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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Fortieth session**  
24 January–4 February 2022

## **Summary of Stakeholders' submissions on Togo\***

### **Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

#### **I. Background**

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 27 stakeholders' submissions<sup>1</sup> to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. A separate section is provided for the contribution by the national human rights institution that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

#### **II. Information provided by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles**

2. The National Human Rights Commission welcomed the Government's efforts to provide persons deprived of liberty with better conditions of detention and the measures that had been taken in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), including the release of 1,048 detainees in 2020. However, it was concerned that there were insufficient prison health-care facilities and personnel to provide prisoners with adequate health care. It was also concerned about prison overcrowding, which was exacerbated by the slow processing of cases. It called on the Government to take all possible steps to relieve that overcrowding by, for example, using alternatives to detention and adopting a reintegration strategy. It urged judicial authorities to investigate cases more quickly. The lack of police holding cells for women in most preliminary inquiry units was also a source of concern for the Commission.<sup>2</sup>

3. The Commission welcomed the fact that the national mechanism for the prevention of torture had been attached to the Commission in 2018 and had begun operating in 2019. However, the Commission stressed the need for the mechanism to have its own budget so that it could effectively fulfil its mission. The Commission was concerned about the slow pace of investigations into allegations of torture or ill-treatment, including those referred to the authorities by the Commission. It urged the Government to open investigations into those allegations and follow through on them.<sup>3</sup>

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\* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



4. The Commission noted that, since the first case of COVID-19 had appeared in Togo in March 2020, the negative effects of the pandemic had been felt in all areas of social, economic and institutional life. As soon as the health emergency was declared, the Commission set up an observatory to catalogue all allegations of human rights violations related to the handling of the health emergency with a view to making recommendations to the Government on how to better protect human rights during the emergency. The observatory's investigations turned up 10 cases of alleged rights violations that could be attributed to the COVID-19 joint task force. The cases involved allegations of rape, assault and battery, intentional violence and loss of life. The Commission had referred the cases to the competent authorities, but no information was yet available on the outcome of the inquiries.<sup>4</sup>

### **III. Information provided by other stakeholders**

#### **A. Scope of international obligations<sup>5</sup> and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies<sup>6</sup>**

5. Joint submission (JS) 3, JS4 and JS9 recommended that Togo ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.<sup>7</sup>

6. Amnesty International (AI) recommended to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and the Rome Statute.<sup>8</sup>

7. JS3 recommended that Togo ratify the ILO Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176) by the end of 2023.<sup>9</sup>

8. ICAN recommended that Togo ratifies the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a matter of international urgency, and encourages other states to join the Treaty.<sup>10</sup>

9. AI recommended to (i) make the declaration under 34.6 of Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights to allow individuals and NGOs to have direct access to the Court; (ii) Issue a standing invitation to the UN Special Procedures and accept visits from the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the Special Rapporteur on the right to peaceful assembly and freedom of association and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to water and sanitation; (iii) Follow up on the communication from the Special Rapporteurs on the restrictions introduced in the Law on Peaceful Assembly and Demonstration in 2019.<sup>11</sup>

10. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights recommended that Togo ratify the following human rights instruments: (i) the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights; (ii) the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa; and (iii) the declaration under article 34 (6) of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.<sup>12</sup>

#### **B. National human rights framework<sup>13</sup>**

11. JS12 recommended repealing laws that restrict public freedoms, such as the new law on freedom of assembly and participation in peaceful public demonstrations; enacting into law the bill on the promotion and protection of the rights of defenders and adopting its implementing decree by the end of 2021; addressing the specific challenges relating to the protection of women human rights defenders; effectively establishing an operational institutional mechanism for the protection of defenders by 2023; and ensuring that defenders have a safe working environment.<sup>14</sup>

12. JS6 recommended to review the Penal Code, the Press and Communication Code and the cybersecurity law in order to bring it into line with best practices and international

standards in the area of the freedom of expression. JS6 also recommended to amend Law 2019-010 of 12 August 2019 modifying Law 2011-010 of 16 May 2011 and the Penal Code in order to guarantee fully the right to the freedom of peaceful assembly, to reform defamation legislation in conformity with ICCPR article 19, to adopt a framework for the protection of journalists from persecution, intimidation and harassment, to develop an action plan to ensure that internet laws comply with international standards and to refrain from adopting any laws providing for censorship or undue control over social and conventional media content.<sup>15</sup>

13. JS8 recommended: (i) amending the Penal Code to take into account the criminal responsibility borne by superiors and the concept of aiding and abetting; (ii) expediting the adoption of a new code of criminal procedure, ensuring that it provides that acts of torture are subject to no statute of limitations and that confessions and statements obtained through the use of torture are inadmissible and removing all references to the death penalty; and (iii) adopting the implementing decree for the law on legal aid and ensuring that legal professionals and the public are aware of the law.<sup>16</sup>

14. JS14 recommended that Togo amend the laws governing the use of force, in particular Decree No. 2013-013 on Maintaining and Restoring Public Order, and bring them into line with international standards such as the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials by, for example, reviewing the legal basis for the use of force and establishing clear rules on the use of force by security forces in maintaining law and order during demonstrations. JS14 also recommended the adoption of a code of criminal procedure that establishes the inadmissibility of confessions and statements obtained through the use of torture and provides for legal safeguards against torture, including the availability of the assistance of counsel from the time that a person is taken into police custody.<sup>17</sup>

## **C. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law**

### **1. Cross-cutting issues**

#### *Equality and non-discrimination*<sup>18</sup>

15. JS13 recommended to enact reforms to remove gender discrimination from its nationality law by: (i) Granting Togolese women the right to transfer their nationality to their children on an equal basis with men; (ii) Granting Togolese women the right to transfer their nationality to their spouse on an equal basis with men; and (iii) Preventing naturalized Togolese women from losing their nationality upon termination of marriage; and removing any other discrimination on the basis of sex.<sup>19</sup>

16. JS5 recommended removing criminal offences for same-sex sexual acts between consenting adults from the Penal Code; penalizing and punishing all forms of incitement to discrimination, hatred or violence targeting lesbian, bisexual and queer women; ensuring the equality of all persons before the law by including sexual orientation and gender identity in the Togolese Constitution in the list of characteristics giving rise to discrimination; and promoting sex education in the home and in communities with a view to doing away with taboos and prejudices against lesbian, bisexual and queer women and ending their stigmatization. JS5 also recommended that a specific framework be put in place to protect lesbian, bisexual and queer girls against discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity at work, at school and in the health-care system.<sup>20</sup>

17. JS10 noted that stereotypes and beliefs lead to discriminatory behaviour and the commission of crimes against persons with albinism. In 2017, a child with albinism was abducted in Dapaong and killed by his abductors. After being arrested by the police, they claimed that they had kidnapped the child for a ritual crime. Five people were sentenced to 45 years' imprisonment by the criminal court of Kara in November 2019. JS10 recommended that official mechanisms be put in place to effectively protect and promote the rights of persons with albinism in Togo.<sup>21</sup>

*Development, the environment, and business and human rights*<sup>22</sup>

18. Just Atonement Inc (JAI) noted that climate change poses a grave threat to Togo due to increased temperatures, changes in rainfall patterns, and coastal degradation. JAI recommended that Togo must act urgently to promote sustainable and resilient development in rural and urban areas and prepare for the imminent breakdown and potential collapse of the climate system. Togo should be prepared to accommodate and adapt to increased movement of people within its borders, as climate change alters the viability of farming and other ways of life.<sup>23</sup>

19. JS3 noted that there are documented cases of human rights violations related to the activities of companies operating in Togo. Despite the existence of a legal framework, some companies pay no attention to the rules to be followed, with one example being extractive companies' disregard of environmental assessment requirements. Togo has not ratified the ILO Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176). More than 60 per cent of the jobs created are insecure and are held by pieceworkers or filled by job placement services, regardless of the nature or duration of the activities to be performed. JS3 recommended that a special court be established to punish acts of corruption and other related offences.<sup>24</sup>

20. JS9 stressed that the practice of expropriating people's land is on the rise in Togo. The country agreed to include victims of expropriations related to phosphate mining operations in the negotiations to compensate them through the acquisition of alternative farmland. Despite the commitments made by the State, no plot of land has yet been acquired to allow local people to continue farming. The new mining code has not yet been finalized. JS9 noted that communities living in areas where extractive industries operate are not involved in the preparation of environmental and social impact assessments, contrary to the recommendations of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.<sup>25</sup>

## 2. Civil and political rights

*Right to life, liberty and security of person*<sup>26</sup>

21. JS16 noted that article 13 of the Togolese Constitution provides for the right of every person living in Togo to physical and mental integrity, life and safety. However, for some years now, the country has been witnessing the killings of adults, young people and children. The investigations have provided no answers and the perpetrators have still not been identified. Force is used in law enforcement operations without consideration for the circumstances or the observance of procedure, and there is no accountability for police errors. Between August 2017 and December 2020, several people were shot and killed by security forces in circumstances that warranted neither the presence nor the use of firearms. Other people were beaten to death by security personnel enforcing curfews at the beginning of the COVID-19 health crisis.<sup>27</sup>

22. JS7 noted that, during the curfew that began on 20 May 2020 in the context of the COVID-19 health crisis, 19 cases of alleged violations of the rights to life and physical integrity were identified; 12 of those cases, 2 of which involved deaths, have been documented. The Government announced that it was opening investigations into most of the cases, but no findings have yet been made public. Some cases relating to the right to life are said to have been the result of physical abuse and acts of torture and ill-treatment.<sup>28</sup>

23. JS7 noted that several cases involving alleged acts of torture and ill-treatment have been recorded and documented since the previous review. Most of these cases have arisen in connection with the policing of demonstrations in support of political demands. A number of allegations of torture and, especially, of ill-treatment have also been made by persons being held in police custody in the city of Lomé and in the interior of the country. Between 2017 and 2018, Togo underwent a sociopolitical crisis during which a number of demonstrations were held by a coalition of 14 opposition political parties demanding constitutional, institutional and political reforms. Most of these demonstrations were violently repressed by law enforcement and defence forces and sometimes by the military and resulted in at least 20 civilian deaths, including the deaths of 5 minors, between 19 August 2017 and 13 April 2019. According to several sources, 9 people died from gunshot wounds, 11 died after being

tortured or as a result of other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, several people were injured and there were a number of arrests.<sup>29</sup>

24. JS8 noted with concern that several deaths in detention are reported every year. For example, Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture (ACAT) Togo catalogued nine deaths at a place known as “le Cabanon” in 2014, eight deaths in 2015 and one death in 2016. In addition, 34 deaths were recorded at the civilian prison in Lomé in 2018 and 3 at the civilian prison in Atakpamé in 2020. The causes of death were varied and included health problems such as epileptic seizures, pulmonary infections and kidney failure, which in some cases were the direct result of poor sanitary conditions and overcrowding in the prisons. JS8 recommended: (i) reducing prison overcrowding by making greater use of alternatives to detention; (ii) taking steps to give persons deprived of liberty more access to water, food and health care; (iii) adopting a national prison policy that addresses reintegration and allocating the necessary budget for that purpose; and (iv) conducting investigations into all deaths in detention.<sup>30</sup>

25. JS14 recommended drafting and implementing internal prison regulations that set out how prisons should be run and establish the rights and duties of detainees and the staff responsible for supervising them. All places of detention in the country should be subject to those regulations. JS14 recommended that health-care facilities with permanent medical staff be set up in all prisons and that the prohibition placed on visits as part of the effort to stop the COVID-19 pandemic be immediately reviewed, with detainees being allowed to have visitors and the appropriate sanitary measures being taken.<sup>31</sup>

*Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law*<sup>32</sup>

26. JS2 made the following recommendations: (i) thorough and impartial investigations should promptly be opened into all fatal shootings and all suspects should be prosecuted and receive a fair trial; (ii) thorough and impartial investigations should be opened into all allegations of arbitrary arrest and detention or of an unfair trial, and all proceedings should be held in accordance with the law; (iii) limits on periods of pretrial detention should be observed and arrangements should be made to ensure that people are given fair trials; and (iv) steps should be taken to ensure that arrests are conducted in accordance with procedure and in a manner that upholds human rights.<sup>33</sup>

27. JS1 recommended to: (i) investigate and prosecute the torture and ill-treatment committed by State actors during the demonstrations organized by the PNP and DMK; (ii) establish and use an independent mechanism for investigating complaints of torture or ill-treatment at the hands of members of police or security forces; (iii) train judges, lawyers and prosecutors on international standards related to torture and ill-treatment.<sup>34</sup>

28. JS14 recommended that all necessary steps be taken to investigate allegations of torture and ill-treatment, to bring suspects to justice and to implement judgment No. ECW/CCJ/JUD/06/13 of the Court of Justice of the Economic Community of West African States relating to acts of torture covered in the report of the National Human Rights Commission. JS14 also recommended that thorough and impartial investigations promptly be opened into all allegations of excessive use of force by the security forces and that all suspects be prosecuted and given a fair trial.<sup>35</sup>

*Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life*<sup>36</sup>

29. ADF noted that Togo requires all religious groups – except Catholics, Protestants, Muslims – to register as religious associations with the Directorate of Religious Affairs in the Ministry of Territorial Affairs. While non-registered religious groups are permitted to operate, they are not able to access certain benefits without registration. These benefits include “import duty exemptions for humanitarian and development projects” and “government-provided teachers for private schools and special assistance in case of natural disasters”. Once registered, religious groups are granted the same rights as Catholics, Protestants, and Muslims. ADF recommended to process religious groups’ applications to become registered and grant applications to all completed applications.<sup>37</sup>

30. JS2 recommended: (i) protecting and promoting freedom of expression and opinion; (ii) guaranteeing the unimpeded exercise of the right to assembly and peaceful public

demonstration and preventing arbitrary detentions and the excessive use of force in the policing of such gatherings; (iii) repealing all laws contrary to international standards; (iv) amending the provisions of the law on domestic security that provide for online content to be removed or access to it to be blocked and for all online communications to be shut down in order to ensure the safety and protection of journalists carrying out their work; and (v) enacting laws to protect human rights defenders, journalists and bloggers and facilitate their work.<sup>38</sup>

31. The International human rights council noted that the human rights situation in Togo has been deteriorating since the eruption of pro-democracy protests in August 2017 across the country. As a result, all persons promoting democracy and organizing peaceful protests are being targeted with arrest, detention and trumped-up charges. Demonstrations are repressed with violence and protesters get arrested and detained for exercising their freedoms of expression and demonstration. All street protests were banned by the Togolese authorities during the December 2019 electoral period. The authorities continue to repress dissent by curtailing freedom of expression and attacking journalists, human rights defenders and political activists, particularly those perceived to undermine the interests of members of the government or the security forces. Togolese authorities have in certain instances failed to deliver registration certificates to organizations who are perceived to be critical of governmental policy.<sup>39</sup>

32. JS17 noted that, on 30 March 2020, in the midst of the battle against COVID-19, the Government passed Act No. 2020–005, which empowers it to take measures by ordinance on matters within the scope of the Act. The Act does not authorize the exercise of public freedoms during the pandemic. Under article 1 of the Act, the Government was authorized to adopt by ordinance, within a six-month period beginning 16 March 2020, any measure falling within the scope of the Act to stop the spread of COVID-19 and protect the public from the risk of infection. That provision has been extended three times during the health crisis and the authorities' declaration of a health emergency. Some measures have prohibited the exercise of public rights and freedoms and civil rights during the pandemic.<sup>40</sup>

33. JS5 noted that organizations that advocate for the rights of lesbian, bisexual and queer women are constantly encountering problems as they seek to organize their activities because government officials refuse to issue registration certificates to associations that have the express aim of protecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons. The reason given for the refusal is usually that the organizations' mission is incompatible with social norms and cultures, since such associations are thought to contribute to the promotion of homosexuality.<sup>41</sup>

#### *Prohibition of all forms of slavery*<sup>42</sup>

34. Agence pour les droits de l'homme (ADH) noted that there are concerns about the modern forms of slavery that are resulting in an uncertain fate for Togolese children subjected to forced labour and victims of domestic servitude and other forms of modern slavery.<sup>43</sup>

### **3. Economic, social and cultural rights**

#### *Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work*<sup>44</sup>

35. JS9 noted the poor working and living conditions of workers in certain industries, particularly those in the free trade zone. For example, female workers do not receive maternity leave, and pregnant women risk losing their jobs. Workers must remain standing for long hours in suffocating heat, which has serious consequences for their health.<sup>45</sup>

36. JS3 recommended revising the new Labour Code to bring it into line with the ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) and the ILO Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) before January 2023. It also recommended stepping up awareness-raising activities and holding them on a regular basis in order to do away with stereotypes and remove sociocultural barriers to the work of women human rights defenders.

*Right to social security*<sup>46</sup>

37. Femme Plus Togo noted that the arrival of COVID-19 triggered a serious economic slowdown and has had a significant social impact on almost the entire population of Togo. The slowdown in income-generating activities, bankruptcies, layoffs, the public's reduced purchasing power and the need to introduce price controls on foodstuffs are just some of the noticeable consequences. Unfortunately, the state of emergency and the national programmes introduced to counter the pandemic were too short-lived to ease the difficulties of the entire population, and certain disadvantaged groups were unable to benefit from the programmes put in place by the Government.<sup>47</sup>

*Right to an adequate standard of living*<sup>48</sup>

38. JS3 noted that the Government has taken significant steps to fight poverty, boost agricultural production to ensure food security and create wealth. However, it should be noted that, since the COVID-19 crisis began, the prices of foodstuffs and other basic necessities have risen continuously, to the great dismay of the public. These circumstances have put many families in an extremely precarious situation. JS3 recommended that support mechanisms for Togolese farmers, including access to bank loans at preferential rates, be strengthened on an ongoing basis.<sup>49</sup>

*Right to health*<sup>50</sup>

39. JS4 noted that the COVID-19 pandemic has put the spotlight back on the health-care system's many failings. There are significant shortages of the most basic equipment, and care facilities face many challenges. In some health-care centres, including some in urban and suburban areas, the conditions under which patients are cared for are far from ideal. JS4 recommends that all communes be provided with adequately equipped referral health centres and that practical measures be taken to plan for health crises, particularly with regard to equipment, services and the basic infrastructure of health-care centres.<sup>51</sup>

40. JS9 recommended providing training to health-care professionals and midwives regarding albinism and the need for early intervention, especially with respect to visual impairments and skin cancer.<sup>52</sup>

*Right to education*<sup>53</sup>

41. JS11 recommended making primary education free by eliminating both direct and indirect costs; continuing efforts to increase enrolment rates and reduce dropout rates, particularly among girls and the most underprivileged children, including those from low-income families; and improving the quality of education by providing adequate facilities and teacher training. JS11 also recommended that all necessary steps be taken to ensure the integration of children with disabilities in school by adapting school premises and programmes of study, recruiting experienced staff and including human rights education in school curricula.<sup>54</sup>

42. JS9 noted with concern that children and young people with albinism are hindered from exercising their right to education by stigmatization, discrimination, their very poor visual acuity and a lack of support. JS10 recommended that a mechanism be established and a law passed to improve the education and social lives of persons with albinism.<sup>55</sup>

43. JS15 recommended updating school curricula to include a vocational module on entrepreneurship as a separate technical course at all levels of secondary education (in middle schools and high schools and at other training centres and schools) starting in the 2022/23 school year in order to help students integrate effectively and efficiently into the professional world after graduation.<sup>56</sup>

#### **4. Rights of specific persons or groups**

*Women*<sup>57</sup>

44. Femme Plus Togo noted that many women experience domestic and sexual violence throughout their lives. Vulnerable groups, such as girls who have not finished school,

working women, female trainees and persons with disabilities, are also exposed to this form of violence. The institutions responsible for prevention, punishment and assistance do not always provide an effective response when cases are brought before them. Female victims have a real problem gaining access to justice and receiving appropriate assistance. Given the lack of an official mechanism to protect victims and society's accusatory attitudes, victims are reluctant to report cases and file complaints. Most of the victims who have had the courage to go to court end up retracting their statements because of pressure from their families and threats from their abusers. In such situations, judges tend to drop the case and facilitate a financial arrangement between the perpetrator and victim, in violation of the criminal law in force.<sup>58</sup>

45. The European Centre for Law and Justice (ECLJ) noted that, despite the law banning FGM, its prevalence within ethnic groups remains high. These groups often reside in rural and remote areas of the country where enforcement of the law is lacking. Additionally, FGM is engrained in Togo's society, and many ethnic groups choose custom over modern law. ECLJ recommended that, to put an end to FGM in Togo, resources must be better allocated to provide effective implementation of the law in the regions where it is most prevalent. The government must work to educate the communities as well as work with community leaders to encourage putting a stop to this cultural practice.<sup>59</sup>

46. JAI recommended that Togo develop and support programs aimed at providing women and girls equal access to educational and economic opportunities. Togo should ensure that existing laws prohibiting gender-based violence are adequately and routinely enforced, particularly laws related to underage marriage and laws protecting political candidates from harassment. Togo should also ensure that women have access to healthcare and can take greater control over their reproductive decisions in order to improve maternal and infant health outcomes.<sup>60</sup>

47. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights recommended: (i) enacting a law on quotas to ensure greater participation by and representation of women in decision-making bodies; (ii) continuing efforts to promote the role of women in decision-making and to ensure equal opportunities; (iii) further intensifying efforts to achieve equality and non-discrimination within a framework of equity and equality between men and women.<sup>61</sup>

#### *Children*<sup>62</sup>

48. JS8 recommended ensuring that children in detention are separated from adults and that their specific needs in detention are addressed, building the capacity of stakeholders in the juvenile justice system and establishing a centre to promote children's access to justice and the legal system in each region of the country.<sup>63</sup>

49. JS11 recommended that campaigns be carried out to raise awareness about the importance of registering the births of all children, without discrimination, in all regions of the country and that the efforts already under way to make registration services free be continued. JS11 also recommended increasing the number of civil registrars responsible for registering births and providing them with greater resources to carry out their duties, allowing births to be registered late under certain conditions (for example, if the civil registry office is far from the person's home or if there are postnatal medical complications) and working with traditional midwives trained in the benefits of birth registration.<sup>64</sup>

#### *Persons with disabilities*<sup>65</sup>

50. JS10 noted that, under article 8 of Act No. 2004–2005, the Social Protection of Persons with Disabilities Act, disabled persons have the right to be educated in either mainstream schools or special institutions and may be eligible for educational and housing allowances. However, not all schools have yet been equipped to provide access to students with disabilities. JS10 recommended that the Act be amended to make it more inclusive and bring it into line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which Togo is a party.<sup>66</sup>

*Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons*

51. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights noted the following with appreciation: (i) the strategy to address the situation of long-term refugees through local integration and the delivery of residence cards; (ii) the ratification, by Act No. 2010-009 of 23 June 2010, of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; and (iii) the construction of a centre for internally displaced persons in Lomé, which will house displaced persons as the need arises.<sup>67</sup>

*Stateless persons*

52. JS13 recommended to protect every child's right to acquire and preserve a nationality, without discrimination in relation to the child or the child's parents or guardians, and ensure comprehensive safeguards against statelessness, including through the adoption and implementation of a National Action Plan to eradicate statelessness. It encouraged the government to involve non-governmental stakeholders, including NGOs and UN agencies, in the development and implementation of a comprehensive National Action Plan to eradicate statelessness.<sup>68</sup>

*Notes*

<sup>1</sup> The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org). (One asterisk denotes a national human rights institution with "A" status).

*Civil society*

## Individual submissions:

ADF International	ADF International, Geneva, Switzerland;
ADH	Agence pour les droits de l'homme, Geneva, Switzerland;
AFPT	Association Femme Plus Togo, Lomé, Togo;
AI	Amnesty International, London, United Kingdom;
ECLJ	European Centre for Law and Justice, Strasbourg, France;
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva, Switzerland;
IHR Council	International human rights council, Chicago, USA;
JAI	Just Atonement Inc, New York, USA.

*Joint submissions:*

JS1	<b>Joint submission 1 submitted by:</b> Advocates for Human Rights, The Ligue Togolaise des Droits de L'Homme (LTDH), The Regroupement des Jeunes Africains pour la Démocratie et le Développement (REJADD) and the Réseau Africain pour les Initiatives de Droits de l'Homme et de Solidarité (RAIDHS), Minneapolis, USA;
JS2	<b>Joint submission 2 submitted by:</b> Association Togolaise pour l'Education aux droits Humains et la Démocratie, Lomé, Togo;
JS3	<b>Joint submission 3 submitted by:</b> Collectif des associations contre l'impunité au Togo, Lomé, Togo
JS4	<b>Joint submission 4 submitted by:</b> Centre International de Conseil, de Recherche et d'Expertise en Droits de l'Homme, Geneva, Switzerland;
JS5	<b>Joint submission 5 submitted by:</b> Clinique internationale de défense des droits humains de l'UQAM, Montréal, Canada;
JS6	<b>Joint submission 6 submitted by:</b> CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Coalition Togolaise des Défenseurs des Droits Humains (CTDDH) Réseau Ouest Africain des Défenseurs des Droits Humains (West African Human Rights Defenders Network), Johannesburg, South Africa;
JS7	<b>Joint submission 7 submitted by:</b> Coalition des organisations de la société civile coordonnées par le CACIT, CDFDH, SMPDD, YMCA/UCJG, PASYD, CEJUS, ACDEP, AGIR

- PLUS, Mouvement NUBUEKE, ATDH, Réseau WATCH, Lomé, Togo;
- JS8 **Joint submission 8 submitted by:** Fédération Internationale de l'Action des Chrétiens pour l'Abolition de la Torture, ACAT Togo, Paris, France;
- JS9 **Joint submission 9 submitted by:** Groupe DESC TOGO, Dimension Sociale Togo (DST), Action Solidaire pour la Promotion des Droits Humains (ASPDH), l'Association Nationale des personnes Atteintes d'Albinisme au Togo (ANAT), la Ligue des consommateurs du Togo (LCT) et Afrika Youth Movement Hub Togo, Lomé, Togo;
- JS10 **Joint submission 10 submitted by:** CTDDH: (Coalition Togolaise des défenseurs des droits humains); ATEDHD: (Association Togolaise pour l'Education aux Droits de l'Homme et à la Démocratie); TAMA'DE: (ONG d'autopromotion des femmes pour un développement durable) ANAT: (Association Nationale des Personnes Atteintes d'Albinisme au Togo); Association HORIZON 21; ONG ADCF (Association pour la Défense et Conseil des Femmes) PAFED (Programme d'appui à la Femme et l'Enfance Déshérité) AFRIQUE ARC-EN-CIEL, Dapaong, Togo;
- JS11 **Joint submission 11 submitted by:** Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco (IIMA) et International Volunteerism Organisation for Women, Development and Education (VIDES International), Veyrier, Switzerland;
- JS12 **Joint submission 12 submitted by:** International Service for Human Rights, Coalition Togolaise des Défenseurs des Droits de l'Homme (CTDDH), Geneva, Switzerland;
- JS13 **Joint submission 13 submitted by:** Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, Association Question des Femmes Rencontre Africaine pour la Défense des Droits de l'Homme West African Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons Network Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights Equality Now Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, Eindhoven, Netherlands;
- JS14 **Joint submission 14 submitted by:** Ligue Togolaise des droits de l'homme, Action Solidaire pour la Promotion des Droits Humains (ASPDH) Ligue Togolaise des Droits de l'Homme (LTDH) Association des Victimes de Torture au Togo (ASVITTO) Union Chrétienne de jeunes Gens (UCJG/YMCA Togo), Lomé, Togo;
- JS15 **Joint submission 15 submitted by:** Plan International, Inc, Girls' Motion et Youth Panel, Geneva, Switzerland;
- JS16 **Joint submission 16 submitted by:** Association des Victimes de la Torture au Togo, Association des Victimes de la Torture au Togo (ASVITTO) Mouvement Conscience Mandéla (MCM) Citoyens en Action pour la Démocratie et le Développement (CADD), Lomé, Togo;
- JS17 **Joint submission 17 submitted by:** Togolese Coalition of Human Rights Defenders, Association pour la Défense et le Conseil de la Femme (ADCF), Lomé, Togo.

*National human rights institution:*

CNDH Commission nationale des droits de l'homme, Lomé, Togo\*.

*Regional intergovernmental organization(s):*

ACHPR African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Banjul, The Gambia.

<sup>2</sup> CNDH, paras. 6–9.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, paras. 10–11.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, paras. 35–39.

<sup>5</sup> The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR;
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR;
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW;
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT;
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child;
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict;
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure;
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD;
ICPPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

<sup>6</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 128.1–17, 129.1–4, 131.1–8.

<sup>7</sup> JS3, p. 11 et 15; JS4, p. 5.2; JS9 p. 10.

<sup>8</sup> AI, p. 4.

<sup>9</sup> JS3, p. 11–15.

<sup>10</sup> ICAN, p. 1.

<sup>11</sup> AI, p. 3.

<sup>12</sup> CADHP, Observations Finales et Recommandations relatives au Rapport périodique cumulé de la République du Togo sur la mise en œuvre de la Charte africaine des droits de l’homme et des peuples (2011–2016) et Rapport Initial sur le Protocole de Maputo (2005–2016), para 33 (i).

<sup>13</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 128.18–23, 128.37, 129.7–28, 131.17.

<sup>14</sup> JS12, p. 4.

<sup>15</sup> JS6 para. 6.3.

<sup>16</sup> JS8, paras. 8, 40 et 44.

<sup>17</sup> JS14, p. 8.

<sup>18</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 131.8–19.

<sup>19</sup> JS13, paras. 19 and 28.

<sup>20</sup> JS5, paras. 1.3, 1.4 and 2.5.

<sup>21</sup> JS10, p. 6 et 11.

<sup>22</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras. 128.35, 128.136, 128.106–7.

<sup>23</sup> Just Atonement Inc, paras. 6 and 38.

<sup>24</sup> JS3, paras. 54–55.

<sup>25</sup> JS9, p. 7.

<sup>26</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras. 128.87, 128.135, 131.15, 128.75–81.

<sup>27</sup> JS16, p. 4–5.

<sup>28</sup> JS7, para. 12–13.

<sup>29</sup> JS7, para. 14.

<sup>30</sup> JS8, paras. 26–27.

<sup>31</sup> JS14, p. 8.

<sup>32</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 128.66–73, 128.82–96.

<sup>33</sup> JS2, p. 10–11.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid, para. 32.

<sup>35</sup> JS14, p. 8.

<sup>36</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 129.22–25, 128.98, 131.21–22.

<sup>37</sup> ADF, paras. 24–30.

<sup>38</sup> JS2, p. 10.

<sup>39</sup> International human rights council, p. 1–2.

- <sup>40</sup> JS17, p. 3.
- <sup>41</sup> JS5, para. 4.1.
- <sup>42</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 128.20, 128.51, 128.61, 128.63, 129.6, 129.20, 130.2, 130.6.
- <sup>43</sup> ADH, p. 3.
- <sup>44</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras. 128.39, 128.42, 130.11.
- <sup>45</sup> JS9, p. 7.
- <sup>46</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 128.29, 128.39.
- <sup>47</sup> Femme Plus Togo, p. 3.
- <sup>48</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 128.101–105, 128.99–100, 128.108, 129.26.
- <sup>49</sup> JS3 para. 32.
- <sup>50</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 128.109–110, 128.111–112, 128.117, 128.128, 128.132.
- <sup>51</sup> JS4, paras. 19–21.
- <sup>52</sup> JS9, p. 9.
- <sup>53</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 128.102, 128.108, 128.113–127, 128.26.
- <sup>54</sup> JS11, para. 22.
- <sup>55</sup> JS10, p. 11.
- <sup>56</sup> JS15, p. 7.
- <sup>57</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras 128.39–62.
- <sup>58</sup> Femmes plus Togo, p. 3.
- <sup>59</sup> ECLJ, paras 14 and 22.
- <sup>60</sup> Just Atonement Inc, paras. 3–5.
- <sup>61</sup> CADHP, Observations Finales et Recommandations relatives au Rapport périodique cumulé de la République du Togo sur la mise en œuvre de la Charte africaine des droits de l’homme et des peuples (2011–2016) et Rapport Initial sur le Protocole de Maputo (2005–2016), para. 73.
- <sup>62</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras. 128.63–66, 128.118, 128.128–129.
- <sup>63</sup> JS8, para. 32.
- <sup>64</sup> JS11, para. 12.
- <sup>65</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/34/4, paras. 128.132–135, 129.13.
- <sup>66</sup> JS10, p. 5.
- <sup>67</sup> CADHP, Observations Finales et Recommandations relatives au Rapport périodique cumulé de la République du Togo sur la mise en œuvre de la Charte africaine des droits de l’homme et des peuples (2011–2016) et Rapport Initial sur le Protocole de Maputo (2005–2016), para. 26.
- <sup>68</sup> JS13, paras. 27–28.