process, ensuring its integrity and independence and to regularly report on its progress.

757. Raddho stated that an important part of the recommendations of the first cycle have not been implemented. Nevertheless it welcomed the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW, the moratorium instituted in February 2014 and the law on compensating torture victims. It remained concerned on arbitrary detentions, political violence, impunity over security forces that violate human rights, and the restricted space of freedom for political parties, NGO's, human rights defenders, and opponents, corruption in the public

administration and the use of torture and bad detention conditions. It expressed that the incarceration, intimidation and abduction of opponents had to stop. It encouraged Equatorial Guinea to ensure independence of the judiciary and to issue a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders.

758. The African Association of Education for Development stated that Equatorial Guinea accepted some recommendations but did not implement them, and that this was a mockery to the Council. It asserted human rights violations persisted, and that almost total impunity resulted from control exerted by the Executive Power over the Judicial Power, where judges were appointed and dismissed by the same Executive, while corruption was systematic and generalized. It expressed that the Executive Power controls both private and institutional activities, and that there were no spaces for citizen freedoms, as the few media were under the control of the Government. It called on the Council to pay special attention to the grave situation in Equatorial Guinea that has lasted more than 30 years and which deserved to be followed by a Special Rapporteur for the country and the permanent presence of OHCHR.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

759. The President stated that based on the information provided out of 191 recommendations received, 142 enjoy the support of Equatorial Guinea, 37 were noted, and additional clarification was provided on another 12 recommendations.

760. The delegation stated that it wished to restate the commitment of Equatorial Guinea to continue to cooperate with the different bodies of the Human Rights Council, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and all people with good will that help in making efforts to improve in human rights affairs in the country.

761. The delegation also stated that the Government, bearing in mind some voices of people that claim from abroad, had made an invitation to carry out a political dialogue next November in Equatorial Guinea with all political forces that express themselves and are living abroad, where, as citizens of the same nation, any subject can be addressed in order to have a peaceful coexistence.

762. Finally, the delegation thanked all countries, the Human Rights Council, the Secretariat and the troika for their efforts in helping in our commitment to increasingly improve the full compliance with the human rights in Equatorial Guinea.

Ethiopia

763. The review of Ethiopia was held on 6 May 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Ethiopia in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/ETH/1 and Corr.1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/ETH/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/ETH/3).

764. At its 26th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Ethiopia (see section C below).

765. The outcome of the review of Ethiopia comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/14), the views of Ethiopia concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies

presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/ETH/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

766. The delegation of Ethiopia stated that Ethiopia had accepted 188 recommendations, out of the 252 recommendations made during the Review.

767. The delegation informed that the inter-ministerial institutional framework at the Federal and Regional State levels established by the National Human Rights Action Plan would undertake the implementation of these recommendations. The Ministry of Justice would have a central role as mandated by the Parliament through the National Human Rights Action Plan. This process would further be complemented by the active participation of the public, and the relevant national human rights institutions such as the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, the Institution of the Ombudsman, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders.

768. The delegation stated that Ethiopia was determined to intensify its efforts to sustain the socio-economic development, capacity building, awareness raising at the grass-root levels, provide continuous human rights education for law enforcement organs and further strengthen judicial and administrative review mechanisms.

769. Ethiopia had registered progress in the ongoing five-year Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) aimed at ensuring high level, broad based, equitable and participatory growth and further entrenchment of democracy, good governance and human rights. Ethiopia had also adopted the first National Human Rights Action Plan for the year 2013–2015 and was committed to build on the achievements and remarkable advances registered in meeting many of the Millennium Development Goals.

770. The delegation explained that Ethiopia was not able to accept some of the recommendations as they were forwarded without the proper understanding of the policy and legal framework and the situation in Ethiopia or due to capacity limitation or lack of clarity. The recommendations questioning the content and objectives of the Charities and Societies Proclamation No. 621/2009 were not based on objective assessment. The law and its implementation were aimed at ensuring the right to freedom of association as enshrined in the Constitution or obligations of the country. It was drafted with extensive public discussions and stakeholders engagement. The law had provided a predictable and transparent system for the establishment, registration and regulation of charities and societies. It had also provided a conducive environment for the growth of grass root, members-based and members-driven civil society groups. It ensured accountability of all charities and societies while guaranteeing them independence and due process of law.

771. The requirement of the Proclamation for charities and societies to use 70 per cent of resources they had mobilized to operations and not more than 30 per cent for administrative purposes had enabled them to promote the interests of their members, to use substantial amount of resources they had mobilized to the attainment of their objectives.

772. The requirement for charities and societies working on political issues to raise 90 per cent of their funds from local resources did not affect charities and societies working on development and humanitarian issues. Ethiopia had also signed bilateral agreements with some charities and societies based on the exception provided under Article 3 of the Proclamation to enable them participate in these activities. Ethiopia had set a consultative forum composed of relevant Government organs and charities and societies to assess the implementation of the Proclamation.

773. There were 3078 charities and societies operating in Ethiopia. It was thus clear that the recommendations to review, amend or repeal this law were misplaced and would derail the proper functioning of the system designed for the establishment, registration and operation of charities and societies.

774. Similarly, the recommendations relating to the Anti-Terrorism Proclamation were not acceptable. The law was aimed at fighting terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Terrorism was a threat to Ethiopia's national security. The Proclamation ensured the protection of the rights to life, peace and security of Ethiopians consistent with the Constitution, its human rights obligations and United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1267 and 1373.

775. The Proclamation was not used to target political opposition. The Government should not be asked to release people convicted of terrorist acts or interfere with court proceedings. For these reasons, recommendations related to the amendment, review or repeal of the Proclamation or recommendations to release persons imprisoned for attempting to commit or committing terrorist acts were rejected.

776. The Freedom of the Mass Media and Access to Information Proclamation No. 590/2008 was aimed at guaranteeing freedom of expression and of the mass media; nurturing the indispensable role of a free, independent and diverse mass media in building a democratic system; and making the mass media accountable for its activities. It prohibited any form of censorship in line with the Constitution and the human rights obligations of Ethiopia.

777. Ethiopia had established a national task force, chaired by the Institution of the Ombudsman and composed of the relevant Government offices, to oversee the effective implementation of the Proclamation. The Proclamation had enabled people to advocate their view either in support or critic of Government policies and measures taken without fear. It had also enabled freedom of expression to further flourish. For this reason, the recommendations to amend or repeal the Proclamation were not accepted.

778. Ethiopia would consider invitation to special procedures of the Human Rights Council on a case-by-case basis.

779. The delegation reiterated that Ethiopia would continue working closely with civil society organizations, grass roots associations, and professional associations to implement the accepted recommendations. The Government would redouble its efforts to ensure the implementation of the constitutionally guaranteed rights and fundamental freedoms for all Ethiopians. Ethiopia would also continue to pursue the policy of active cooperation with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms. It should also further strengthen its engagement with OHCHR in Geneva and through the Eastern African Regional Office in Addis Ababa.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

780. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Ethiopia, 13 delegations made statements. The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints²⁷ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

781. Indonesia commended Ethiopia for their significant advancement in the promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights sustained by rule of law and open political process. It also welcomed the ongoing process of ratification of

²⁷ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

ICRMW. Indonesia also appreciated that Ethiopia had accepted its recommendation in the area of the right to education.

782. Lao People's Democratic Republic appreciated that Ethiopia had accepted the large number of recommendations and had taken necessary steps for implementation. It underscored the improvement of freedom of expression, of mass media and of religion. It welcomed the progress in gender equality, access to free primary education for all citizens, health care services, promotion of the rights of women and children, and combating human trafficking and poverty alleviation.

783. Malaysia commended the progress made by Ethiopia in the establishment of the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission and the adoption of the National Human Rights Action Plan. It also lauded the importance that Ethiopia had placed in the areas of health and education, as well as empowerment of women. It was pleased to note that Ethiopia had accepted the its recommendation on the greater participation of women in the political process.

784. Mali welcomed the renewed commitment of Ethiopia for close cooperation with different human rights mechanisms, illustrated by the acceptance of the large number of recommendations. It congratulated Ethiopia for the progress made in realizing economic, social and cultural rights, obtained through several legislatives and institutional reforms, such as the adoption of National Human Rights Action Plan and National Programme for Good Governance.

785. Morocco welcomed the efforts made by Ethiopia for economic development and implementation of the five-year GTP. It congratulated Ethiopia for the commitment in eradication of poverty and achievement of MDGs. It emphasised the importance of the Human Rights Action Plan for 2013–2015 for implementation of the recommendations.

786. The Niger highlighted the efforts made by Ethiopia in promoting and protecting human rights through national strategies and policies. The platform for the economic development and political transformations listed in GTP for the period 2010–2015 had allowed achieving considerable economic growth over the past 10 years, and the share of the benefits of this growth would help to increase the living standards, and economic, social, and cultural rights of its people.

787. Nigeria was impressed that Ethiopia had accepted all its recommendations. It commended the various measures and strategies employed to combat harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation and early and forced marriages. It appreciated Ethiopia's efforts to pursue rights-based approaches to development and welcomed the ratification of CRPD, OP-CRC-AC and OP-CRC-SC.

788. The Philippines welcomed the willingness of Ethiopia to ratify ICRMW, and noted with appreciation that this process had already been initiated. It commended Ethiopia for taking steps to advance the rights of Ethiopian nationals abroad, and establishing a national task force. It expressed its will to work more closely with Ethiopia in order to promote and protect the rights of migrants workers in crisis.

789. Romania congratulated Ethiopia for the achievement and willingness expressed to cooperate further with the international community for the promotion and protection of human rights. It stated that there were still challenges to overcome and expressed the hope that Ethiopia would continue to address the concerns expressed during the interactive dialogue.

790. Sierra Leone appreciated the willingness of Ethiopia to consider and potentially implement many of the recommendations put forward, including all those made by Sierra Leone. It commended Ethiopia for the implementation of the accepted recommendations since the UPR 1st cycle, including the ratification of the Optional Protocols to CRC. It also

noted that Ethiopia had invested in infrastructure, and in social and economic development of its people.

791. South Africa appreciated the role that Ethiopia played within the work of the Human Rights Council, including serving in the capacity of the coordinator for the African Group. It stated that the quality of life of Ethiopians continued to grow on a positive trajectory, including the progress made towards the realisation of the MDGs. It was encouraged by the large number of recommendations accepted by Ethiopia, including those made by South Africa.

792. Sri Lanka was pleased to note that the recommendations that it had made were among those that had been accepted by Ethiopia. Ethiopia had made considerable achievement in addressing poverty and was on track to achieve the related MDGs. It commended the efforts made by Ethiopia in ensuring food security, education and health care facilities. It noted with appreciation that Ethiopia introduced the strategies to promote gender equality in all sectors.

793. The Sudan congratulated Ethiopia for the efforts made. It appreciated the role played by Ethiopia and its cooperation with the UPR mechanism. It also emphasized the efforts made by Ethiopia in eradicating poverty and promoting women rights. It expressed appreciation for the acceptance by Ethiopia of the recommendations that it had made.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

794. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Ethiopia, eight other stakeholders made statements.

795. Article 19 stated that it had documented that the Anti-Terrorism Proclamation had been used to prosecute 22 journalists and bloggers. The Proclamation defined “terrorism” so broadly that it encompassed any exercise of legitimate dissent that the Government wished to crush. The Zone 9 Bloggers, together with three journalists, were the latest victims. Guaranteeing freedom of expression required substantial reforms to the Criminal Code and the Freedom of the Mass Media and Access to Information Proclamation. There was no independence or pluralism of media. The Ethiopia Broadcasting Authority was appointed by and financially dependent upon the Government. The law required printed media to be licensed. Blocking websites was routine. Article 19 was profoundly disappointed at Ethiopia’s rejection of Mexico’s recommendation to eliminate all obstacles to the development of non-governmental organisation. Ethiopia’s rejection, as a Human Rights Council Member State, of a recommendation to issue a standing invitation to all UN Special Procedures must be condemned and seen as emblematic of its disdain for accountability for human rights violations.

796. East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project stated that Ethiopia had accepted Australia’s recommendation to implement fully its own Constitution, including freedoms of association, expression and assembly for NGOs, and yet, just the day before, a group of United Nations human rights experts had urged Ethiopia to stop misusing anti-terrorism legislation to curb freedoms of expression and association. Since April, nine journalists, including six members of the “Zone 9” blogging collective had been jailed on untenable charges that referred to collaboration with international human rights groups. Ethiopia had rejected Mexico’s recommendation to eliminate obstacles to the development of NGOs, as well as Spain’s recommendation to issue a permanent invitation to the special procedures, but also failed to respond to an individual request from the Special Rapporteur on the Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association. The Human Rights Council was under a moral obligation to exert pressure on Ethiopia to change course. It was incumbent upon the Human Rights Council and all its member states to plan towards taking urgent action at its forthcoming 29th Session.

797. Amnesty International stated that it was deeply concerned that Ethiopia had rejected more than 20 key recommendations on freedom of expression and association, in particular recommendations to amend the Anti-Terrorism Proclamation and to remove restrictions on NGO funding. The journalists and bloggers, arrested just days before Ethiopia's UPR, had since been charged with terrorism offences. Four opposition party members were arrested in July on terror accusations, and, in August, the publishers of six magazines and newspapers were reported to be facing similar charges. While welcoming Ethiopia's statement of "zero tolerance" for torture, it was concerned by its rejection of recommendations to investigate and prosecute all alleged cases of torture and to ratify OP-CAT. It continued to receive frequent reports of the use of torture and other ill-treatment against perceived dissenters, political oppositions and suspected supporters of armed insurgent groups, including the Oromia region. It urged Ethiopia to demonstrate its commitment to strengthening cooperation with the special procedures by inviting the Special Rapporteur on Torture to visit the country. Ethiopia's refusal to ratify ICPEP was also deeply concerning.

798. United Nations Watch stated that it was disturbed to find that many important UPR recommendations had been rejected by Ethiopia. There had been numerous reports of journalists charged with false terrorism offences, as well as many legislative and financial restrictions on the activities of NGOs. It was also concerned by the fact that Ethiopia had rejected recommendations to decriminalize homosexuality, which was punishable by up to 15 years of imprisonment. Ethiopia had a responsibility to end all restrictions on an individual's sexual orientation and gender identity. Ethiopia had rejected recommendations relating to torture, which contradicted its declarations about having zero tolerance for torture. There had been allegations that political detainees had been subjected to torture at detention centres in Addis Ababa. If the Government was serious in its commitment to end torture, its proclamations must be matched with concrete measures. UN Watch indicated that, since the most meaningful recommendation had been rejected by Ethiopia, it saw no alternative but for the Human Rights Council to create a Special Rapporteur to monitor the alarming situation of human rights in Ethiopia.

799. Organisation pour la Communication en Afrique et de Promotion de la Coopération Economique Internationale – OCAPROCE Internationale congratulated Ethiopia for the constructive participation in UPR and ratification of OP-CRC-AC and OP-CRC-SC. Ethiopia had also created more than 2,600,000 jobs in the last two years. It also welcomed Ethiopia's initiatives to emancipate women and to eradicate harmful practices and discrimination against women, and violence against children. It encouraged Ethiopia to set up programmes to combat violence against women and to continue efforts to protect the rights of unaccompanied minors, separated children and refugees. It was, however, seriously concerned by the prevalence of female genital mutilations, early marriages, high level of domestic violence, and sexual and physical violence against women. Very few women sought assistance outside the family because they feared consequences of doing so. It urged Ethiopia to look into this matter and create more shelters for women victims of violence.

800. CIVICUS stated that it was deeply concerned that Ethiopia's recent unprecedented clampdown on all forms of dissent would severely undermined the prospect of holding free and fair elections scheduled for 2015. While relying on international funding to supplement 50-60 per cent of its national budget, Ethiopia had criminalized most foreign funding for human rights groups. These restrictions had precipitated the near complete cessation of independent human rights monitoring in the country. It was deeply alarming that Ethiopia had explicitly refused to implement recommendations put forward by nearly 15 governments during its UPR to create an enabling environment for civil society. Moreover, with nearly 20 journalists and bloggers in prison and hundreds of others in exile, Ethiopia maintained one of the most debilitating environments for freedom of expression. The

terrorism charges levelled against seven members of the bloggers collective Zone 9 and three journalists in July 2014 made a mockery of Ethiopia's commitments under ICCPR. In addition, in a joint statement issued the day before, six UN Special Rapporteurs called on Ethiopia to stop misusing anti-terrorism legislation. It was essential that the Human Rights Council took concerted action to address the rapidly deteriorating situation in the country during the 28th Council Session.

801. Human Rights Watch welcomed Ethiopia's stated commitment to rights-based development and important efforts to improve respect for the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities, and migrant workers, as well as its longstanding support for up to refugees. However, the number of journalists, activists and opposition members arbitrarily detained on spurious terrorism charges continued to rise, and the number of independent media declined as media workers fled the threat of arbitrary detention. Ethiopia regrettably rejected recommendations regarding amending the Charities and Societies Proclamation and the Anti-Terrorism Proclamation, also flagged by the six Special Rapporteurs the day before. Revision of this legislation remained urgent and essential for meaningful activity by independent media and nongovernmental organizations, in advance of the 2015 elections. Ethiopia should strongly consider inviting the UN special procedures and ratifying the Rome Statute, OP-CAT, ICCPR, and other important treaties. As a member of the Human Rights Council, Ethiopia was expected to uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights.

802. Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme (RADDHO) welcomed the realization of the socio-economic goals that led to the improvement of infrastructures in the areas of education, health, housing and technologies. It was satisfied to note that efforts made by Ethiopia ensured that women's rights were genuinely respected. RADDHO congratulated Ethiopia for the welcome that they extended to refugees. Nevertheless, it seriously deplored the deterioration in terms of freedom of expression and press. It was vital for the authorities to create necessary conditions to end monopoly and control of the press. Therefore, it called upon Ethiopia to respect the rights to freedom of expression and association, which were vital for reinvigorating the social political dialogue for genuine emergence of democracy. It strongly encouraged Ethiopia to bring its anti-terrorism strategies in line with international standards. It also called for immediate release without condition of all journalists unjustly detained. It also encouraged Ethiopia to intensify the efforts to eradicate once and for all female genital mutilations in the society.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

803. The President stated that based on the information provided out of 252 recommendations received, 188 enjoy the support of Ethiopia, and the rest are noted.

804. The delegation expressed its gratitude to all delegations and NGO speakers for their continued support and engagement. Ethiopia valued their comments and criticisms, although some of the language used by the NGOs was deplorable. The engagement should be based on factual assessments and proper use of the terminology. Ethiopia was committed to further strengthening freedom of peaceful assembly in line with the Constitution and obligations of the country. The Constitution guaranteed the right to demonstrate together with others peacefully and unarmed. The restrictions placed in this regard were made in the interest of the public. These were made in line with the ICCPR and should not be construed as narrowing space.

805. Allegations related to the Proclamation for Charities and Societies, the Anti-Terrorism Proclamation, the Mass Media and Access to Information Proclamation, and those of the Government taking measures against the opposition were unfounded. The delegation reaffirmed Ethiopia's firm commitment to further strengthen the freedom of expression and peaceful assembly as well as zero-tolerance against torture.

806. Ethiopia had registered a high level of growth in the last ten years due to its development-centred national policies and the participation of the people and engagement of civil society. Ethiopia attached great importance to seeking a political culture of change of power based on holding regular, free, fair, and transparent elections conducted by a competent, independent and impartial electoral board. The right of Ethiopians to exercise self-determination without any discrimination through their representatives, elected in direct and free elections, was constitutionally guaranteed. Ethiopia would conduct national elections in 2015. The Government of Ethiopia had put in place an electoral law and an institutional system that would comply with international standards. The electoral systems enabled political parties with different views to participate in elections and introduce their objectives to the electorate in a peaceful and legal manner. This would enable Ethiopians to elect their representatives, based on informed decisions.

807. In conclusion, the delegation reiterated the firm commitment of the Government of Ethiopia to deepen and consolidate the rule of law, peace, security and development in Ethiopia.

Qatar

808. The review of Qatar was held on 7 May 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Qatar in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/QAT/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/QAT/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/QAT/3).

809. At its 27th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Qatar (see section C below).

810. The outcome of the review of Qatar comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/15), the views of Qatar concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/15/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

811. The head of delegation expressed the profound appreciation of Qatar to the Council's Secretariat and the UPR Working Group for their cooperation, professionalism and contribution to the preparation of Qatar's second report. The UPR mechanism provided a valuable opportunity to help States improve, strengthen and enhance their implementation to their obligations under international human rights law. They emphasized the fruitful interaction between countries during the review process which also contributed to strengthening cooperation among stakeholders, taking advantage of expertise and learning from other countries' experiences. They considered that this helps in providing the platform for achieving the noble objectives of the Human Rights Council.

812. Qatar was always keen to participate actively in the UPR mechanism based on its firm belief in the importance of cooperating with international and regional mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights and to support the advancement of human

rights protection nationally and internationally. They acknowledged that Qatar's efforts to protect human rights stemmed from its Permanent Constitution, where this cause was considered as a strategic choice. It also constituted the backbone of Qatar's comprehensive reform policy (constitutional, economic, social and cultural). This interest had been reflected in the development and strengthening of human rights infrastructure at the legislative, institutional and awareness-raising levels, and emphasized in the comprehensive vision of development (Qatar National Vision 2030) and in the Qatar National Development Strategy 2011–2016.

813. Qatar informed that the issue of human rights had also been reflected in its foreign policy and led to the prompt provision of humanitarian assistance to all people affected by disaster around the world. The Qatar Development Fund also considered human rights as one of the most important pillars in its international assistance as well as in its development programmes in different areas. Additionally, Qatar played a role in mediation efforts to resolve many conflicts, based on the belief that peace and stability were a basic foundation for the enjoyment of human rights.

814. Qatar's efforts in recent years and its human rights achievements had been boosted by its determination to overcome all difficulties, to build capacities and to benefit from international experience and expertise. In this regard, it relied heavily on the cooperation and dialogue with various Human Rights Council mechanisms. The head of delegation expressed Qatar's desire to present its candidature for re-election to the Human Rights Council for 2015–2017.

815. He noted the useful experience that had led to an active dialogue on human rights during the preparation of the national UPR report, both with governmental bodies and civil society. It had also created awareness on the promotion and protection of human rights and led to an effective dialogue between the governmental bodies and other stakeholders.

816. Qatar had received with great interest all the recommendations and observations formulated during the interactive dialogue in May 2014 and had reviewed them carefully. At the time, it had accepted many of these recommendations, and taken note of 84 recommendations for further analysis and consultation with the authorities concerned. Since then Qatar had classified the recommendations and consulted various governmental bodies and relevant stakeholders extensively.

817. Consequently, several of the recommendations were found to be already implemented or in the process of implementation, and were consistent with Qatar's objectives and strategies that were currently at the legislative and executive stages. Regrettably, Qatar could not accept some of the recommendations in full, as they were incompatible with the provisions of Islamic law and with Qatar's Constitution and laws or, in other cases, because they touched upon the national identity.

818. Regarding the recommendations calling for the immediate accession to several international conventions, Qatar had the political will to accede to many international human rights treaties. However, some temporary difficulties prevented it from doing so at present. Needless to say, the legislative bodies in Qatar were under pressure following the accession in a short period to many international and regional conventions in recent years, with shortages in technical capacities and human resources, which were still being developed. Nevertheless, Qatar is considering acceding to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as well as to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It would continue its efforts to strengthen its capacities through technical cooperation with human rights mechanisms and to take advantage of the activities and programmes of the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region in Doha to overcome some of these temporary obstacles.

819. Concerning expatriate workers, the head of delegation highlighted the extensive reforms that Qatar intended to carry out in response to a number of recommendations on the promotion and protection of the rights of expatriate workers. Qatar was considering a new draft law based on employment contracts instead of the sponsorship system (Kafala system). The new draft law would also abolish the current exit permit system and increase the sanctions imposed on employers who confiscate passports.

820. Qatar reiterated its renewal to the issued open and standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders, as part of its determination to improve the human rights situation and of its constructive cooperation with human rights mechanisms.

821. Qatar believed that the process of following-up on the accepted recommendations was as important as the preparation of the report and the review by the Working Group. The National Committee that had prepared the national report would continue its work as the implementation mechanism.

822. Qatar welcomed the comments and statements presented by States and stakeholders in the session and were looking forward to working with them to achieve the common goals and to actively contribute to advancing the work of the UPR Working Group and the Human Rights Council.

823. Finally, the head of delegation reiterated Qatar's sincere thanks to all those who had participated in the review, and expressed appreciation to all the countries that had presented recommendations to it.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

824. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Qatar, 15 delegations made statements. The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints²⁸ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

825. Uzbekistan commended Qatar for the comprehensive information and comments on the recommendations. They were satisfied with the serious approach and constructive participation of Qatar in the UPR. They were happy to notice that Qatar accepted the majority of the recommendations including the recommendations of Uzbekistan concerning combatting trafficking and taking measures to improve the education system. They pressed that the effective realisation of recommendations will facilitate strengthening and developing the protection of human rights in Qatar.

826. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the legislative measures, as well as other measures by the Government to consolidate the framework of integral social development that drives the country forward. Venezuela particularly welcomed the measures taken to increase the life expectancy of the population.

827. Viet Nam noted with satisfaction Qatar's acceptance of a large number of recommendations, including two recommendations formulated by Viet Nam. It encouraged Qatar to promote social tolerance and to continue its efforts to improve the quality of life for its entire population, in particular for vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, immigrants, and expatriate workers.

828. Yemen commended Qatar for the progress achieved in human rights. It appreciated Qatar's efforts in improving and promoting the situation of human rights. They considered that Qatar acceptance of many recommendations and its visible activities in this regard, in

²⁸ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

addition to what it provides in developmental support, confirms its commitment and it's moving in the direction to promote and protect human rights in different aspects of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

829. Algeria thanked Qatar for the comprehensive presentation and the explanations to the recommendations that they have examined and congratulated them for their efforts and achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights. It commended Qatar for its positive cooperation with the UPR and with the recommendations, as it accepted the majority of them, particularly they appreciated the acceptance of the two recommendations made by Algeria, for the promotion and protection of the status of women and taking measures to improve and protect expatriate workers.

830. Belarus thanked Qatar for its comments on the recommendations and welcomed the significant efforts made by the government in implementing the outcome recommendations for the first cycle. It noted with satisfaction the readiness of Qatar to extend its international obligations in the field of human rights and strengthen its national potential in this area. Belarus wished Qatar success in the implementation of the recommendations.

831. Brunei Darussalam appreciated Qatar's cooperation with the UN human rights mechanisms. They were pleased to note the acceptance of more than half of the recommendations including those made by Brunei Darussalam. They commended the implementation of the various legal and policy frameworks, as well as the establishment of several institutions in its efforts to advance the lives of vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly and the disabled.

832. China appreciated Qatar for its commitment on the implementation of accepted recommendations in this review and congratulated Qatar on its positive achievement on implementing the accepted recommendations in the first cycle. China was grateful that Qatar accepted its recommendations on further promoting gender equality, helping women play a greater role in economic and social development, continuing the improvement of social security system and providing support for vulnerable groups such as old people and people with disabilities. China wishes Qatar every success in implementation of its National Vision 2030 and National Development Strategy 2011–2016, and in the promotion of its human rights course.

833. Côte d'Ivoire thanked Qatar for the additional information given to them at this meeting and for the attention they have given to the recommendations, in the course of this review as well as for its acceptance of a number of recommendations including those of Cote d'Ivoire. They noted the efforts to ensure equality and enjoyment of human rights and encouraged them to continue its efforts to ensure gender equality. They wished them success in implementing the recommendations.

834. Cuba commended Qatar for its work for the economic and social development of its population, to improve the living conditions of children with disabilities, and its leadership in providing development assistance to countries of the south. It thanked Qatar for accepting Cuba's recommendation on continuing its action towards implementation of the objectives of the 2030 Qatar National Vision.

835. Djibouti once again encouraged Qatar to continue its efforts to protect and promote human rights. It was pleased to note the recent creation of a foundation for the promotion and protection of the rights of children. The objectives reached by Qatar in terms of social and economic rights should be welcomed.

836. The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomed Qatar's decision to support their recommendations, to continue efforts in the field of legislative and institutional developments, and to continue its endeavour to promote and protect the rights of women and children.

837. Kuwait observed Qatar efforts in promoting and protecting human rights that requires their laud as it was reflected through the different human rights initiatives that were revealed in the second national report of the UPR. They noted the political will and the supportive environment to promote and protect human rights as well as the methodology used to follow-up its measures on the UPR recommendations since the UPR in April 2014. Qatar exhibited a real standard by accepting immediately 84 recommendations, followed by another 52 showed its will in achieving the objectives and principles established by the Council. They appreciated the acceptance of their two recommendations concerning the cooperation with OHCHR and to continue its humanitarian and developmental role.

838. Jordan listened carefully to the observation of Qatar towards the recommendation and noted that Qatar accepted the majority of the recommendations including those made by Jordan which reflects the serious commitment of Qatar in working to promote and protect all human rights. The commended the efforts in the area of implementing of economic, social and cultural rights in particular the rights of women and children.

839. Lebanon commended the efforts of Qatar in concluding its second UPR and observed carefully the addendum presented and was happy to record its relief with Qatar accepting the majority of the recommendations particularly those presented by Lebanon on continuing its efforts to amend national laws and legislation in order to ensure that they are in conformity with the recommendations made by treaty bodies and concerning taking action to empower women and combat female stereotypes.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

840. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Qatar, 10 other stakeholders made statements. The statements of the stakeholders that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints²⁹ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

841. The National Human Rights Committee of Qatar welcomed all recommendations that flow directly in their area of its work; including those urging Qatar to continue its efforts to improve national mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights, spread awareness and training for public service and law enforcement officers and those relating to legislations and human rights institutional development. They noted the 28 recommendations related to women rights and informed that they also submitted recommendations to the state to enhance women rights and they aspire to achieve them before 2017, particularly those related to conferring women nationality to their children. They acknowledged the obstacles to protect workers' rights despite the State efforts; they aspire to abolish the sponsorship system. They thanked the government for its cooperation with international human rights mechanisms, particularly for issuing the standing invitation to mandate holders.

842. Indian Council of South America (CISA) agreed with paragraph 83 calling for the medium term perspective through the National Vision 2030. It also encouraged Qatar to debate and reform the Kafala system, in light of the projects related to the FIFA world cup. It believed it was necessary to continue to work towards eliminating discrimination against women and girls in accordance with the obligations under CEDAW, and that it would be productive to accede to the human rights treaties listed in paragraph 124.17. CISA also believed it necessary for Qatar to actively support the right to self-determination at the

²⁹ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

Human Rights Council and at the General Assembly level. It agreed with the States who called upon Qatar to issue a moratorium on the death penalty.

843. International Humanist and Ethical Union was still concerned of the restrictions on freedom of religion and belief in Qatar, and noted that this was still subject to restrictions despite the amendment to the Constitution. It supported the appeal by France for greater religious freedom. IHEU cited the case of Mohammed al-Ajami, who was imprisoned for 15 years for publishing a poem, as an example of the restriction of freedom of expression. It noted that the death penalty had still not been abolished, was also concerned with the general conditions of women as the law deepen discrimination between men and women as well as for example the law did not consider marital rape as a crime. IHEU called on Qatar to agree to the recommendations with respect to these subjects and to ratify the Covenant and establish a mechanism for reparation to remedy citizens and to reform the criminal code.

844. Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies was dismayed by the refusal of Qatar to accept recommendations calling for respect of freedom of expression, freedom of assembly and association. They noted stakeholders' reports to the UPR highlighting authoritarian control with repressive laws enforced by a judiciary that is lacking independence. They noted that any criticism to the ruling family is met with severe punishment such as to journalists, poets and human rights defenders. They were concerned with the cybercrime law that provides heavy fines and long prison sentences for those publish false news through any means. They believed that Qatar's unwillingness to begin a process of addressing grave human rights violations or increasing its commitment to international human rights norms should be seriously addressed by the council and its special procedures and member states. They recommended Qatar to acknowledge these problems and reform them.

845. Amnesty International were concerned that foreign migrant workers continue to be exploited and abused by their employers. Additionally, they reported that domestic workers have no legal protection of their labour rights. They also noted the sponsorship system with excessively unequal power relationship between employers and workers. They urged Qatar to unambiguously abolish the exit permit requirement. They were concerned that women still face barriers in exercising their human rights in law, policy and practice. They welcomed Qatar's acceptance of recommendations to criminalize violence against women and the complaints of violence for domestic workers, while they were concerned with the absence of law criminalizing domestic violence and acknowledgement of the problem of violence against domestic workers in the home. They were concerned that freedom of expression remained strictly controlled and individuals face lengthy prison sentences solely for peacefully exercising this right. They called for the immediate and unconditional release of Mohammad al-Ajami. They urged amending the newly enacted cybercrimes law as it risk restricting further freedom of expression.

846. International Association of Schools of Social Work supported the call (in paragraph 124.26) to strengthen women's capacities; empower them to participate in political and economic life, and to ratify OP-CEDAW. It also supported the call (in paragraph 124.34) on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence in the national legislation regulating the media and religious institutions, and to ensure the Plan's implementation. IASSW recommended acceding to ICCPR and ICESCR; endorse the Second Guiding Principles to Eradicate Extreme Poverty; host an international dialogue on the death penalty; and invoke a de jure moratorium with a view to abolishing it.

847. United Nations Watch questioned if the cause of human rights support or object to the adoption of the report on Qatar's human rights record. They quoted countries and stated that with no less than 78 out of the 84 country statements in the report offered praise for

Qatar human rights record. That's over 90 percent while for them the truth is the opposite. They noted that the 1.4 million migrant workers in Qatar object to this report because they are dying at the rate of one a day from inhuman conditions to build the infrastructure for Qatar's 2022 World Cup. Women, journalists, aid workers, Palestinians and Israelis also object to the report. For all of these reasons, as they wanted to be clear: the victims of human rights abuse around the world object to the adoption of this report.

848. Organization for Defending Victims of Violence highlighted two problems in the way of Qatar to increase its power and influence in the region; the conditions of migrant workers and its approach to terrorist groups. They were concerned with the living conditions of workers and the Kafala sponsorship system, in addition to the lack of freedom of association, right to form unions, confiscation of passports and harmful working and housing conditions. They called for tracking financial backing of terror groups as western countries can and know where and how the financial backing come from. They called on Qatar to create an accurate mechanism in order to stop any form of backing to terror groups particularly those in Iraq whether this support come from private citizens or institutions or any source.

849. Joint statement of Victorious Youths Movement, Co-sponsors: Action Internationale pour la Paix et le Développement dans la Région des Grands Lacs welcomed adopting the National Vision of 2030; strengthening the struggle against all forms of discrimination against women; and promoting the rights of migrant workers. They noted with satisfaction changes to incorporate CAT in the penal code; the adoption of a law against trafficking; the creation of a national commission on health and labour security; and legislation to protect migrant workers. They recommended that the Council continue its technical cooperation, and called on Qatar to continue the implementation of its commitments in all human rights areas.

850. Organisation pour la Communication en Afrique et de Promotion de la Coopération Economique Internationale – OCAPROCE Internationale encouraged Qatar to continue its efforts to ensure the education of women and children, in particular to ensure greater independence for women and the rights of children. It welcomed the progress that had been made in promoting gender equality and the liberation of women, although noting that much remained to be done. It was deeply concerned by the very high rate, 28 per cent, of women who were victims of domestic violence, and asked Qatar to set up legal systems to ensure the protection of victims. It encouraged Qatar to ratify the ICCPR and ICESCR and effectively implement these rights for women and children.

851. Africa Culture Internationale observed that the fact that Qatar is promoting and protecting human rights is a strategic choice that symbolises the underpinning of the general development policy embodied in the National Vision of 2030, providing for constitutional economic, social and cultural reform. This policy revolves around major areas relating to human rights such as education, health and environment and workers' rights as well as empowerment of women and children. The noted with satisfaction the national development strategy of 2011–2016. They commended Qatar for becoming in a short time under the rule of law with institutions to protect the rights and ensure dignity of all. They acknowledged the efficiency of the government in dealing with all problems and its human development to promote democracy. They appreciated Qatar's development assistance to developing countries throughout the world.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

852. The President stated that based on the information provided out of 183 recommendations received, 145 enjoy the support of Qatar and the rest are noted.

853. In conclusion, Qatar thanked all Member States and Stakeholders for their statements and comments on the report, and assured them that all their comments and observations will be taken into consideration. It renewed its committed to strengthening its cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, and to continue to fully support the Human Rights Council working towards achieving its objectives.

854. Finally, the delegation thanked all countries, the Council and its President and the Secretariat for their efforts.

Nicaragua

855. The review of Nicaragua was held on 7 May 2014 in conformity with all the relevant provisions contained in relevant Council resolutions and decisions, and was based on the following documents:

(a) The national report submitted by Nicaragua in accordance with the annex to Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/NIC/1);

(b) The compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/NIC/2);

(c) The summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/NIC/3).

856. At its 27th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Council considered and adopted the outcome of the review of Nicaragua (see section C below).

857. The outcome of the review of Nicaragua comprises the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/27/16), the views of Nicaragua concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as its voluntary commitments and replies presented before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group (see also A/HRC/27/16/Add.1).

1. Views expressed by the State under review on the recommendations and/or conclusions as well as on its voluntary commitments and on the outcome

858. The delegation presented the Government's position on outstanding recommendations contained in paragraph 116 of the Working Group report and on some recommendations that did not enjoy the support of Nicaragua, contained in paragraph 117. More detailed information on the position on these recommendations could be found in the Addendum 1 to the Working Group report.

859. Nicaragua noted recommendations 116.1 to 116.8 and 116.10 to 116.12, regarding the ratification of new international instruments. The State, in exercise of its sovereignty, believed it was not the appropriate time to join new international commitments which represented additional administrative and budgetary burdens for the country. However, Nicaragua had an extensive legislative framework ensuring the full protection and enjoyment of human rights of all its citizens. These comments also were applicable to recommendations 117.1 to 117.11.

860. Recommendations 116.9, 116.15 and 116.16 did not enjoy the support of the Government. The State did not consider necessary to employ the definition of the Convention against Torture, as, in its view, the national definition of torture incorporated a broader scope, which should be considered as a good practice. The delegation added that, as of January 2012, the Office of the Human Rights Advocate (Procuraduría para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos) was appointed as National Preventive Mechanism, and the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture visited Nicaragua in May 2014.

861. The Government accepted recommendations 116.13 and 116.26, relating to policies to reduce discrimination and ensure the participation of indigenous and Afro-descendant communities in the decisions pertaining to their territories. The National Human Development Plan 2012–2016 contained a strategy for the development of the Caribbean Coast and established an autonomous institutional structure that would lead the region to human development.

862. Nicaragua accepted recommendation 116.14 regarding the rights of LGBTI persons, as it supposed recognition of the work the Government was undertaking in this area. For instance, Article 204 of the Penal Code, which criminalized homosexuality, was repealed in 2008. The delegation also recalled that a Human Rights Advocate for Sexual Diversity was established and training workshops for members of the Police Academy on sexual rights and sexual diversity were organized regularly.

863. The Government supported recommendations 116.17 to 116.19 because in Nicaragua the Judiciary was independent. Since 2007 Nicaragua had strengthened the institutional and regulatory framework to ensure the independence of the justice system. Also, the National Council of Administration and Judicial Career was strengthening the system of selection and appointment of magistrates, judges and public defenders.

864. Nicaragua accepted recommendations 116.20 and 116.21 because freedoms of expression, association, organization, and information were guaranteed as well as the right to peaceful protest and the plurality of media.

865. Recommendation 116.23 was not accepted in view of the existing institutional structure to ensure access to public information. In Nicaragua there was no persecution or censorship. Also, there were more than 300 radio stations, 20 television stations, 20 printed newspapers, weekly publications and magazines with national coverage.

866. Furthermore, the Penal Code established the offense against freedom of expression and information.

867. Nicaragua noted recommendation 116.22 regarding the decriminalization of defamation because the national legislation did not provide for criminal defamation. This is also applicable to recommendation 117.18.

868. Recommendation 116.25 was accepted. The right to education was a priority for the Government. However, a long-term process was required to fully guarantee this right. The Government could not commit to fully meet this goal and undertake a full-fledged transformation in immediate terms. However, the Government had a strong will to progressively ensure the rights of persons with disabilities.

869. Recommendation 117.12 did not enjoy the support of the Government in view that Nicaragua brought to justice all credible allegations of human rights violations that may have been committed by the security forces.

870. Recommendation 117.13 was not accepted because effective measures and legislation to protect the rights of persons deprived of liberty were already in force. However, the Government was aware that its biggest challenge in this area was overcrowding. Despite scarce resources, funds had been allocated for expanding, improving or building new prisons' infrastructure.

871. Regarding recommendations 117.14 to 117.17, which did not enjoy the support of Nicaragua, the delegation noted that the amendment to Law 779 and combating violence against women were considered important issues for the Government. Since 2007, it had promoted the restoration of women's rights as part of its policy against violence and within the National Plan for Human Development, using the model of shared responsibility. Nicaragua was one of the most advanced countries in the areas of participation and

empowerment of women, as stated in a report of the World Economic Forum in 2013: "The Global Gender Gap Report", which indicated that Nicaragua occupied the 10th position worldwide in gender equality. In the Americas there was an average of 22.6% of women parliamentarians while in Nicaragua that proportion reached 40.2%. And half of the Ministers in Nicaragua were women.

872. The delegation explained that the reform of Law 779 established mediation only for less serious crimes and based on the principle of procedural opportunity. Mediation was subject to requirements and conditions, in particular the free will of the victim verified by the judge. After mediation, the authorities had to ensure the protection of the victim until verifying behaviour changes in the accused person and the absence of risk.

873. Recommendation 116.24 was not accepted, as was also the case for recommendations 117.19 to 117.31, requesting to reform the law on abortion. Accepting these recommendations would be contrary to the popular and sovereign will of Nicaraguans who had expressed to be in favour of the criminalization of abortion through a democratic process. The Nicaraguan people considered the right to life of the unborn, that abortion was not a method of birth control, and that abortion affected the health of women. The law required that all women in a process of abortion should receive health assistance, even more when the mother's life was in danger.

874. In conclusion, the delegation reiterated the gratitude of the Government to all States that participated in the second review of Nicaragua in a constructive spirit and provided recommendations showing their interest for the protection of the human rights of the Nicaraguan people.

2. Views expressed by Member and observer States of the Council on the review outcome

875. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Nicaragua, 13 delegations made statements. The statements of the delegations that were unable to deliver them owing to time constraints³⁰ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.

876. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela acknowledged the importance that the Government attached to the implementation of the UPR accepted recommendations. The review showed the efforts and achievements of the Government to guarantee the enjoyment of the human rights of its people. Venezuela stressed that the goals of the World Food Summit were met well in advance by Nicaragua. It also noted the lively exercise of participatory and direct democracy that had led to significant progress in reducing poverty and extreme poverty.

877. Viet Nam deeply appreciated the commitment of Nicaragua and its efforts to promote and protect human rights despite the numerous difficulties with which it was confronted. It also noted with satisfaction that Nicaragua had agreed to many of the recommendations it received, including two recommendations put forward by Viet Nam.

878. Algeria noted the acceptance of the majority of the recommendations, in particular the three recommendations made by Algeria referring to the improvement of the quality of education and health services; the allocation of additional resources for policies regarding children; and the combat of all forms of violence against women and children, including the strengthening of the legal framework for that purpose.

879. Angola was pleased to see the enhanced cooperation by the government of Nicaragua with the mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights through

³⁰ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/27thSession/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

the ratification of the main human rights instruments, in particular OP-CAT and OP-CRPD. It was also pleased that Nicaragua accepted many of the recommendations it received, in particular those put forward by Angola to combat discrimination against women.

880. Belarus noted the ratification of numerous international legal instruments and targeted efforts to reduce poverty and social inequality. The latter had made possible the implementation of the first MDGs ahead of schedule and move closer to implementing the other. Investments in education and the social sphere showed the Government's determination to further enhance its national potential in the field of human rights.

881. The Plurinational State of Bolivia commended Nicaragua, a member of the ALBA, for its achievements in the field of human rights. Bolivia stressed that the second cycle recognized the efforts and progress achieved by Nicaragua particularly in education, health, access to water and sanitation, and poverty reduction. The recommendations that were accepted were yet another example of the Government's commitment to its people, through the realization and enjoyment of human rights.

882. China welcomed Nicaragua's acceptance of most recommendations received during the review. It appreciated the efforts made by the Government in its economic recovery as well as in the protection and promotion of social, cultural, civil and political rights. China was grateful that Nicaragua accepted the recommendations it put forward regarding poverty reduction and education. China acknowledged that the country faced many challenges in eliminating poverty, narrowing the wealth gap and strengthening the public service capacity. It called upon the international community to continue providing constructive assistance to the country.

883. Cuba highlighted the commitment of Nicaragua with the UPR and with the promotion and protection of the human rights of its population, reflected in the high number of recommendations accepted during the second review. Cuba considered that the achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights of the Nicaraguan people were remarkable. It noted the sustained economic growth, poverty reduction, increased quality of employment, reduction of social inequality, improvement of the quality of life and protection of the rights of women and children.

884. Ecuador recognized the efforts of Nicaragua to participate in the second cycle of the UPR, as a suitable mechanism for the effective promotion and protection of human rights. Ecuador welcomed the acceptance of Nicaragua of many recommendations and noted that that the Government made visible its efforts, achievements and challenges for the empowerment of women's rights. It congratulated Nicaragua for its commitment to human rights education, particularly directed to its national police.

885. The Islamic Republic of Iran commended Nicaragua's commitment to the promotion of human rights, notably in the field of economic growth, reduction of poverty, increase of quality employment and improvement of the quality of life of all Nicaraguans. It welcomed the decision by Nicaragua to support recommendations to continue efforts to eradicate extreme poverty and strengthening the right to health, and to increase the national general budget for education.

886. Malaysia noted positively the continuous efforts made by Nicaragua in the promotion and protection of human rights, particularly in poverty eradication, economic growth and education. It encouraged Nicaragua to continue its positive efforts in this regard. Malaysia made recommendations relating to improving the quality of education and increasing the coverage of secondary and technical education as well as building the capacities of the health and social services sectors. It was pleased to note that its recommendations were accepted by Nicaragua.

887. Morocco welcomed the political will of the Nicaraguan authorities to consolidate democracy and the rule of law, to promote economic growth and combat poverty. It noted the exemplary cooperation of Nicaragua in the framework of the UPR mechanism. Nicaragua's high level of interaction with the UPR showed an irreversible determination to promote human rights, democracy and the rule of law. Morocco supported the efforts that Nicaragua had made to consolidate human rights.

888. The Russian Federation noted that Nicaragua had accepted most of the recommendations it received, including those put forward by Russia. It stressed that Nicaragua had made significant progress in human rights, in particular in combating extreme poverty, malnutrition, illiteracy, ensuring access to drinking water, health and education, and to protect the rights of various categories of citizens. It noted with satisfaction the existing programs designed to ensure social protection for vulnerable parts of the population; targeted governmental efforts to ensure personal security; a low crime rate; and a favourable climate for free enterprise.

3. General comments made by other relevant stakeholders

889. During the adoption of the outcome of the review of Nicaragua, 7 other stakeholders made statements.

890. Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco and VIDES International welcomed that the Government accepted recommendations in favour of the most vulnerable children but noted that children living on the streets, children of migrant parents, and indigenous and disabled children suffered from poverty, discrimination, malnutrition and lack of health services. Also, there was a lack of access to quality education, especially in rural areas, despite an increase in school attendance. Educational disadvantages drastically reduced employment opportunities for young people. They regretted that Nicaragua had not accepted the recommendations to repeal amendments that weakened Law 779 combatting violence against women. Inter alia, they recommended Nicaragua to further its efforts to combat poverty and malnutrition and protect women exposed to physical and sexual violence by reviewing Law 779.

891. The World Organisation against Torture and the International Federation for Human Rights Leagues considered that the institutions that should be a counterweight to the exercise of power failed to fulfill their role because of the undue interference of the President on the Congress, the Judiciary, electoral processes, the police and the army. It regretted that the constitutional reform approved in January 2014 established the unlimited presidential reelection. There was a hostile environment for freedom of expression and to the work of human rights defenders, encouraged by media linked to the presidential family and by statements from senior Government officials. The law combating violence against women was weakened by a recent reform and unconstitutional regulation that altered its spirit and text. Other forms of institutional violence against women remained, such as the criminalization of therapeutic abortion. It urged the Government to implement the recommendations through concrete actions and comply with its international human rights commitments.

892. Save the Children International welcomed Nicaragua's acceptance of recommendation 114.42 and urged the government to provide special protection for women and girls; guarantee effective implementation of Law 779 and revoke its recent regulation which was against the spirit of the law; and to reform the Penal Code to guarantee the rights of girls and adolescents who are victims of rape to receive protection, legal and medical attention, including access to therapeutic abortion. It was concerned that Nicaragua did not take a clear position regarding recommendations 116.6 and 116.11, and considered the signing and ratification of the 3rd Protocol to CRC to be a priority for Nicaragua, so children can have a reporting alternative at the international level.

893. Franciscans International noted that Nicaragua still held one of the highest rates of unregistered births in the region. There were significant disparities in terms of registration in poor and rural areas and among indigenous and African descent populations. This issue was not addressed during the first UPR of Nicaragua so the fact that five recommendations regarding birth registration were put forward and accepted was a welcomed development. In order to implement these recommendations it was necessary to establish a new framework for civil registration in compliance with international standards regarding the right to identity and no discrimination. It encouraged all stakeholders to stay committed to highlight and prioritize the issue of birth registration.

894. Action Canada for Population and Development welcomed the acceptance of recommendations aimed at eliminating discrimination against women, improve women's access to education and ensure their right to health. However, it expressed concern that the recommendations made by 13 States for the decriminalization of abortion were not accepted. Abortion was illegal in all circumstances and the rejection of those recommendations, even in cases in which the lives of women were in danger, perpetuated violence against women and violated their rights to life and health. It, therefore, requested the Government to review its position on this issue and implement the pertinent recommendations of the treaty bodies and the Human Rights Council.

895. United Nations Watch (UN Watch) was deeply concerned with the human rights situation in Nicaragua, and referred to the great concern voiced by many stakeholders over the widespread violations of basic human rights of women and detainees. UN Watch noted the criminalization of abortion; the high prevalence of rape; and the reversal of legal reforms addressing rampant gender-based violence, such as the regressive amendments to Act 779. It urged Nicaragua to remain steadfast in protecting the vulnerable victims of violence and was alarmed that Nicaragua rejected recommendations relating to credible allegations of the excessive use of force by the police and arbitrary abuse of detainees. It urged for immediate investigation of those abuses and that Nicaragua hold perpetrators accountable in accordance with international human rights standards.

896. The Lutheran World Federation recalled that the State had failed to comply with the ruling of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the Yatama case, to take measures to enable indigenous individuals and communities to participate in elections. In addition, the indigenous peoples of the Caribbean coast continued facing intimidation by non-indigenous persons that usurped their lands and exploited their resources. The Government had announced the implementation of mega projects such as the inter-oceanic canal, which mainly affected indigenous territories and did not have the previous consent of the concerned indigenous peoples. As a result, the indigenous peoples of the Caribbean coast subsisted under harsh living conditions of marginalization and exploitation. It urged the Government to prevent and stop illegal activities of third parties in indigenous territories, implement ILO Convention 169 and respect the collective rights of indigenous peoples.

4. Concluding remarks of the State under review

897. The President stated that based on the information provided out of 209 recommendations received, 161 enjoy the support of Nicaragua and 48 are noted.

898. The delegation concluded by thanking all delegations that intervened during the interactive dialogue, in a constructive spirit. The UPR was a mechanism that had been seriously considered by the Government of Reconciliation and National Unity. The Administration had the will to continue to support this process. Nicaragua was to become an increasingly more fraternal country able to guarantee a decent future for all its citizens.

B. General debate on agenda item 6

899. At its 29th meeting, on 22 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 6, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, China, Cuba, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), India, Italy (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Maldives, Morocco, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Maldives, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Republic of Moldova, Tunisia;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Equality and Human Rights Commission of Great Britain (also on behalf of Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission and Scottish Human Rights Commission) (by video message);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc; Amnesty International; Human Rights Law Centre; International Catholic Child Bureau; International Service for Human Rights; Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture; Korea Center for United Nations Human Rights Policy; Maarif Foundation for Peace and Development; Organization for Defending Victims of Violence; Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme; Save the Children International; United Nations Watch; UPR Info; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Norway

900. At the 22nd meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/101 without a vote.

Albania

901. At the 22nd meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/102 without a vote.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

902. At the 22nd meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/103 without a vote.

Côte d'Ivoire

903. At the 24th meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/104 without a vote.

Portugal

904. At the 24th meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/105 without a vote.

Bhutan

905. At the 24th meeting, on 18 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/106 without a vote.

Dominica

906. At the 25th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/107 without a vote.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

907. At the 25th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/108 without a vote.

Brunei Darussalam

908. At the 25th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/109 without a vote.

Costa Rica

909. At the 26th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/110 without a vote.

Equatorial Guinea

910. At the 26th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/111 without a vote.

Ethiopia

911. At the 26th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/112 without a vote.

Qatar

912. At the 27th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/113 without a vote.

Nicaragua

913. At the 27th meeting, on 19 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted draft decision 27/114 without a vote.

VII. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

A. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

914. At the 30th meeting, on 22 September 2014, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of resolution S-21/1 on ensuring respect for international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem (A/HRC/27/76).

B. General debate on agenda item 7

915. At the 30th meeting, on 22 September 2014, and the 32nd meeting, on 23 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 7, during which the following made statements:

(a) The representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine, as the States concerned;

(b) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Brazil, Chile, China, Cuba, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of)³¹ (also on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Ireland, Kuwait, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Peru, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(c) Representatives of observer States: Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Iceland, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Oman, Qatar, Senegal, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay, Yemen;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Independent Commission for Human Rights of the State of Palestine;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action contre la faim; Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man; Amuta for NGO Responsibility; BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights; Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies; Defence for Children International; Human Rights Now; Human Rights Watch; Ingenieurs du Monde; Institut international pour la paix, la justice et les droits de l'Homme – IIPJDH; International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists; International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (FIDH); International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations; Kham Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture; Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development; Organization for Defending Victims of Violence; Presse Embleme Campagne; Union of Arab Jurists; United Nations Watch; World Jewish Congress.

916. At the 30th meeting, on 22 September 2014, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Qatar and the Syrian Arab Republic.

³¹ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

VIII. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

A. Annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective

917. At its 15th meeting, on 15 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held the annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective, in accordance with Council resolution 6/30.

918. The Director of the Research and Right to Development Division of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel. The professor of international human rights law at London School of Economics and former member of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict, Christine Chinkin, moderated the discussion for the panel.

919. At the same meeting, the panellists Bineta Diop, Moez Doraid, Gloria Maira Vargas, and Ahmed Shaheed made statements.

920. The ensuing discussion was divided into two slots, which were held at the same meeting, on the same day. During the first speaking slot, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Austria, Costa Rica (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Estonia, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Japan, Montenegro, Norway³² (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden), the United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bangladesh, Canada, Qatar;

(c) Observer of an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Commission to Study the Organization of Peace; European Union of Public Relations; International Service for Human Rights (also on behalf of Amnesty International; Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development; Center for Reproductive Rights, Inc., The; Madre, Inc.; World Organization Against Torture).

921. At the end of the first slot, at the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made comments.

922. During the discussion for the second slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Australia³³ (also on behalf of New Zealand), Italy, Maldives, Morocco, Namibia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola, Bulgaria, Greece, Iraq, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Portugal, Rwanda, Slovenia, the Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey;

(c) Observers for international organizations: Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

³² Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

³³ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik.

923. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made concluding remarks.

B. General debate on agenda item 8

924. At its 32nd meeting, on 23 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 8, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Brazil, Colombia³⁴ (also on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Panama, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Uruguay), India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine), Liechtenstein³⁵ (also on behalf of Austria, Slovenia, Switzerland), Morocco, the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, the Netherlands, the Sudan;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC);

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Action Canada for Population and Development; Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs; Allied Rainbow Communities International; Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc; Amnesty International; Amuta for NGO Responsibility; Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development; British Humanist Association; Center for Inquiry; Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy; Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative; Human Life International, Inc.; Human Rights Law Centre; Indian Council of South America (CISA); International Buddhist Relief Organisation; International Humanist and Ethical Union; International Lesbian and Gay Association (also on behalf of Article 19 – International Centre Against Censorship, The; International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (FIDH)); International Service for Human Rights; Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco (also on behalf of International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES International)); Liberation; Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development; Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association; Organisation pour la Communication en Afrique et de Promotion de la Cooperation Economique Internationale – OCAPROCE Internationale; United Nations Watch; Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik; World Barua Organization (WBO).

925. At the same meeting, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of Pakistan.

³⁴ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

³⁵ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

926. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Australia introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.25, sponsored by Australia and co-sponsored by Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Israel, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

927. At the same meeting, the representative of Australia orally revised the draft resolution.

928. Also at the same meeting, the representative of India made general comments in relation to the draft resolution as orally revised.

929. At the same meeting, the representative of South Africa made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote, disassociating the delegation from the consensus on the draft resolution as orally revised.

930. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution as orally revised was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/18).

Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity

931. At the 42nd meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representatives of Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Uruguay introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.27/Rev.1, sponsored by Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Uruguay, and co-sponsored by Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Japan, Malta, Monaco, Nicaragua, Romania and Serbia joined the sponsors.

932. At the same meeting, the representative of Egypt introduced amendments A/HRC/27/L.45, A/HRC/27/L.46, A/HRC/27/L.47, A/HRC/27/L.48, A/HRC/27/L.49, A/HRC/27/L.50 and A/HRC/27/L.51 to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.27/Rev.1. Amendments A/HRC/27/L.45, A/HRC/27/L.46, A/HRC/27/L.49, A/HRC/27/L.50 and A/HRC/27/L.51 were sponsored by the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Malaysia, Nigeria, South Sudan, the Sudan, Uganda and the United Arab Emirates. Amendments A/HRC/27/L.47 and A/HRC/27/L.48 were sponsored by Djibouti, Egypt, Malaysia, Nigeria, South Sudan, the Sudan, Uganda and the United Arab Emirates.

933. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Italy (on behalf of the European Union), Montenegro and Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the

States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council) made general comments in relation to the draft resolution and the amendments.

934. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

935. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.45.

936. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of Brazil and Chile, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.45. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Botswana, India, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Viet Nam

937. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.45 was rejected by 16 votes to 21, with 7 abstentions.³⁶

938. At the same meeting, the representatives of Montenegro and Romania made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.46.

939. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of Brazil and Chile, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.46. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Botswana, India, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Viet Nam

940. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.46 was rejected by 16 votes to 21, with 7 abstentions.³⁷

941. At the same meeting, the representative of the Czech Republic made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.47.

³⁶ Three delegations did not cast a vote.

³⁷ Three delegations did not cast a vote.

942. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of Brazil and Chile, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.47. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Botswana, India, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines, Sierra Leone

943. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.47 was rejected by 17 votes to 21, with 6 abstentions.³⁸

944. At the same meeting, the representative of France made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.48.

945. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of Brazil and Chile, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.48. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Botswana, India, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines, Sierra Leone

946. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.48 was rejected by 17 votes to 21, with 6 abstentions.³⁹

947. At the same meeting, the representatives of Costa Rica and Ireland made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.49.

948. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of Brazil and Chile, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.49. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

Against:

³⁸ Three delegations did not cast a vote.

³⁹ Three delegations did not cast a vote.

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Botswana, India, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Viet Nam

949. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.49 was rejected by 16 votes to 21, with 7 abstentions.⁴⁰

950. At the same meeting, the representative of Estonia made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.50.

951. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of Brazil and Chile, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.50. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Botswana, India, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Sierra Leone, Viet Nam

952. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.50 was rejected by 16 votes to 22, with 6 abstentions.⁴¹

953. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to amendment A/HRC/27/L.51.

954. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representatives of Brazil and Chile, a recorded vote was taken on amendment A/HRC/27/L.51. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

Against:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Botswana, India, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Sierra Leone, Viet Nam

955. Amendment A/HRC/27/L.51 was rejected by 16 votes to 22, with 6 abstentions.⁴²

⁴⁰ Three delegations did not cast a vote.

⁴¹ Three delegations did not cast a vote.

956. At the same meeting, the representatives of Indonesia, Pakistan (on behalf of the States members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the Philippines made statements in explanation of vote before the vote in relation to the draft resolution.

957. Also at the same meeting, at the request of the representative of Pakistan (on behalf of the States members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation that are members of the Human Rights Council), a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against:

Algeria, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

Abstaining:

Burkina Faso, China, Congo, India, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Sierra Leone

958. Draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.27/Rev.1 was adopted by 25 votes to 14, with 7 abstentions⁴³ (resolution 27/32).

959. At the same meeting, the representatives of Botswana, Chile (also on behalf of Colombia), China, France, Montenegro, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United States of America made statements in explanation of vote after the vote.

⁴² Three delegations did not cast a vote.

⁴³ One delegation did not cast a vote.

IX. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

A. Interactive dialogue with special procedures mandate holders

Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent

960. At the 33rd meeting, on 23 September 2014, a member of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, Verene Shepherd, presented the report of the Working Group (A/HRC/27/68 and Add.1).

961. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil made a statement as the State concerned.

962. During the ensuing interactive dialogue at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the representative of the Working Group questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: China, Costa Rica (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Morocco, South Africa, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Barbados, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Netherlands, Panama;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme; Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie Van Homoseksualiteit – COC Nederland (also on behalf of International Lesbian and Gay Association); International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations.

963. At the same meeting, the member of the Working Group answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

B. General debate on agenda item 9

964. At its 33rd meeting, on 23 September 2014, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 9, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, Argentina, Costa Rica, Cuba, India, Italy (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Bangladesh, Barbados, Ecuador, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Sri Lanka;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights; Africa Culture Internationale; Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc; Center for Inquiry; Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy; Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme; Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe; Indian Council of South America (CISA); Institut international pour la paix, la justice et les droits de l'Homme – IIPJDH; International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists; International Buddhist Relief Organisation; International Educational Development, Inc.; International Humanist and Ethical Union; International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations; Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture; Liberation; Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development; Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association; Organization for Defending Victims of Violence; Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme; World Barua Organization (WBO); World Jewish Congress.

965. At the same meeting, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of Lithuania.

C. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Mandate of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent

966. At the 40th meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representative of South Africa (on behalf of the Group of African States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.10/Rev.1, sponsored by Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States) and co-sponsored by Cuba, Paraguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Brazil, Chile, Indonesia, Nicaragua, Peru and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

967. At the same meeting, the representatives of Italy (on behalf of the States members of the European Union) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

968. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

969. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote, disassociating the delegation from the consensus on the draft resolution.

970. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/25).

X. Technical assistance and capacity-building

A. Interactive dialogue on cooperation and assistance to Ukraine in the field of human rights

971. At the 33rd meeting, on 23 September 2014, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights presented the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Ukraine (A/HRC/27/75).

972. At the same meeting, the representative of Ukraine made a statement as the State concerned.

973. During the ensuing interactive dialogue at the 34th meeting, on 24 September 2014, the following made statements and asked the Assistant Secretary-General questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Austria, China, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Romania, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, the United States of America (also on behalf of Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland;

(c) Observers for intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, European Union;

(d) Observer for a national human rights institution: Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Human Rights House Foundation; Human Rights Watch; International Federation for Human Rights Leagues; International Federation of Journalists; International Fellowship of Reconciliation; Minority Rights Group; United Nations Watch.

974. Also at the 34th meeting, on 24 September 2014, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

975. At the 35th meeting, on the same day, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of the Russian Federation.

B. Interactive dialogue with special procedures mandate holders

Independent expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan

976. At the 34th meeting, on 24 September 2014, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, Mashood Baderin, presented his report (A/HRC/27/69 and Add.1).

977. At the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.

978. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, at the 34th and 35th meetings, on the same day, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Montenegro, Morocco, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United States of America), the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Egypt, Eritrea, Mali, Norway, Qatar, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Togo, Yemen;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF);

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Al Zubair Charitable Foundation (also on behalf of Eastern Sudan Women Development Organization); East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project; Human Rights Watch; International Federation for Human Rights Leagues; Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development; Society Studies Centre (MADA ssc); United Nations Watch; Working Women Association.

979. At the 35th meeting, on the same day, the representative of the Sudan made final remarks as the State concerned.

980. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

981. Also at the same meeting, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of the Sudan.

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia

982. At the 35th meeting, on 24 September 2014, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, Surya Prasad Subedi, presented his report (A/HRC/27/70 and Add.1).

983. At the same meeting, the representative of Cambodia made a statement as the State concerned.

984. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Special Rapporteur questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: China, France, Ireland, Japan, Morocco, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Viet Nam;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, New Zealand, Thailand;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Article 19 – International Centre Against Censorship, The; Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development; Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network (also on behalf of International Lesbian and Gay

Association); Human Rights Now; Human Rights Watch; International Federation for Human Rights Leagues; World Association for the School as an Instrument of Peace; World Organisation Against Torture.

985. At the same meeting, the representative of Cambodia made final remarks as the State concerned.

986. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia

987. At the 37th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, Bahame Nyanduga, presented his report (A/HRC/27/71).

988. At the same meeting, the representative of Somalia made a statement as the State concerned.

989. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, China, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), France, Ireland, Italy, Morocco, the United Arab Emirates (also on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Mozambique, Qatar, Yemen;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Children's Fund;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International; Article 19 – International Centre Against Censorship, The; East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project; Human Rights Watch; International Educational Development, Inc.; International Federation of Journalists.

990. At the same meeting, the representative of Somalia made final remarks as the State concerned.

991. Also at the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made his concluding remarks.

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Central African Republic

992. At the 37th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Central African Republic, Marie-Therese Keita Bocoum, presented an oral update on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic.

993. At the same meeting, the representative of the Central African Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

994. During the ensuing interactive dialogue, also at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the Independent Expert questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, China, the Congo (also on behalf of the States Members and observers of the International Organization of la Francophonie), Côte d'Ivoire, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia (on

behalf of the Group of African States), France, Ireland, Morocco, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Angola, Australia, Belgium, Chad, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Spain, Togo;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International; Femmes Afrique Solidarité; Human Rights Watch; Servas International.

995. At the same meeting, the representative of the Central African Republic made final remarks as the State concerned.

996. Also at the same meeting, the Independent Expert answered questions and made her concluding remarks.

C. Panels

Panel discussion on the human rights situation in South Sudan

997. At the 36th meeting, on 24 September 2014, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 26/31, the Council held a panel discussion on the human rights situation in South Sudan.

998. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights made an opening statement for the panel. The Permanent Representative of Djibouti to the United Nations Office and other international organizations at Geneva, Mohamed Siad Doualeh, moderated the discussion for the panel.

999. At the same meeting, the panellists Paulino Wanawilla Unango, Olusegun Obasanjo, Lawrence Korbandy and Ibrahim Wani made statements. The Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations at Geneva, Minelik Alemu Getahun, read a statement on behalf of the Chairperson of the Mediation Team on South Sudan of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development.

1000. The Council divided the panel discussion into two slots. During the ensuing panel discussion for the first slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: the Czech Republic, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Kuwait, Montenegro, the Russian Federation, the United States of America;

(b) Representatives of observer States: the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Togo, Turkey;

(c) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: European Union;

(d) Observers for non-governmental organizations: CIVICUS – World Alliance for Citizen Participation; East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project; Norwegian Refugee Council.

1001. During the discussion for the second slot, at the same meeting, the following made statements and asked the panellists questions:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: China, Cuba, Estonia, France, Italy, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(b) Representatives of observer States: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Sri Lanka, the Sudan;

(c) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities); Femmes Afrique Solidarité (also on behalf of World Young Women's Christian Association).

1002. At the same meeting, the panellists answered questions and made their concluding remarks.

D. General debate on agenda item 10

1003. At the 38th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented oral country updates, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 25/1 and S-22/1, and introduced country reports of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General submitted under agenda items 2 and 10 (A/HRC/27/42, A/HRC/27/43, A/HRC/27/44 and A/HRC/27/74).

1004. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cambodia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Sri Lanka and Yemen made statements as the States concerned.

1005. Also at the same meeting, the Human Rights Council held a general debate on agenda item 10, during which the following made statements:

(a) Representatives of States Members of the Human Rights Council: Algeria, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Egypt⁴⁴ (also on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine, the Sudan, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe), France, India, Ireland, Italy (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine), Maldives, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation (also on behalf of Algeria, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Ecuador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine, the Sudan, Tajikistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)), Sierra Leone, Thailand⁴⁵ (also on behalf of Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Myanmar, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, the Sudan, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam), the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

(b) Representatives of observer States: Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mozambique, Myanmar, the Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland, Uzbekistan;

(c) Observer for United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations: United Nations Children's Fund;

(d) Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe;

(e) Observers for non-governmental organizations: Advocates for Human Rights; Alsalam Foundation; Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc; Amnesty International; Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development; Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies; CIVICUS – World Alliance for Citizen Participation;

⁴⁴ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

⁴⁵ Observer of the Human Rights Council speaking on behalf of Member and observer States.

Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative; Human Rights Watch; International Buddhist Foundation (IBF); International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (FIDH); International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR); Le Collectif des Femmes Africaines du Hainaut; Liberation; Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation; Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme; Reporters Sans Frontiers International – Reporters Without Borders International; Servas International.

1006. At the same meeting, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

E. Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights

1007. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representatives of the Netherlands and Yemen introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.9/Rev.1, sponsored by the Netherlands and Yemen and co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, the State of Palestine, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Belgium, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Lithuania, Maldives, Morocco, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovenia, Switzerland and Thailand joined the sponsors.

1008. At the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/19).

Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights

1009. At the 39th meeting, on 25 September 2014, the representative of Thailand, also on behalf of Brazil, Honduras, Indonesia, Mauritius, Morocco, Norway, Qatar, Singapore and Turkey, introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.18/Rev.1, sponsored by Brazil, Honduras, Indonesia, Mauritius, Morocco, Norway, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand and Turkey, and co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Montenegro, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen. Subsequently, Chile, Cyprus, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) and Uruguay joined the sponsors.

1010. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1011. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

1012. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/20).

National policies and human rights

1013. At the 40th meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representatives of Ecuador and Peru introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.21, sponsored by Algeria, Ecuador, Italy, Peru, Romania and Thailand. Subsequently, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Georgia, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Latvia, Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, the Philippines, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined the sponsors.

1014. At the same meeting, the representatives of Algeria and Romania made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

1015. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1016. At the same meeting, the representative of South Africa made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote, disassociating the delegation from the consensus on operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution.

1017. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/26).

Technical assistance and capacity-building for human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

1018. At the 40th meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.32, sponsored by Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States). Subsequently, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Ireland, Lithuania, Maldives, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America joined the sponsors.

1019. At the same meeting, the representative of Italy (on behalf of the European Union) made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

1020. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution. The Chief of the Programme Support and Management Services of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement in relation to the budgetary implications of the draft resolution.

1021. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/27).

Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic

1022. At the 40th meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representative of Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.31, sponsored by Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States). Subsequently, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark,

Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America joined the sponsors.

1023. At the same meeting, the representatives of Italy (on behalf of the European Union) and the Russian Federation made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

1024. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Central African Republic made a statement as the State concerned.

1025. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1026. At the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/28).

Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in the Sudan

1027. At the 40th meeting, on 26 September 2014, the representative of Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States) introduced draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.30/Rev.1, sponsored by Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States). Subsequently, Indonesia and Turkey joined the sponsors.

1028. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made general comments in relation to the draft resolution.

1029. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan made a statement as the State concerned.

1030. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the attention of the Human Rights Council was drawn to the estimated administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

1031. At the same meeting, the representatives of Italy (on behalf of States members of the European Union that are members of the Human Rights Council) and the United States of America made statements in explanation of vote before the vote.

1032. Also at the same meeting, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote (resolution 27/29).

Annex I

Attendance

Members

Algeria	Gabon	Philippines
Argentina	Germany	Republic of Korea
Austria	India	Romania
Benin	Indonesia	Russian Federation
Botswana	Ireland	Saudi Arabia
Brazil	Italy	Sierra Leone
Burkina Faso	Japan	South Africa
Chile	Kazakhstan	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
China	Kenya	United Arab Emirates
Congo	Kuwait	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Costa Rica	Maldives	United States of America
Côte d'Ivoire	Mexico	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Cuba	Montenegro	Viet Nam
Czech Republic	Morocco	
Estonia	Namibia	
Ethiopia	Pakistan	
France	Peru	

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Afghanistan	Comoros	Iraq
Albania	Croatia	Israel
Andorra	Cyprus	Jamaica
Angola	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Jordan
Armenia	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Kyrgyzstan
Australia	Denmark	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Azerbaijan	Djibouti	Latvia
Bahamas	Dominican Republic	Lebanon
Bahrain	Ecuador	Lesotho
Belarus	Equatorial Guinea	Libya
Bangladesh	Egypt	Liechtenstein
Barbados	El Salvador	Lithuania
Belgium	Eritrea	Luxembourg
Bhutan	Fiji	Madagascar
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Finland	Malaysia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Georgia	Malawi
Brunei Darussalam	Ghana	Mali
Bulgaria	Greece	Malta
Burundi	Guatemala	Marshall Islands
Cambodia	Guinea	Mauritania
Cameroon	Honduras	Mauritius
Canada	Hungary	Monaco
Central African Republic	Iceland	Mongolia
Chad	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Morocco
Colombia		Mozambique

Myanmar	Serbia	Togo
Nepal	Seychelles	Tonga
Netherlands	Singapore	Trinidad and Tobago
New Zealand	Slovakia	Tunisia
Nicaragua	Slovenia	Turkey
Niger	Solomon Islands	Turkmenistan
Nigeria	Somalia	Tuvalu
Norway	South Sudan	Uganda
Oman	Spain	Ukraine
Panama	Sri Lanka	United Republic of Tanzania
Papua New Guinea	Sudan	Uruguay
Paraguay	Suriname	Uzbekistan
Poland	Swaziland	Vanuatu
Portugal	Sweden	Yemen
Qatar	Switzerland	Zambia
Republic of Moldova	Syrian Arab Republic	Zimbabwe
Rwanda	Tajikistan	
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Thailand	
Senegal	Timor-Leste	

Non-Member States represented by observers

Holy See
State of Palestine

United Nations

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund	United Nations Environment Programme

Specialized agencies and related organizations

International Labour Organisation	World Intellectual Property Organization
International Telecommunication Union	World Trade Organization
World Health Organization	

Intergovernmental organizations

Council of Europe	International Organization of la Francophonie
European Union	League of Arab States
International Development Law Organization	Organization of Islamic Cooperation
International Olympic Committee	

Other entities

International Committee of the Red Cross
Sovereign Military Order of Malta

National human rights institutions, international coordinating committees and regional groups of national institutions

Albanian People's Advocate (by videostatement)	National Committee for Human Rights – Qatar
Conseil National des Droits de l'Homme Maroc	National Human Rights Commission of Mexico
Danish Institute for Human Rights	Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (NIHRC) (by joint videostatement)
Equality and Human Rights Commission of Great Britain (by joint videostatement)	Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan
El Defensor del Pueblo de España (by videostatement)	Office of Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia
Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM)	Provedor de Justiça Portugal (by videostatement)
Independent Commission for Human Rights of the State of Palestine	Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) (by joint videostatement)
International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC)	South African Human Rights Commission
	Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

Non-governmental organizations

ACT Alliance – Action by Churches Together	Allied Rainbow Communities International
Action Canada for Population and Development	Alsalam Foundation
Action contre la faim	Alulbait Foundation Al-Zubair Charity Foundation
Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs	American Anthropological Association
Advocates for Human Rights	Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc
Africa Culture Internationale	Amis des Etrangers au Togo (A.D.E.T.)
African Association of Education for Development	Amman Center for Human Rights Studies
African-American Society for Humanitarian Aid and Development	Amnesty International
African Commission of Health and Human Right Promoters	Amuta for NGO Responsibility
African Development Association	Anglican Consultative Council
African Technical Association	AquaFed – International Federation of Private Water Operators
African Technology Development Link	Arab NGO Network for Development
Agence Internationale pour le Développement	Archbishop E. Kataliko Actions for Africa "KAF"
Agir Ensemble pour les Droits de l'Homme	Article 19 – The International Centre against Censorship
Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights	Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact
Al-Hakim Foundation	Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center
Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man	Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum
Aliran Kesedaran Negara National Consciousness Movement	Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (Forum-Asia)
Al-khoei Foundation	Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network (AITPN)
Alliance Defending Freedom	Asian Legal Resource Centre
	Asociacion HazteOir.org
	Association Congolaise pour le Développement Agricole
	Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism

Association Mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit
 Association of World Citizens
 Association for the Prevention of Torture
 Association for Progressive Communications (APC)
 Association Points-Cœur/Heart's Home
 Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII
 Auspice Stella
 Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Resource Rights
 Baha'i International Community
 Bischöfliches Hilfswerk Misereor e.V.
 B'nai B'rith
 Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University (BKWSU)
 British Humanist Association
 Bridges International
 Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies
 Cameroun Terre Nouvelle
 Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
 Canners International Permanent Committee
 Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities)
 Center for Reproductive Rights, Inc., The
 Center for Legal and Social Studies
 Centre de Documentation, de Recherche et d'Information des Peuples Autochtones (doCip)
 Centre Europe – Tiers Monde – Europe – Third World Centre
 Centre for Environmental and Management Studies
 Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy
 Center for Inquiry
 Centre indépendant de recherches et d'initiatives pour le dialogue
 Centro Regional de Derechos Humanos y Justicia de Género
 Child Development Foundation
 Child Helpline International
 Civicus – World Alliance for Citizen Participation
 Colombian Commission of Jurists
 Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos – Capaj
 Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme
 Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World
 Council of Churches
 Commission to Study the Organization of Peace
 Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative
 Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul
 Conectas Direitos Humanos
 Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO)
 Congregation of our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd
 Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations
 Defence for Children International
 Development Innovations and Networks
 Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers
 Earthjustice
 East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project
 Eastern Sudan Women Development Organization
 ECPAT International
 Edmund Rice International Limited
 Egyptian Organization for Human Rights
 Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education
 European Centre for Law and Justice, The
 European Disability Forum
 European Law Students' Association
 European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Association
 European Union of Public Relations
 Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie van Homoseksualiteit COC Nederland
 Federation of Associations for the Defense and the Promotion of Human Rights – Spain
 Federation of Cuban Women
 Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe
 Femmes Afrique Solidarité
 Foodfirst Information and Action Network
 Foundation for GAIA
 Foundation for International Relations and Development Studies
 France Libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand
 Franciscans International
 Freedom House
 Friedrich Ebert Foundation
 Friends World Committee for Consultation
 General Research Institute on the Convention on the Rights of the Child
 Geneva for Human Rights – Global Training

Global Helping to Advance Women and Children
 Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 Groupe des ONG pour la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant
 Grupo Intercultural Almaciga
 Hawa Society for Women
 Helios Life Association
 HelpAge International
 Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
 Himalayan Research and Cultural Foundation
 Howard Center for Family, Religion and Society
 Human Life International, Inc.
 Human Rights Education Associates (HREA)
 Human Rights House Foundation
 Human Rights Law Centre
 Human Rights Now
 Human Rights Watch
 Humanist Institute for Co-operation with Developing Countries
 IDPC Consortium
 Il Cenacolo
 Indian Council of South America
 Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee
 Indigenous World Association
 Ingénieurs du Monde
 Initiatives of Change
 INSHED – International Network for Standardization of Higher Education Degrees
 Institute for Family Policy
 Institute for Planetary Synthesis
 International Alliance of Women
 International Association of Charities
 International Association for Democracy in Africa
 International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL)
 International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists
 International Association for Religious Freedom
 International Association of Schools of Social Work
 International Bar Association
 International Buddhist Foundation (IBF)
 International Buddhist Relief Organisation
 International Committee for the Indians of the Americas (Incomindios Switzerland)
 International Educational Development, Inc.
 International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (FIDH)
 International Federation of Journalists
 International Federation of Social Workers
 International Federation of University Women
 International Fellowship of Reconciliation
 International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission
 International Humanist and Ethical Union
 International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies
 International Institute for Peace
 International Institute for Peace, Justice and Human Rights IIPJHR
 International Kolping Society
 International Lesbian and Gay Association
 International Longevity Center Global Alliance, Ltd.
 International Movement against all Forms of Discrimination and Racism
 International Movement ATD Fourth World
 International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples
 International Movement of Apostolate in the Independent Social Milieus (MIAMSI);
 International Muslim Women's Union
 International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse
 International Organization for the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination
 International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education
 International Peace Bureau
 International Service for Human Rights
 International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development
 International Women Bond
 International Young Christian Workers
 International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations
 Iranian Elite Research Center
 Islamic Human Rights Commission
 Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco
 Japan Federation of Bar Associations
 Jubilee Campaign
 Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Violence
 Korea Center for United Nations Human Rights Policy
 La Brique
 Latter-Day Saint Charities
 Lawyers for Lawyers
 Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada

Le Collectif des Femmes Africaines du Hainaut
 Liberal International (World Liberal Union)
 Liberation
 Lutheran World Federation
 Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development
 Madre, Inc.
 Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association
 Medical Care Development International (MCD)
 Minority Rights Group
 Mothers Legacy Project
 Myochikai (Arigatou Foundation)
 National Alliance of Women's Organizations
 National Coalition Against Racial Discrimination
 New Humanity
 Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational and Transparty
 Nord-Sud XXI
 Norwegian Refugee Council
 ONG Hope International
 Open Society Institute
 Organisation Mondiale des associations pour l'éducation prénatale
 Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale (Ocaproce Internationale)
 Organisation des Laïcs Engagés du Sacré-Cœur pour le Développement de Kimbondo
 Organization for Defending Victims of Violence
 Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation
 Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs and International Movement of Catholic Students)
 Penal Reform International
 Plan International, Inc.
 Planetary Association for Clean Energy, Inc.
 Presse Emblème Campagne
 Refugees International
 Rencontre africain pour la défense des droits de l'homme
 Reporters Sans Frontiers International – Reporters without Borders International
 Rural Community Development Program
 Russian Peace Foundation
 Save a Child's Heart in Memory of Dr. Ami Cohen
 Save the Children International
 Servas International
 Society for Development and Community Empowerment
 Society for Threatened Peoples
 Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment
 Society Studies Centre (MADA ssc)
 Soka Gakkai International
 Solidarity for a Better World
 Soroptimist International
 SOS Kinderdorf International
 Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem
 Sudan Council of Voluntary Agencies
 Sudanese Women General Union
 Syriac Universal Alliance
 Swedish NGO Foundation for Human Rights
 Tchad – Agir pour l'Environnement
 Teresian Association
 Terre des Hommes Fédération Internationale
 The ad-hoc NGO Group for the Drafting of the CRC
 The InnerCity Mission of Christ Embassy
 The International Legal Foundation, Ltd.
 The International Organisation for LDCs
 Unesco Centre Basque Country (Unesco Etxea)
 Union de l'action féminine
 Union of Arab Jurists
 United Nations Watch (UN Watch)
 United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY Peacebuilders)
 United Schools International
 UPR Info
 Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik
 Victorious Youths Movement
 Vivat International
 Women Organization for Development and Capacity Building
 Women's Federation for World Peace International
 Women's Human Rights International Association
 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
 Working Women Association
 World Association for the School as an Instrument of Peace
 World Barua Organization
 World Environment and Resources Council
 World Evangelical Alliance
 World Federation of Khoja Shi'a Ithna-Asheri Muslim Communities

World Federation of United Nations
Associations
World Jewish Congress
World Movement of Christian Workers
World Muslim Congress
World Network of Users and Survivors of
Psychiatry WNUSP

World Organization against Torture
World Student Christian Federation
World Union of Catholic Women's
Organizations
World Vision International
World Young Women's Christian
Association

Annex II

Agenda

- Item 1. Organizational and procedural matters.
- Item 2. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General.
- Item 3. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.
- Item 4. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention.
- Item 5. Human rights bodies and mechanisms.
- Item 6. Universal periodic review.
- Item 7. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories.
- Item 8. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Item 9. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Item 10. Technical assistance and capacity-building.

Annex III

[English, French and Spanish only]

Documents issued for the twenty-seventh session

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/27/1	1	Annotations to the agenda for the twenty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council: note by the Secretary-General
A/HRC/27/1/Corr.1	1	Corrigendum
A/HRC/27/2	1	Report of the Human Rights Council on its twenty-seventh session
A/HRC/27/3	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Norway
A/HRC/27/3/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/4	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Albania
A/HRC/27/4/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/5	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on the Democratic Republic of the Congo
A/HRC/27/6	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Côte d'Ivoire
A/HRC/27/6/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/7	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Portugal
A/HRC/27/7/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/8	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Bhutan
A/HRC/27/8/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/9	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Dominica
A/HRC/27/10	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
A/HRC/27/10/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/11	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Brunei

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		Darussalam
A/HRC/27/11/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/12	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Costa Rica
A/HRC/27/12/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/13	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Equatorial Guinea
A/HRC/27/13/Corr.1	6	Corrigendum
A/HRC/27/13/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/14	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Ethiopia
A/HRC/27/14/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/15	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Qatar
A/HRC/27/15/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/16	6	Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review on Nicaragua
A/HRC/27/16/Add.1	6	Addendum
A/HRC/27/17	1	Election of members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee: note by the Secretary-General
A/HRC/27/17/Add.1	1	Addendum
A/HRC/27/18	2	Composition of the staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/19	2	Follow-up review of the management and administration of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights – Report of the Joint Inspection Unit: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/27/20	2, 3	Application of the technical guidance on the application of a human rights-based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce preventable maternal mortality and morbidity: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/21	2, 3	Analytical study focusing on gender-based

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		and sexual violence in relation to transitional justice: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/22	2, 3	Birth registration and the right of everyone to recognition everywhere as a person before the law: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/23	2, 3	Question of the death penalty: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/27/23/Corr.1	2, 3	Corrigendum
A/HRC/27/24	2, 3	Summary of the high-level panel discussion dedicated to the sixty-fifth anniversary of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/25	2, 3	Summary of the full-day meeting on the rights of the child: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/26	2, 3	Summary of the high-level panel discussion on the question of the death penalty: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/27	2, 3	Consolidated report of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the right to development
A/HRC/27/28	2, 3	Plan of Action for the third phase (2015–2019) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/28/Corr.1	2, 3	Corrigendum
A/HRC/27/29	2, 3	Factors that impede equal political participation and steps to overcome those challenges: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/30	2, 3	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the rights of indigenous peoples
A/HRC/27/31	2, 3	Technical guidance on the application of a

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		human rights based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/32	2, 3	Proceedings of the workshop on the impact of the application of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights by the affected populations, in particular their socioeconomic impact on women and children, in the States targeted: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/33	2, 3	Summary of the Human Rights Council panel discussion on the importance of the promotion and protection of civil society space: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/34	2, 3	Summary report on the panel discussion on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/35	2, 3	Summary of the Human Rights Council panel discussion on the safety of journalists: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/36	2, 3	Summary report on the high-level panel discussion on the identification of good practices in combating female genital mutilation: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/37	2, 3	The right to privacy in the digital age: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/38	2, 5	Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/27/39	2, 8	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights: report of the Secretary-General

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/40	2, 8	Activities of the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in accrediting national institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/27/41	2, 10	Technical assistance and capacity-building options for integrating human rights into national policies: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/42	2, 10	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation and the activities of her Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
A/HRC/27/43	2, 10	Role and achievements of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights: report of the Secretary-General
A/HRC/27/44	2, 10	Situation of human rights in Yemen: report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/45	3	Report of the Working Group on the Right to Development on its fifteenth session (Geneva, 12–16 May 2014)
A/HRC/27/46	3	Report of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, Rosa Kornfeld-Matte
A/HRC/27/47	3	Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention: a compilation of national, regional and international laws, regulations and practices on the right to challenge the lawfulness of detention before court
A/HRC/27/48	3	Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
A/HRC/27/48/Add.1	3	Opinions adopted by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention at its sixty-sixth, sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions
A/HRC/27/48/Add.2	3	Mission to Greece
A/HRC/27/48/Add.3	3	Mission to Brazil
A/HRC/27/48/Add.4	3	Mission to Hungary

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/27/48/Add.5	3	Mission to Morocco
A/HRC/27/48/Add.6	3	Mission to Greece: comments by the State on the report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
A/HRC/27/48/Add.7	3	Mission au Maroc: commentaires de l'Etat sur le rapport du Groupe de travail sur la détention arbitraire
A/HRC/27/49	3	Report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances
A/HRC/27/49/Add.1	3	Mission to Spain
A/HRC/27/49/Add.2	3	Follow-up report to the recommendations made by the Working Group: missions to Argentina and Bosnia and Herzegovina
A/HRC/27/50	3	Annual report of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination
A/HRC/27/50/Add.1	3	Mission to Comoros (7–16 May 2014)
A/HRC/27/51	3	Report of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, Alfred-Maurice de Zayas
A/HRC/27/52	3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Victoria Tauli Corpuz
A/HRC/27/52/Add.1	3	The status of indigenous peoples' rights in Panama
A/HRC/27/52/Add.2	3	The situation of indigenous peoples in Canada
A/HRC/27/52/Add.3	3	The situation of indigenous peoples' rights in Peru with regard to the extractive industries
A/HRC/27/52/Add.4	3	Observations on communications
A/HRC/27/53	3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, Urmila Bhoola
A/HRC/27/53/Add.1	3	Follow-up mission to Mauritania
A/HRC/27/53/Add.2	3	Follow-up mission to Kazakhstan
A/HRC/27/53/Add.3	3	Mission to Ghana (22–29 November 2013)

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/54	3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, Baskut Tuncak
A/HRC/27/55	3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, Catarina de Albuquerque: common violations of the human rights to water and sanitation
A/HRC/27/55/Add.1	3	Mission to Brazil (9 to 19 December 2013)
A/HRC/27/55/Add.2	3	Mission to Jordan (11–16 March 2014)
A/HRC/27/55/Add.3	3	Handbook for realizing the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation
A/HRC/27/55/Add.4	3	Mission to Brazil: comments by the State on the report of the Special Rapporteur
A/HRC/27/55/Add.5	3	Mission to Jordan: comments by the State on the report of the Special Rapporteur
A/HRC/27/56	3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, Pablo de Greiff
A/HRC/27/56/Add.1	3	Mission to Spain
A/HRC/27/56/Add.2	3	Mission to Uruguay
A/HRC/27/56/Add.3	3	Misión a España: Comentarios del Estado al informe del Relator Especial
A/HRC/27/57	3, 5	Progress report on the research-based report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on best practices and main challenges in the promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations
A/HRC/27/58	3, 5	Progress report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on the study on the possibilities of using sport and the Olympic ideal to promote human rights
A/HRC/27/59	3, 5	Progress report of the Advisory Committee on the role of local government in the promotion and protection of human rights, including human rights mainstreaming in local administration and public services
A/HRC/27/60	4	Report of the independent international commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		Republic
A/HRC/27/61	5	Report on the twenty-first annual meeting of special rapporteurs, independent experts and chairpersons of working groups of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/27/62	5	Reports of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on its twelfth and thirteenth sessions: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/27/63	5	Report of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on a draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace
A/HRC/27/64	5	Report of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on its seventh session, Geneva, 7–11 July 2014
A/HRC/27/65	5	Access to justice in the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples: restorative justice, indigenous juridical systems and access to justice for indigenous women, children and youth, and persons with disabilities: study by the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
A/HRC/27/66	5	Promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples in disaster risk reduction, prevention and preparedness initiatives: study by the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
A/HRC/27/67	5	Final summary of responses to the questionnaire seeking the views of States and indigenous peoples on best practices regarding possible appropriate measures and implementation strategies to attain the goals of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: report of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
A/HRC/27/68	9	Report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent on its fourteenth session
A/HRC/27/68/Add.1	9	Mission to Brazil
A/HRC/27/69	10	Report of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, Mashood A. Baderin
A/HRC/27/69/Add.1	10	Comments by the State

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/70	10	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, Surya P. Subedi
A/HRC/27/70/Add.1	10	Comments received from the Government of Cambodia on the Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, Surya P. Subedi
A/HRC/27/71	10	Report of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, Bahame Tom Nyanduga
A/HRC/27/72	3,4,7,9,10	Communications report of Special Procedures
A/HRC/27/73	2, 3	Summary report on the recommendations of the panel discussion on gender stereotyping and on women's human rights in the context of sustainable development agenda: report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/74	2, 10	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in South Sudan
A/HRC/27/75	2, 10	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Ukraine
A/HRC/27/76	2, 7	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1 on ensuring respect for international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

Documents issued in the conference room papers series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/CRP.1	4	Selected testimonies from victims of the Syrian conflict
A/HRC/27/CRP.2	2	Oral update of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka

Documents issued in the limited series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/L.1	3	Enforced or involuntary disappearances
A/HRC/27/L.2	3	Human rights and unilateral coercive measures
A/HRC/27/L.3	3	The right to development
A/HRC/27/L.4	3	Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence
A/HRC/27/L.5 and Rev.1	4	The continuing grave deterioration in the human rights and humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic
A/HRC/27/L.6	3	Local government and human rights
A/HRC/27/L.7	3	The safety of journalists
A/HRC/27/L.8	3	Panel discussion on realizing the equal enjoyment of the right to education by every girl
A/HRC/27/L.9 and Rev.1	10	Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights
A/HRC/27/L.10 and Rev.1	9	Mandate of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent
A/HRC/27/L.11 and Rev.1	3	The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation
A/HRC/27/L.12	3	Intensifying global efforts and sharing good practices to effectively eliminate female genital mutilation
A/HRC/27/L.13	3	Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes
A/HRC/27/L.14	3	Promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal
A/HRC/27/L.15 and Rev.1	5	Promotion of the right to peace
A/HRC/27/L.16	3	Mandate of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order
A/HRC/27/L.17	3	The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination
A/HRC/27/L.18 and Rev.1	10	Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human

Documents issued in the limited series

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
		rights
A/HRC/27/L.19 and Rev.1	3	Preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights
A/HRC/27/L.20	3	World Programme for Human Rights Education: adoption of the plan of action for the third phase
A/HRC/27/L.21	10	National policies and human rights
A/HRC/27/L.22	3	Human rights and indigenous peoples
A/HRC/27/L.23	3	Preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age as a human rights concern
A/HRC/27/L.24	3	Civil society space
A/HRC/27/L.25	8	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights
A/HRC/27/L.26	3	Effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights: the activities of vulture funds
A/HRC/27/L.27 and Rev.1	8	Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity
A/HRC/27/L.28	3	The right of the child to engage in play and recreational activities
A/HRC/27/L.29 and Rev.1	3	Equal participation in political and public affairs
A/HRC/27/L.30 and Rev.1	10	Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in the Sudan
A/HRC/27/L.31	10	Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic
A/HRC/27/L.32	10	Technical assistance and capacity-building for human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
A/HRC/27/L.33	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.2
A/HRC/27/L.34	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24
A/HRC/27/L.35	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24
A/HRC/27/L.36	3	Amendment to draft resolution

Documents issued in the limited series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		A/HRC/27/L.24
A/HRC/27/L.37	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24
A/HRC/27/L.38	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24
A/HRC/27/L.39	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24
A/HRC/27/L.40	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24
A/HRC/27/L.41	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24
A/HRC/27/L.42	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24
A/HRC/27/L.43	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.24
A/HRC/27/L.44	3	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.2
A/HRC/27/L.45	8	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.27/Rev.1
A/HRC/27/L.46	8	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.27/Rev.1
A/HRC/27/L.47	8	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.27/Rev.1
A/HRC/27/L.48	8	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.27/Rev.1
A/HRC/27/L.49	8	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.27/Rev.1
A/HRC/27/L.50	8	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.27/Rev.1
A/HRC/27/L.51	8	Amendment to draft resolution A/HRC/27/L.27/Rev.1

Documents issued in the Government series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/G/1	3	Note verbale dated 12 August 2014 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human

Documents issued in the Government series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		Rights
A/HRC/27/G/2	4	Note verbale dated 15 August 2014 from the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/27/G/3	4	Letter dated 8 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/27/G/4	4	Letter dated 15 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/27/G/5	2, 3	Note verbale dated 19 September 2014 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/27/G/6	6	Note verbale dated 24 September 2014 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/27/G/7	9	Note verbale dated 22 September 2014 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/G/8	2, 3	Note verbale dated 26 September 2014 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Estonia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/27/G/9	6	Note verbale dated 3 October 2014 from the Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland

Documents issued in the Government series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
A/HRC/27/G/10	1	Note verbale dated 26 September 2014 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/27/G/11	4	Letter dated 20 October 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council
A/HRC/27/G/12	4	Letter dated 13 November 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/NGO/1	7	Written statement submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/2	3	Written statement submitted by Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/3	10	Written statement submitted by Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/4	7	Written statement submitted by Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/5	4	Written statement submitted by Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/NGO/6	4	Written statement submitted by the Arab NGO Network for Development, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/7	4	Written statement submitted by the Arab NGO Network for Development, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/8	6	Written statement submitted by the Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/9	3	Written statement submitted by the International Federation on Ageing, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/10	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/11	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/12	3	Written statement submitted by the Society Studies Centre (MADA ssc), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/13	4	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/14	3	Written statement submitted by the Himalayan Research and Cultural Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/15	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/16	3	Written statement submitted by the Aliran Kesedaran Negara National Consciousness Movement, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/17	4	Written statement submitted by Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/18	3	Written statement submitted by the HelpAge International, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/19	3	Joint written statement submitted by the Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), a non-governmental organization in general consultative status, Association Points-Coeur, Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers, Edmund Rice International Limited, International Catholic Child Bureau, International Kolping Society, International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development – VIDES, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, Mouvement International d'Apostolate des Milieux Sociaux Independants, Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs and International Movement of Catholic Students), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, World Movement of Christian Workers, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/20	9	Written statement submitted by the Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/21	3	Written statement submitted by the Al-khoei Foundation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/22	3	Written statement submitted by the Al-khoei Foundation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/23	3	Written statement submitted by the Al-khoei Foundation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/24	3	Written statement submitted by the Al-khoei Foundation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/25	3	Joint written statement submitted by Save

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
		the Children International, World Vision International, non-governmental organizations in general consultative status, Groupe des ONG pour la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant, Defence for Children International, Geneva Infant Feeding Association, International Federation of Social Workers, International Social Service, Plan International, Inc., SOS Kinderdorf International, Terre Des Hommes Federation Internationale, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/26	3	Written statement submitted by the International Association for the Defence of Religious Liberty – Association Internationale Pour La Defense de la Liberte, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/27	4	Written statement submitted by Article 19 – The International Centre Against Censorship, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/28	3	Written statement submitted by Article 19 – The International Centre Against Censorship, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/29	3	Written statement submitted by the Alliance Defense Fund, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/30	3	Written statement submitted by the Alliance Defense Fund, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/31	3	Written statement submitted by the Alliance Defense Fund, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/32	3	Written statement submitted by the Alliance Defense Fund, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/33	2	Exposición escrita presentada por el Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (ACNU), organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		consultiva especial
A/HRC/27/NGO/34	2	Exposición escrita presentada por el Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (ACNU), organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/27/NGO/35	4	Written statement submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/36	5	Written statement submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/37	7	Joint written statement submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/38	9	Written statement submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/39	4	Joint written statement submitted by the Women's Human Rights International Association (WHRIA), France Libertes: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, International Educational Development, Inc., non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/40	3	Written statement submitted by the Working Women Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/41	3	Written statement submitted by the Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/42	4	Written statement submitted by the Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/43	7	Written statement submitted by the BADIL Resource center for Palestinian Residency

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
		and Refugee rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/44	4	Written statement submitted by the BADIL Resource center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/45	4	Written statement submitted by the Child Foundation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/46	10	Written statement submitted by the Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/47	7	Written statement submitted by the Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/48	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/49	3	Written statement submitted by Human Rights Now, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/50	3	Written statement submitted by the National Association of Community Legal Centres Inc., a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/51	4	Written statement submitted by the Al-Hakim Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/52	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/53	3	Written statement submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/54	3	Written statement submitted by the International Institute for Peace, Justice and Human Rights (IIPJHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/55	7	Written statement submitted by the Action contre la faim, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/NGO/56	3	Joint written statement submitted by Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), New Humanity, non-governmental organizations in general consultative status, Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, Edmund Rice International Limited, International Association of Charities, International Catholic Child Bureau, Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs and International Movement of Catholic Students), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/57	2	Written statement submitted by the Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/58	3	Written statement submitted by the Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/59	6	Joint written statement submitted by Korea Center for United Nations Human Rights Policy, Human Rights Now, International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR), MINBYUN – Lawyers for a Democratic Society, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/60	3	Joint written statement submitted by Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), New Humanity, non-governmental organizations in general consultative status, Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education (OIDE), International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development – VIDES, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/61	5	Joint written statement submitted by the Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, Pax Romana (International Catholic

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
		Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs and International Movement of Catholic Students), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/62	3	Written statement submitted by the Al Zubair Charitable Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/63	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/64	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/65	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/66	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/67	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/68	5	Written statement submitted by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/69	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/70	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/71	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/72	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/73	4	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/74	3	Written statement submitted by Liberal International (World Liberal Union), a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/75	3	Written statement submitted by the Eastern Sudan Women Development Organization, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/76	3	Written statement submitted by the International Institute for Peace, Justice and Human Rights (IIPJHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/77	3	Written statement submitted by the International Humanist and Ethical Union, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/78	3	Written statement submitted by the Howard Center for Family, Religion and Society, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/79	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/80	8	Exposé écrit présenté par Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/27/NGO/81	3	Joint written statement submitted by the France Libertés : Fondation Danielle Mitterrand, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs, Netherlands Centre for Indigenous Peoples (NCIV), Society for Threatened Peoples, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, Indian Council of South America (CISA), non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/82	4	Written statement submitted by the Americans for Democracy & Human

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		Rights in Bahrain Inc, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/83	3	Written statement submitted by the Alulbayt Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/84	7	Written statement submitted by the Amuta for NGO Responsibility, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/85	7	Written statement submitted by the Amuta for NGO Responsibility, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/86	7	Written statement submitted by the Amuta for NGO Responsibility, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/87	3	Written statement submitted by the Women's International Zionist Organization, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/88	5	Written statement submitted by the IDPC Consortium, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/89	3	Written statement submitted by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/90	3	Written statement submitted by the Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute, Inc., a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/91	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/92	7	Written statement submitted by Press the Emblem Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/93	9	Written statement submitted by the Servas International, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/94	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/95	3	Exposición escrita presentada por la Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/27/NGO/96	3	Exposición escrita presentada por la Permanent Assembly for Human Rights (Asamblea Permanente por los Derechos Humanos), organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/27/NGO/97	3	Written statement submitted by the Asian Legal Resource Centre, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/98	3	Written statement submitted by the Asylum Access, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/99	4	Written statement submitted by the Press Emblem Campaign, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/100	5	Joint written statement submitted by the African American Islamic Institute, non-governmental organization in general consultative status, the International Association of Peace Messenger Cities, Abibimman Foundation, Abiodun Adebayo Welfare Foundation, American Association of Jurists, Amis des Etrangers au Togo (A.D.E.T.), Arab African American Womens' Leadership Council Inc., Asociación Española para el Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos AEDIDH, Association Mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit, Association pour l'Intégration et le Développement Durable au Burundi, BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, Bangwe et Dialogue, Belgrade Centre for Human Rights, Centre for Democracy and Development, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Dominican Union of Journalists for Peace, Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, Humanitaire Plus, Indigenous World Association, International Association of Schools of Social Work, International Federation of Women in Legal Careers, International Federation of Women Lawyers, International Institute

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>		<i>Agenda item</i>
		for Child Protection, International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR), International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation (LGWPF), Movement for the Protection of African Child (MOPOTAC), Pax Christi International, International Catholic Peace Movement, Peace Family and Media Association, People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy, Perfect Union, Shirley Ann Sullivan Educational Foundation, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries, Temple of Understanding, Umuada Igbo Nigeria, United States Federation for Middle East Peace, Women Environmental Programme, Women's World Summit Foundation, Womensport International, World Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation, World for World Organization, Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, Dzeno Association, Institute for Planetary Synthesis, International Society for Human Rights, Widows for Peace Through Democracy, non-governmental organizations on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/101	3	Joint written statement submitted by the Open Society Institute, American Civil Liberties Union, Amnesty International, Human Rights First, Human Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/101/Corr.1	3	Corrigendum
A/HRC/27/NGO/102	3	Written statement submitted by the International Network of Liberal Women, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/103	8	Written statement submitted by the Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/104	4	Written statement submitted by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a non-governmental

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/106	4	Written statement submitted by the Women's Human Rights International Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/107	3	Written statement submitted by the Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/108	9	Written statement submitted by the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/109	9	Written statement submitted by the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/110	4	Written statement submitted by the Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/111	3	Written statement submitted by the Global Helping to Advance Women and Children, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/112	1, 7	Written statement submitted by United Nations Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/113	3	Exposé écrit présenté par Rencontre Africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/27/NGO/114	2	Written statement submitted by the Center for Global Nonkilling, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/115	2	Written statement submitted by Le Collectif des Femmes Africaines du Hainaut (C.F.A.H.), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/116	4	Written statement submitted by the Third World Institute – Instituto del Tercer Mundo, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/NGO/117	2	Written statement submitted by the Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/118	3	Written statement submitted by the International Alliance of Women, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/119	7	Exposición escrita presentada por el Federación de Mujeres Cubanas, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/27/NGO/120	3	Exposición escrita presentada por el Federación de Mujeres Cubanas, organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad consultiva especial
A/HRC/27/NGO/121	4	Written statement submitted by the International Buddhist Relief Organization, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/122	3	Exposé écrit présenté par l'Organisation Mondiale des associations pour l'éducation prénatale, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial
A/HRC/27/NGO/123	4	Written statement submitted by the Association of World Citizens, a non-governmental organization on the roster
A/HRC/27/NGO/124	6	Written statement submitted by the International Institute for Peace, Justice and Human Rights (IIPJHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/125	4	Written statement submitted by the International Institute for Peace, Justice and Human Rights (IIPJHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/126	3	Written statement submitted by the Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/127	3	Written statement submitted by the Korea Center for United Nations Human Rights Policy, a non-governmental organization in

Documents issued in the non-governmental organization series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
		special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/128	2	Written statement submitted by the Friends World Committee for Consultation, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/129	4	Written statement submitted by the ODHIKAR – Coalition for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/27/NGO/130	3	Written statement submitted by the International Institute for Peace, Justice and Human Rights (IIPJHR), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

Documents issued in the national institutions series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/NI/1	3	Information presented by the National Human Rights Commission of Mauritania: note by the secretariat
A/HRC/27/NI/2	3	Information presented by the National Human Rights Council of Morocco: note by the secretariat
A/HRC/27/NI/3	3	Information presented by the Public Defender of Georgia: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/27/NI/4	3	Information presented by the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/27/NI/5	3	Joint information presented by 22 A Status NHRIs: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/27/NI/6	6	Information presented by the Albanian People's Advocate (Ombudsman): note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/27/NI/7	6	Information presented by the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/27/NI/8	3	Information presented by the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights: note by the Secretariat
A/HRC/27/NI/9	6	Written submission by the Equality and Human Rights Commission of Great Britain: note by the Secretariat

Documents issued in the national institutions series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/27/NI/10	3	Information presented by the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Republic of Azerbaijan: note by the Secretariat

Annex IV

Advisory Committee members elected by the Human Rights Council at its twenty-seventh session and duration of terms of membership

<i>Member</i>	<i>Term expires in</i>
Mohamed Bennani (Morocco)	30 September 2017
Laurence Boisson de Chazournes (France)	30 September 2017
Laura Crăciunean (Romania)	30 September 2017
Obiora Okafor (Nigeria)	30 September 2017
Anantonia Reyes Prado (Guatemala)	30 September 2017
Changrok Soh (Republic of Korea)	30 September 2017
Ahmer Bilal Soofi (Pakistan)	30 September 2017

Annex V

Special procedures mandate holders appointed by the Human Rights Council at its organizational meeting of 6 November 2014

Independent Expert on capacity-building and technical cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire in the field of human rights

Mohammed Ayat (Morocco)

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan

Aristide Nononsi (Benin)

Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation

Léo Heller (Brazil)

Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

Catalina Devandas Aguilar (Costa Rica)

Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (member from Asia-Pacific States)

Ricardo III Sunga (Philippines)

Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (member from Eastern European States)

Michal Balcerzak (Poland)

Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (member from Western European and other States)

Bernard Duhaime (Canada)
