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Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Namibia

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

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-eighth session from 3 to 14 May 2021. The review of Namibia was held at the 1st meeting, on 3 May 2021. The delegation of Namibia was headed by the Minister of Justice, Ms. Yvonne Dausab. At its 10th meeting, held on 7 May 2021, the Working Group adopted the report on Namibia.

2. On 12 January 2021, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Namibia: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Fiji and Sudan.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Namibia:

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

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

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

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Canada, Germany, Haiti, Liechtenstein, Panama, Portugal on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay was transmitted to Namibia through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

To be completed by 21 May 2021

A. Presentation by the State under review

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 106 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

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

6.1 **Accelerate national discussions on the ratification of the main international instruments to which the country is not yet a party, including the**

¹ A/HRC/WG.6/38/NAM/1.

² A/HRC/WG.6/38/NAM/2.

³ A/HRC/WG.6/38/NAM/3.

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, and request technical support from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to facilitate their implementation (Uruguay);

6.2 Ratify the main international human rights treaties that are still pending, in order to make progress on Sustainable Development Goals 5, 11, 13 and 16 (Paraguay);

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

6.4 Ratify without delay the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);

6.5 Consider the possibility of ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Iraq);

6.6 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ukraine);

6.7 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Japan);

6.8 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Italy);

6.9 Ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);

6.10 Consider ratifying the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Colombia);

6.11 Ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization (Côte d'Ivoire);

6.12 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);

6.13 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Ratify (Italy);

6.14 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Ukraine);

6.15 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Ukraine);

6.16 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and take all necessary action to protect children from all forms of violence and exploitation, including early marriage (Portugal);

6.17 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Rwanda);

6.18 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Chile);

6.19 Accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Senegal);

- 6.20 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sierra Leone);
- 6.21 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Somalia);
- 6.22 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Congo);
- 6.23 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Côte d’Ivoire);
- 6.24 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Egypt);
- 6.25 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines);
- 6.26 Ratify without delay the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (France);
- 6.27 Ratify the Optional Protocol relating to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Togo);
- 6.28 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Italy);
- 6.29 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ukraine);
- 6.30 Consider acceding to the Torture Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Armenia);
- 6.31 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);
- 6.32 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark);
- 6.33 Intensity efforts to adopt the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ghana);
- 6.34 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and to establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture (Switzerland);
- 6.35 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Liechtenstein);
- 6.36 Consider ratifying the optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Mauritania);
- 6.37 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Mauritius);
- 6.38 Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and criminalize this offence at the national level (Mexico);

- 6.39 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Mongolia);**
- 6.40 **Explore the possibility of ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger);**
- 6.41 **Issue a standing invitation to the special procedure mechanism of the Human Rights Council (Ukraine);**
- 6.42 **Continue to promote the rights contained in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Timor-Leste);**
- 6.43 **Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for UN Treaty Body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 6.44 **Continue cooperation with treaty bodies and special procedures of the United Nations (Azerbaijan);**
- 6.45 **Continue to cooperate with human rights mechanisms (Niger);**
- 6.46 **Establish a permanent National Mechanism for the Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up of the human rights recommendations, consider the possibility of receiving cooperation for this purpose, in the framework of SDGs 16 and 17 (Paraguay);**
- 6.47 **Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council as previously recommended (Latvia);**
- 6.48 **Strengthen cooperation with international rights protection mechanisms, such as the UN special procedures mandate holders (Lesotho);**
- 6.49 **Extend an open and standing invitation to the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Paraguay);**
- 6.50 **Continue the efforts made to further enhance cooperation and technical assistance programs with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to address the challenges facing the protection and promotion of human rights (Tunisia);**
- 6.51 **Continue efforts to fulfil international obligations by further developing and implementing comprehensive national plans and programs (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 6.52 **Include all the rights set forth in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights among the fundamental rights and freedoms protected in the Constitution (Argentina);**
- 6.53 **Modify the definition of the child in the Constitution as a person below the age of 18, continue the efforts to end child, early and forced marriages and accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Italy);**
- 6.54 **Enact legislation explicitly prohibiting all corporal punishment of children in all settings, including at home, and repeal all legal defences for its use (Slovenia);**
- 6.55 **Adopt legislative measures in line with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and intensify actions aimed at**

protecting the rights of persons with disabilities, particularly in the areas of access to education and to justice (Togo);

6.56 Continue to work towards creating a specific law against torture and other cruel, inhuman treatment and punishment (Uganda);

6.57 Adopt a law that clearly defines international crimes (Zambia);

6.58 Enact legislation specifically prohibiting discrimination based on age and disability status, and legislation aimed at reducing de facto discrimination in all forms (Bahamas);

6.59 Enact legislation to improve women and girls' rights, by protecting them from gender-based violence, increasing their access to health care, and increasing their representation in government and political life (Bahamas);

6.60 Build on the legislative interventions made to enhance the enjoyment of human rights for vulnerable populations, including women, girls and persons living with disabilities (Barbados);

6.61 Guarantee approval of the bill on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Likewise, the creation of national mechanisms that reinforce its prevention (Costa Rica);

6.62 Finalize the adoption of the law on the prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment (Democratic Republic of the Congo);

6.63 Finalize the entry into force of the law on water resources management (Democratic Republic of the Congo);

6.64 Adopt legal measures to criminalize any practice that promotes child marriage or sexual initiation rites and, furthermore, on the other hand, to register customary marriages, in order to protect inheritance and property rights of women and children (Ecuador);

6.65 Conclude the domestic legal procedure to enact the Divorce Law and reform the Law that regulates marriage and the Law against Domestic Violence (Ecuador);

6.66 Take necessary measures to protect the rights of refugees and migrant workers by adopting specific legislation to provide for their proper management, and ratification the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Malawi);

6.67 Enact the Prevention and Combatting of Torture bill and provide necessary technical and financial support to all concerned authorities for its implementation (Maldives);

6.68 Expedite the adoption of the bill on preventing and combatting torture and to make national laws compatible with the Convention against Torture (Pakistan);

6.69 Strengthen the mandate of the Ombudsman so that he operates in accordance with the Paris Principles (France);

6.70 Continue developing agriculture and vocational training programmes in rural areas (Timor-Leste);

6.71 Carry out awareness campaigns for the public, health personnel and educators on the right to health, sexual and reproductive rights and gender-

based violence, and ensure that adolescents and young people have access to information and comprehensive education on the subject (Uruguay);

6.72 Continue upholding the capacities of the government officials and citizens on the principles of human rights values through education and training programmes (Somalia);

6.73 Consider extending the human rights education and training programme to include more categories of public service officials (Zimbabwe);

6.74 Strengthen education and training on HIV Programs in order to reduce discrimination against affected people (Angola);

6.75 Strengthen efforts by providing specialized training to law enforcement and follow-up measures to ensure investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of gender based violence, as well as provision of shelter and protection to victims (Botswana);

6.76 Strengthen its efforts to raise awareness about violence against women and children, including by providing specialized training to police and law enforcement forces (Greece);

6.77 Continue advancing human rights-based training programs for public service and law enforcement officials and the development of community policing initiatives, with a view to eradicate the practice of torture and other forms of ill-treatment (Indonesia);

6.78 Accelerate efforts to review its legislation to ensure that it is not discriminatory on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, including through the prompt decriminalization of consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex (Uruguay);

6.79 Adopt the necessary measures to accelerate the current review of laws and policies in order to rectify provisions that discriminate against LGBTI persons and older persons, including those with disabilities (Argentina);

6.80 Repeal all laws that discriminate based on SOGI, including the Criminal Procedures Act 51 of 1977, the Labour Act 11 of 2007, and the Combating of Immoral Practices Act 21 of 1980 (Denmark);

6.81 Intensify implementation of relevant legal framework to fully eliminate discrimination against minorities, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups (Kenya);

6.82 Develop a comprehensive national strategy to reduce gender inequality and enhance its efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups (Mongolia);

6.83 Approve and implement a new National Gender Policy, to ensure actions toward the integration and mainstreaming of gender in the broader development framework (Mozambique);

6.84 Accelerate the promotion of non-discrimination against minorities, women, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups (Cameroon);

6.85 Continue to promote gender equality, and better protect the rights of women and children (China);

6.86 Adopt effective measures to combat de facto racial discrimination and discrimination against indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, HIV-positive persons, and LGBT persons (Ecuador);

- 6.87 Prohibit expressly the traditional practices that endanger the physical and psychological integrity of women and girls (Argentina);
- 6.88 Strengthen efforts to eliminate harmful traditional practices and take comprehensive measures to eliminate stereotypical conceptions of gender roles (Iceland);
- 6.89 Take necessary measures for combatting discriminatory practices against women and girls including gender-based violence (India);
- 6.90 Take effective measures to ensure equal opportunity for minority groups, including political participation of indigenous communities, and ratification of ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (Malawi);
- 6.91 Eliminate traditional harmful practices to women and girls by criminalizing them and prosecuting alleged perpetrators (Montenegro);
- 6.92 Increase its efforts of tackling stigmatisation and discrimination against persons, especially women and girls infected with HIV/AIDS by prioritizing support and education (South Africa);
- 6.93 Strengthen measures to combat violence against women and girls and establish clear and efficient mechanisms to combat the different forms of discrimination faced by people with disabilities, indigenous peoples and the LGTBI community (Costa Rica);
- 6.94 Include the protection of same-sex couples in reforms and proposed amendments to the Combating of Domestic Violence Act (United States of America);
- 6.95 Formally repeal the legacy common law prohibition of sodomy (Australia);
- 6.96 Repeal laws that criminalize and discriminate based on sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, especially Sodomy under Schedule 1 offences in the Criminal Procedures Act 51, the Labour Act 11, and the Combating of Immoral Practices Act 21 (Austria);
- 6.97 Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex (Spain);
- 6.98 Decriminalize sexual activity between same sex consenting adults and ensure full legal equality and protections against discrimination (Canada);
- 6.99 Implement further measures targeting equality before the law for members of the LGBTI community (Dominican Republic);
- 6.100 Take concrete actions to ensure access to health services for LGBTI persons, especially transgender persons, and to combat all forms of discrimination against LGBTI persons in relation to employment opportunities and treatment by the police forces (Finland);
- 6.101 Decriminalize sexual relations between people of the same sex, promote equality and non-discrimination, including on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (France);
- 6.102 Revise laws discriminating against persons based on their sexual orientation and gender identity, especially LGBTI+ persons in particular the law which criminalizes sodomy between consenting adult men (Germany);

- 6.103 Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation, to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);
- 6.104 Decriminalize consensual same-sex relations (Ireland);
- 6.105 Enshrine in legislation the prohibition of discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation and gender identity (Ireland);
- 6.106 Decriminalize consensual same-sex adult relations and adopt measures to combat all forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Italy);
- 6.107 Amend its legislation to abolish provisions discriminating against LGBTI persons, including those criminalizing sexual acts between consenting adults of the same gender (Liechtenstein);
- 6.108 Consider appointing a diversity liaison Officer from the LGBTI community, in Government (Malta);
- 6.109 Decriminalize consensual same-sex sexual relations and adopt legislation prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Mexico);
- 6.110 Amend legislation in order to abolish any provisions discriminating against LGBTI persons, including those provisions criminalizing consensual same-sex acts between adults of the same sex (Netherlands);
- 6.111 Adopt laws to ensure that people living in or close to resource-rich areas benefit from social services and development projects (Chad);
- 6.112 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, so as to provide a solid foundation for the people to enjoy human rights (China);
- 6.113 Scale up the implementation of a national development plan with a particular focus on children, women and girls (Ethiopia);
- 6.114 Prioritize fighting corruption by enacting an access to information law, fully implementing whistle-blower protections and empowering and adequately funding the Anti-Corruption Commission to fulfil its mandate (United States of America);
- 6.115 Continue efforts to eradicate corruption, including by maximising funding of the Anti-Corruption Commission, promoting corruption reporting from the public, and reforming sections 21(1) and 31(1) of the Anti-Corruption Act of 2003 to make the thresholds for investigation and criminal referral objective (Australia);
- 6.116 Continue to put in place awareness raising programs on climate change and disaster risk reduction (Angola);
- 6.117 Address the effects of climate change, especially drought, including measures to reduce the distance to water supply points in rural areas (Chile);
- 6.118 Continue to explore progressive law and policy reforms to address cross-sectoral environmental challenges, including climate change adaptation and mitigation frameworks (Fiji);
- 6.119 Ensure that women, children, persons with disabilities, minority groups, and local communities are meaningfully engaged in the development and implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks (Fiji);

- 6.120 Take additional concrete and sustainable measures at the national level to combat against the negative effects of climate change, in particular in the agricultural sector, with a view to revitalizing the national policy to combat climate change in Namibia (Haiti);
- 6.121 Strengthen initiatives aimed at preventing torture, including the workshop trainings on the “Prevention of Torture Training Manual for Police Officers” and the Prevention of Torture Project (Fiji);
- 6.122 Continue to strengthen efforts to combat acts of torture as a party to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, including by conducting training workshops on the prevention of torture for all police officers (Japan);
- 6.123 Follow up on previous recommendations on corporal punishment on children and enact legislation explicitly prohibiting all forms of corporal punishment on children, including at home (Liechtenstein);
- 6.124 Develop a framework on violence against abuse and maltreatment of older persons (Mauritius);
- 6.125 Strengthen its efforts to improve prison conditions, reduce the rate of overcrowding, and implement the Bangkok Rules and Nelson Mandela Rules (Thailand);
- 6.126 Take concrete measures to improve detention conditions, namely reducing prison overcrowding and ensuring adequate food, water and healthcare to persons deprived of their liberty (Portugal);
- 6.127 Ensure that there is an adequate number of penitentiary facilities for minors to separate them from adults (Russian Federation);
- 6.128 Ensure that national laws and law enforcement practices comply with the international standards on human rights and procedural safeguards for detainees (Russian Federation);
- 6.129 Ensure the availability of sufficient youth facilities so that all juveniles in pre-trial detention were held separately from adults (Zambia);
- 6.130 Establish specialised juvenile detention centres in line with recently adopted internal rules and international standards (Bulgaria);
- 6.131 Step up efforts to reduce the prison population and improve living conditions in prisons (Burundi);
- 6.132 Detain children only in specialized child detention facilities (Germany);
- 6.133 Develop and implement a policy to address public health concerns in prisons, especially in relation to the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS to enhance the right to life (Malawi);
- 6.134 Improve prison conditions, including reducing overcrowding and adopting measures to curb the spread of HIV in prisons (Mexico);
- 6.135 Adopt and enforce hate crime legislation that punishes homophobic and transphobic violence (Spain);
- 6.136 Undertake further measures to protect vulnerable groups of the population, in particular women, persons with disabilities and children (Ukraine);

- 6.137 Continue reforms in the areas of the judiciary and the penitentiary system in order to strengthen social justice and ensure the reintegration of those who have committed crimes (Gabon);
- 6.138 Accelerate the process of reforming the justice system and take measures to reduce the length of pre-trial detention (Russian Federation);
- 6.139 Continue strengthening measures to guarantee access to justice and to a fair trial (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.140 Address the obstacles faced by victims of domestic violence in seeking remedies and obtaining protection (Zambia);
- 6.141 Take measures to avoid lengthy extra-judicial detention of suspects (Bulgaria);
- 6.142 Continue efforts to access justice for the person with disabilities (Mozambique);
- 6.143 Continue its efforts in addressing gender based violence, and ensure the effective investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators (State of Palestine);
- 6.144 Continue efforts to combat violence against women and children, with a particular emphasis on providing support measures to victims, such as access to magistrate's courts and police stations (Germany);
- 6.145 Ensure that all cases of violence against women and girls are thoroughly and effectively investigated and that perpetrators are prosecuted and held to account (Switzerland);
- 6.146 Ensure digital rights in accordance with international standards (Estonia);
- 6.147 Take concrete steps to improve the safety of journalists, investigate incidents of attacks on journalists, and implement the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (Greece);
- 6.148 Promote and protect the right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, as well as media freedom and the safety of journalists (Latvia);
- 6.149 Strengthen the representation of civil society in the country's decision-making process (Albania);
- 6.150 Whereas female representation has improved to the extent that 44 per cent of seats in the National Assembly are held by women according to the Inter-Parliamentary Union data, Namibia should continue promoting the representation of women in Parliament and in other decision-making institutions (Malawi);
- 6.151 Enhance public education programmes on human trafficking and ensure sufficient resources to fully train law enforcement and judicial staff in support of the Combatting of Persons in Trafficking Act 2018 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.152 Intensify efforts to prevent and fight against the trafficking in human beings (Azerbaijan);
- 6.153 Sustain efforts in combatting human trafficking, poverty reduction, as well as access to justice (Nigeria);

- 6.154 Continue to conduct public awareness-raising and capacity-building programs on trafficking in persons for duty bearers (Philippines);
- 6.155 Ensure that existing national cybercrime, data protection and privacy legislation is fully compliant with international human rights standards (Canada);
- 6.156 Continue to support, through economic and social policies, and customary law, the institution of the family and the preservation of family values (Haiti);
- 6.157 Take rigorous measures to stem occupational segregation based on sex in the labour market, and strengthen the fight against traditional practices harmful to women and girls (Togo);
- 6.158 Take actions to end job segregation based on sex, including measures to increase the participation of women in managerial positions (Chile);
- 6.159 Further recognize the role of health and essential workers in defending human rights during the COVID-19 pandemic, and continue its work at the national and international levels in providing a safe and enabling environment for such workers (Indonesia);
- 6.160 Intensify efforts to improve the living conditions for older persons (Congo);
- 6.161 Establish policies and programmes to make land acquisition accessible and affordable for the most deprived groups (Senegal);
- 6.162 Give top priority to tackling the shortage of affordable housing with access to water, electricity and sanitation (Turkey);
- 6.163 Improve access to adequate housing, safe drinking water and adequate sanitation (Ukraine);
- 6.164 End all forced evictions that deprive people of shelter and expose them to other human rights violations (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 6.165 Continue expanding access to food and educational opportunities for all children, particularly those from food-insecure households (Turkey);
- 6.166 Address the problem of the high rate of poverty by adopting specific measures targeting rural areas (Ukraine);
- 6.167 Continue to strengthen laws and policies aimed at further reducing poverty and improving living standards, especially for the most vulnerable, including women and children (Zimbabwe);
- 6.168 Further strengthen its efforts for fighting against poverty and promotion of access to health and education in cooperation with relevant UN agencies and other partners (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 6.169 Step up efforts to combat poverty and all forms of discrimination, especially against indigenous persons and persons with disabilities (Gabon);
- 6.170 Continue its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.171 Work to address the high rates of poverty, especially in rural areas and among children (Iraq);

- 6.172 Continue its efforts in realizing its National Development Plan as to alleviate and eradicate poverty in the country (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 6.173 Promptly and adequately address poverty, especially in rural areas and among children through more targeted measures (Malaysia);
- 6.174 Adopt and implement specific measures to address the high rates of poverty, especially in rural areas and among children (Montenegro);
- 6.175 Continue efforts towards poverty eradication, increasing food security and sanitation (Nepal);
- 6.176 Develop a universal social security system (Timor-Leste);
- 6.177 Reinforce the measures adopted in the area of social protection, ensuring the empowerment and participation of girls, boys, women and communities in the design of public policies (Costa Rica);
- 6.178 Continue the exerted efforts to guarantee to all citizens the enjoyment of economic and social rights and provide a social security network that includes the poorest groups (Libya);
- 6.179 Work as much as possible, and within reasonable limits, to strengthen social protection programs in terms of expanding the coverage areas and the range of beneficiaries (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 6.180 Continue taking steps to mitigate COVID-related socio-economic challenges, that may hinder progress on Sustainable Development Goals (Pakistan);
- 6.181 Strengthen its efforts towards enhancing access to safe drinking water in rural and isolated areas and towards the realisation of the right to sanitation (Portugal);
- 6.182 Take effective measures in rural areas to reduce the distance from households to water points (Rwanda);
- 6.183 Take effective measures in terms of infrastructure development in order to reduce the distance to water sources in rural areas of the country (Serbia);
- 6.184 Finalize Neckartal Dam construction with supplementary irrigation projects for safe and clean water for use by citizens and for the needs of small-scaled farmers, and finalize other government projects (Turkey);
- 6.185 Continue efforts to extend access to safe drinking water and improved conditions of sanitation (Barbados);
- 6.186 Continue efforts to realize the human rights to drinking water and sanitation, increasing access to safe drinking water and sanitation both in informal settlements and in rural areas by, among others, reducing the distance between points of water supply in these areas (Spain);
- 6.187 Continue with national efforts to further improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation (Sri Lanka);
- 6.188 Continue taking effective measures in rural areas to reduce the distance to water points and access to sanitation (Malaysia);
- 6.189 Strengthen initiatives aimed at achieving the SDG target concerning sanitation, particularly in rural areas (Mali);

- 6.190 Make additional efforts to ensure the availability of health services in rural areas, and to strive to equalize the quality of health services in public and private institutions (Serbia);
- 6.191 Continue the progress made in promoting the full implementation of human rights in the field of health, in particular concerning women and children (Tunisia);
- 6.192 Consolidate the measures destined to assure the full enjoyment of the right to health (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.193 Strengthen healthcare facilities and services for the benefit of all, including people living in rural areas (Azerbaijan);
- 6.194 Step up efforts to fight maternal and child mortality among low-income groups and harmful traditional practices against women and girls (Burkina Faso);
- 6.195 Continue to expand investment in the field of public health, and better protect people's right to health (China);
- 6.196 Maintain ongoing efforts in the field of health through the implementation of the National Health Policy Framework and national efforts to allocate financial resources to this sector (Cuba);
- 6.197 Pursue the measures necessary to extend access to quality care to all segments of society without discrimination and guarantee access to health services for all (Djibouti);
- 6.198 Take necessary steps to ensure equal access to quality health services in both rural and remote areas with an emphasis on prevention and early detection of diseases (Maldives);
- 6.199 Strengthen prevention and awareness raising measures in the health sector concerning HIV (Dominican Republic);
- 6.200 Intensify its efforts to combat HIV/AIDS and prevent mother-to-child transmission (Thailand);
- 6.201 Seek technical assistance and cooperation from the international community to continue to fight HIV/AIDS (Bangladesh);
- 6.202 Further implement measures against HIV/AIDS, including the challenges related to the access to health services for rural communities (Georgia);
- 6.203 Intensify the efforts in fighting against HIV/AIDS, in particular, to improve access to health-care services in rural areas (Ghana);
- 6.204 Strengthen its measures to combat HIV/AIDS and improve the quality patient care (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.205 Step up efforts to end stigmatization and discrimination against women and children infected with HIV/AIDS (Kenya);
- 6.206 Revise outdated laws on abortion and develop national service protocols and provide training guidelines in accordance with the Maputo Protocol and WHO best practices (Austria);
- 6.207 Increase its efforts of improving access to health services for rural woman and girls and their communities, as well as gender and sexual minorities (South Africa);

- 6.208 **Step up efforts to reduce maternal and child mortality rate through the improvement of health care services (Bangladesh);**
- 6.209 **Further advance the right to health by enhancing achievements in preventing maternal and infant mortality and the fight against HIV/AIDS (Sri Lanka);**
- 6.210 **Step up efforts to address the issue of high maternal and infant mortality rate, including through increasing the provision of the medical services in rural and remote areas (Sudan);**
- 6.211 **Raise public awareness on sexual and reproductive health and take efforts particularly to ensure access to information, education and services (Malaysia);**
- 6.212 **Revise existing laws on abortion, including the Abortion and Sterilization Act of 1975, and develop national service protocols and provider training guidelines in accordance with the Maputo Protocol and WHO best practices (Netherlands);**
- 6.213 **Continue efforts to ensure the right to a free and compulsory education for all children, including those belonging to indigenous groups and those living in rural areas (Sudan);**
- 6.214 **Pursue efforts in terms of access to education in order to increase enrolment rates at all levels (Algeria);**
- 6.215 **Continue to invest in education and take further measures to reduce the school drop-out rate and achieve gender parity in primary and secondary education (Bangladesh);**
- 6.216 **Promote the right to education including through the implementation of the Basic Education Act and maintaining the national budgetary contribution to education (Sri Lanka);**
- 6.217 **Continue to ensure that persons with disabilities have equal access to quality education and to develop a culturally responsive educational environment (State of Palestine);**
- 6.218 **Continue its endeavour in providing quality and accessible education for all learners, especially learners with disabilities, orphan and vulnerable children (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**
- 6.219 **Ensure the availability of the required tools and facilities for the advancement of basic education in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 3 of 2020 (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 6.220 **Enhance its efforts to prevent children of poor families from dropping out of school and to ensure their remaining in the education system (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 6.221 **Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 to strengthen institutional capacity to deliver quality comprehensive sexuality education (Iceland);**
- 6.222 **Implement the relevant recommendations Namibia supported during the last review, relating to the rights of women and girls (Zambia);**
- 6.223 **Continue efforts to protect women and girls, as well as children and include them in the National Development Plan (Algeria);**

- 6.224 Strengthen its efforts to promote the empowerment of women and girls and to raise awareness about violence against women and children, including by ensuring that children are educated about such violence; by providing specialized training to police and law enforcement forces; and by ensuring the effective investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of such crimes (Guyana);
- 6.225 Accelerate the implementation of affirmative action policies to increase the access of women, particularly indigenous women, to decent jobs, especially at managerial level and to provide vocational training opportunities (Paraguay);
- 6.226 Continue to strengthen community mechanisms to fight gender-based and sexual violence (Uganda);
- 6.227 Take steps to prevent and respond to all forms of gender-based violence, including through funding women-led and women's rights organizations on the frontline and ensuring perpetrators are held to account (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.228 Establish a sexual offender registry program and review the effectiveness of sentencing laws and educational curriculum concerning gender-based violence (United States of America);
- 6.229 Continue efforts to curb gender-based violence, and especially domestic violence (United States of America);
- 6.230 Continue recent efforts to protect survivors of gender-based violence, including by streamlining processes for obtaining protection orders under the Combating of Domestic Violence Act of 2003 (Australia);
- 6.231 Allocate significant budget and human resources to implement the Prioritized National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence (Austria);
- 6.232 Continue fast-tracking the implementation of its National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence, including addressing the root causes thereof (South Africa);
- 6.233 Implement legislative and policy measures adopted in the field of gender-based violence (Azerbaijan);
- 6.234 Prioritise efforts at raising awareness about Gender Based Violence against women and girls, including violence perpetrated in a domestic setting (Botswana);
- 6.235 Step up efforts to eradicate traditional practices harmful to women and girls, such as the ritual of Olufuko, which involves child marriage, by criminalizing such practices and prosecuting alleged perpetrators (Brazil);
- 6.236 Ensure proper and prompt implementation of the legislation related to eliminating gender-based violence (Bulgaria);
- 6.237 Strengthen the application of a comprehensive multi-sectoral approach to effectively combat gender-based violence (Spain);
- 6.238 Develop and resource a framework with specific timelines to monitor the implementation of measures adopted to prevent and address gender-based violence (Canada);
- 6.239 Implement public policies to eradicate all forms of domestic violence against women and children (Chile);

- 6.240 **Implement further measures to tackle gender-based and domestic violence and ensure that there are effective mechanisms for protection, ensuring access to justice and effective reparation for the victims of domestic and gender-based violence (Dominican Republic);**
- 6.241 **Improve efforts to combat sexual and domestic violence, especially against women and children, and to implement the elements of the national action plan on sexual violence that was adopted for the period 2019-2023 (Egypt);**
- 6.242 **Take effective preventive measures to protect women and girls from discrimination and gender-based violence, especially sexual violence, and to ensure women's and girls' access to information on sexual and reproductive health and rights (Finland);**
- 6.243 **Intensify efforts in the fight against gender-based violence by fully implementing existing plans throughout the country (France);**
- 6.244 **Raise awareness about violence against women and children and address the obstacles faced by victims in seeking remedies and protection (Iceland);**
- 6.245 **Further strengthen the implementation of various sets of policies and laws dealing with gender-based violence and sexual violence, including by conducting training on gender mainstreaming in various related sectors (Indonesia);**
- 6.246 **Ensure that national policies to reduce gender-based violence and to protect women and girl's rights are effectively implemented including through the provision of sufficient resources to support victims (Ireland);**
- 6.247 **Take all necessary measures, both in law and in practice, to combat violence against women and girls and domestic violence, as well as child early and forced marriage (Latvia);**
- 6.248 **Undertake measures to address gender based violence, especially against persons with disability (Lesotho);**
- 6.249 **Provide adequate shelters for women and girls who are victims of violence in all regions of the country, including by providing them with sufficient resources (Switzerland);**
- 6.250 **Continue its efforts to eliminate all forms of sexual and gender-based violence as well as violence against children, by taking comprehensive measures to investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of gender-based violence and violence against children as well as by addressing obstacles faced by survivors in seeking remedies and obtaining protection (Liechtenstein);**
- 6.251 **Adopt a detailed national budget allocation with timelines and sectorial responsibilities for its response to violence against women and girls (Malta);**
- 6.252 **Take more targeted measures to address the root causes of gender-based violence, and introducing a budget for implementation (Marshall Islands);**
- 6.253 **Continue measures to eliminate sexual and gender-based violence including traditional harmful practices against women and girls (Nepal);**
- 6.254 **Continue efforts in combatting gender-based violence, and ensuring the protection of the rights of persons in vulnerable situations (Nigeria);**
- 6.255 **Continue measures to combat gender-based violence and empower woman (Pakistan);**

- 6.256 Enhance measures to address gender-based violence and ensure appropriate and adequate remedies and protection for the victims (Philippines);
- 6.257 Review laws and conventions relating to the rights of children to harmonise them with international human rights standards (Sierra Leone);
- 6.258 Review laws on children's rights in order to ensure that the definition of the child therein is in line with international human rights standards (Chad);
- 6.259 Continue the application and implementation of the National Children's Programme (2018-2022) (Albania);
- 6.260 Continue implementing the National Program for Children and its harmonization with other strategies such as the National Strategic Framework for the Fight against HIV/AIDS and the Gender Equality and Child Welfare Framework (Cuba);
- 6.261 Define by law children as persons under the age of 18 (Estonia);
- 6.262 Pursue the implementation of The National Agenda for Children 2018–2022 (Mauritania);
- 6.263 Enhance its strategy aimed at ensuring the protection of the rights of children (Mongolia);
- 6.264 Increase efforts to cut practices of marrying children and teenage pregnancies (Germany);
- 6.265 Continue the efforts made to further enhance the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (Tunisia);
- 6.266 Promote the protection of people with disabilities who are victims of marginalization (Cameroon);
- 6.267 Strengthen national bodies responsible for guaranteeing the rights of people with disabilities and promote the full integration of people with disabilities into society, in particular through the promotion of increased access for children with disabilities to education and vocational training (Djibouti);
- 6.268 Strengthen efforts to empower the representation of persons with disabilities in the areas of public affairs and governance (Ethiopia);
- 6.269 Align its legislation on disabilities with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Greece);
- 6.270 Consider strengthening existing and taking new policy-oriented measures to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (India);
- 6.271 Take necessary measures to promote employment of persons with disabilities (Malaysia);
- 6.272 Ensure that the needs of children with disabilities are adequately addressed in policy measures on inclusive education (Philippines);
- 6.273 Recognize all indigenous peoples under the Traditional Authorities Act and develop a national legislation to protect their rights (Brazil);
- 6.274 Allocate adequate resources to programmes promoting Indigenous well-being and addressing discrimination and abuse of indigenous peoples in the health care and education systems (Canada);
- 6.275 Effectively implement the “White Paper on Indigenous Rights”, ensuring FPIC in the process (Denmark);

6.276 Make efforts to improve the status and the rights of indigenous peoples and to adopt the White Paper, drafted by the Ombudsperson office (Estonia);

6.277 Continue and intensify efforts to enrol indigenous and rural children through the mobile school unit programme (Fiji);

6.278 Continue enhancing the project and programmes aimed at ensuring the protection and rights of the indigenous communities (Ghana);

6.279 Recognize formally the rights of indigenous communities in the Constitution so as to ensure their specific needs are safeguarded, particularly on the issue of land expropriation, which should be addressed comprehensively (Marshall Islands);

6.280 Ensure that the legally guaranteed rights of ethnic minorities are also de facto guaranteed, especially by undertaking all efforts to reduce the drop-out rate of schoolchildren belonging to ethnic minorities and to stop discrimination of ethnic minorities in the labour market (Austria);

6.281 Adopt specific legislation protecting the rights of the refugees and migrant workers and make provisions for addressing all relevant issues thereunder (Sierra Leone);

6.282 Accelerate procedures necessary for the accession to the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Georgia).

7. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Namibia was headed by the Minister of Justice, the Honourable Yvonne Dausab and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Julia Imene-Chanduru, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Namibia to the United Nations in Geneva and Other International Organisations in Switzerland;
 - Mr. Festus Mbandeka, Attorney-General;
 - Mrs. Gladice Pickering, Executive-Director, MOJ;
 - Mr. Simataa Lennon Limbo, Chief Legal Services, MOJ;
 - Mr. Basilius Dyakugha, Chief Law Reform, MOJ;
 - Mr. Jerry Mika, Second Secretary, Namibian Mission in Geneva;
 - Ms. Tangi Shikongo, Legal Attaché, Namibian Mission in Geneva.
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