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

Paraguay

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Contents

| | | Page |
|-------|---|------|
| | Introduction | 3 |
| Ι | Summary of the proceedings of the review process | 3 |
| | A. Presentation by the State under review | 3 |
| | B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review | 4 |
| II. | Conclusions and/or recommendations | х |
| Annex | | |
| | Composition of the delegation | х |

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-fourth session from 18 to 29 January 2016. The review of Paraguay was held at the 5th meeting on 20 January 2016. The delegation of Paraguay was headed by H.E. Ambassador Oscar Cabello, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs. At its 10th meeting held on 22 January 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Paraguay.

2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Paraguay: Cuba, Saudi Arabia and Algeria.

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 Paraguay:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/PRY/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/PRY/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/PRY/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico, The Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Belgium was transmitted to Paraguay through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR. Additional questions raised during the dialogue by India, Montenegro and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland are summarized in section I.B below.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation noted that Paraguay had come to their second review convinced that dialogue and cooperation at the international level can contribute to improving the promotion and protection of human rights. Paraguay had set the objective of coming to the UPR to share their achievements and challenges on the implementation of the recommendations from the first cycle of the UPR in an open and transparent manner.

6. Paraguay has always sought to cooperate with the United Nations human rights mechanisms and has issued a standing and open invitation to the special procedures of the Council. During the last four years, five Special Rapporteurs – on freedom of religion, extreme poverty, indigenous peoples, health and disabilities – as well as the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, visited the country. Paraguay was also up to date with all reports to the treaty bodies and had recently updated their common core document.

7. Paraguay is currently a member of the Council and it has sought to work in a responsible manner, together with other countries. It has been supported declarations and resolutions that reflect human rights priorities and cooperation, especially through the exchange of good practices among countries, the UN system and civil society.

8. Paraguay has also focused its efforts in making good use of its own experience to strengthen the international human rights mechanisms, in particular in the area of follow-up to UPR recommendations, through the development of an innovative and participative system, called SIMORE. The system, which is the result of the experience of national institutions was developed with the technical support and advice of the Human Rights Adviser of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the country. The system was built around thematic areas of work and facilitates the preparation of reports, the implementation of recommendations through national plans of action and forms now the basis for the development of human rights indicators. In order to share this experience, Paraguay, together with Brazil, sponsored a Council resolution on international cooperation aiming at supporting national systems for the follow-up of international human rights recommendations. Paraguay has also created a bilateral cooperation program to share this experience with other interested states.

9. The delegation further reported on progress and challenges in the implementation of recommendations since the last review. Paraguay has been consolidating a culture of democracy and the integration of a human rights-based approach in public policies with some important results in the areas of poverty and an improvement of social conditions favouring inclusion and addressing inequalities. Paraguay has also initiated efforts towards combating corruption.

10. With regard to the prevention of torture, Paraguay noted that it was the first country in the region that had created a national mechanism for the prevention of torture, in line with OP-CAT. On the basis of the methodology developed by OHCHR, the Judicial Branch of Paraguay also formulated indicators on the right to a fair trial. Other initiatives included the elaboration of a guide to harmonize the state justice with indigenous justice, guidelines on access to justice by older persons and persons with disabilities and principles on juvenile restorative justice. The Minister of Public Defence and the Public Ministry have also been strengthened.

11. Paraguay reiterated the importance of the international human rights system, in particular the Universal Periodic Review mechanism. It highlighted the value of the work of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in this regard. Paraguay remained open to receive comments and suggestions that can allow the country to continue improving the protection of human rights at national level.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

12. During the interactive dialogue, 76 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report. All written statements of the delegations, to be checked against delivery on the United Nations Webcast archives¹, are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council when available.

13. Argentina noted with satisfaction the implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan, the NPM, the development of the SIMORE system and efforts concerning the rights of persons with disabilities.

14. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela highlighted progress made to combat poverty, to address domestic violence, access to basic and secondary education and health services.

¹ http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/human-rights-council/universal-periodic-review/24thupr/watch/paraguay-upr-adoption-24th-session-of-universal-periodic-review/4716532396001

15. Australia noted that further measures are required to protect land reform advocates from intimidation and violence, to investigate gender-based violence, and to guarantee protection from all forms of discrimination.

16. Austria expressed concern at the high number of journalists, human rights defenders and lawyers attacked or killed, and at the high rates of child pregnancy and maternal mortality.

17. Azerbaijan commended Paraguay's efforts to strengthen the human rights framework, to protect persons with disabilities and children, to reduce poverty and raise people's standard of living.

18. Belgium welcomed the approval of the NPM against Torture. It noted that in certain areas, such as the rights of the child and the human rights of women and girls, there is still room for progress.

19. Benin welcomed the adoption of laws and policies on forced disappearances, upgrading the Secretariat for Women into a Ministry, and the National Health Policy.

20. The Plurinational State of Bolivia recognized progresses in human rights since the first UPR, specifically the shortening of the socio-economic gap, and the implementation of the SIMORE system.

21. Greece commended the acceptance of all first cycle UPR recommendations, the National Development Plan to 2030, the National Policy on Childhood and Adolescence, and the abolition of death penalty at a Constitutional level.

22. Regarding indigenous rights and land settlement, Canada was concerned that the process of expropriation approved by Congress in 2014 has not yet been implemented to comply with the rulings of the Inter-American Court on Human Rights.

23. Chad encouraged Paraguay to reinforce its normative and institutional framework with a view to improving enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights.

24. Chile highlighted the creation of the prevention of torture mechanism, the adoption of several national laws and plans for the respect of rights of women, children and people with disabilities.

25. Colombia highlighted the establishment of the SIMORE monitoring system, and reaffirmed its engagement to continue working jointly with Paraguay on trafficking in persons.

26. Costa Rica congratulated the creation of the NPM and the SIMORE system. However, they were worried for complaints of cases of violence and murders against journalists and human rights defenders.

27. Cuba recognized the efforts for the eradication of poverty and to guarantee economic, political, social and cultural rights concerning women living in the rural zones with a view to their development and empowerment.

28. Djibouti acknowledged progress made by Paraguay in strengthening the legislative and institutional framework for the protection and promotion of human rights since the first UPR cycle.

29. Ecuador highlighted the initiatives to promote social development, a human rights based approach in the domestic policy for the eradication of poverty, and the national development plan 2030.

30. Egypt noted with satisfaction the establishment of the NPM of Torture and the implementation of the SIMORE system. Egypt asked Paraguay to pay closer attention to the fight against poverty.

31. Ethiopia noted the domestication of international human rights instruments, and human rights training in schools. It commended Paraguay's commitment towards poverty reduction.

32. France made a statement and recommendations.

33. Georgia encouraged resource allocation to the NPM. It expressed concern about human rights defenders and judicial and administrative proceedings towards journalists, and urged conducting relevant investigations.

34. Germany commended Paraguay's engagement in the Human Rights Council. It appreciated the introduction of mechanisms to monitor the implementation of Paraguay's international obligations.

35. Ghana was concerned about reported allegations of harassment and killing of journalists and human rights defenders. It encouraged Paraguay to investigate these allegations and bring perpetrators to justice.

36. Brazil was pleased about progress made in legal and institutional framework and by the establishment of the SIMORE system that has also inspired Brazil.

37. Guatemala was pleased to note the reforms undertaken by Paraguay to prohibit the sale of children, child pornography, sexual exploitation, trade of children and trafficking in persons.

38. Haiti noted the acceptance of all first cycle UPR recommendations and congratulated efforts to combat sexual exploitation of children and adolescents.

39. The Holy See recognized attempts to improve communication between civil authorities and indigenous communities, as well as to reduce extreme poverty and curtail corruption and trafficking in persons.

40. Honduras congratulated efforts towards poverty reduction. It recognized Paraguay's contribution to promoting good practices with the creation and implementation of SIMORE.

41. India noted Paraguay was up to date with submitting reports to treaty bodies. It asked information about operational aspects of the National Development Plan to 2030.

42. Indonesia commended Paraguay for strengthening legislative frameworks and providing inclusive education. It noted efforts to formulate the National Plan for Human Rights.

43. The Islamic Republic of Iran was concerned about the absence of a policy protecting rights of indigenous peoples, and the high rates of trafficking in persons.

44. Iraq commended Paraguay's efforts to implement first cycle UPR recommendations.

45. Israel commended several measures including the National Plan for Human Rights and the adoption of a protocol applicable to transgender persons deprived of their liberty.

46. Italy appreciated the prioritization of the fight against extreme poverty and women's rights, as indicated by the creation of the Ministry for Women.

47. Kazakhstan welcomed the setting up of the NPM and the creation of the SIMORE system to follow-up on implementation of recommendations made by UPR, treaty bodies and special procedures.

48. Kuwait welcomed measures to reduce poverty and combat human trafficking, the creation of the National Secretariat to Combat Corruption, and the strengthening of rights of persons with disabilities.

49. Kyrgyzstan noted unprecedented steps to strengthen legislative, institutional and policy mechanisms concerning human rights, and the standing open invitation to all Special Procedures mandate holders.

50. The Lao People's Democratic Republic noted Paraguay's engagement in international cooperation and the Human Rights Council's work, and welcomed measures on gender equality and poverty reduction.

51. Lebanon welcomed Paraguay's efforts to fight poverty as well as recognition of rights of indigenous communities.

52. Libya commended the establishment of a national institution and council for persons with disabilities It welcomed the collaboration for the elaboration of the National Plan for Human Rights.

53. Liechtenstein welcomed the ratification of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC) and that Paraguay has begun the process for ratifying the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute.

54. Malaysia commended Paraguay for overall progress in the promotion and protection of human rights. It encouraged Paraguay to implement commitments as outlined in its national report.

55. Mexico positively assessed the establishment of the project for the prevention of harassment in schools, as well as initiatives related to transparency and abolition of the death penalty.

56. Montenegro asked about progress towards better inter-ministerial coordination and cooperation with civil society and measures to improve national legislation, in line with recommendations to prevent, punish and eradicate violence against women, sexual and gender based violence.

57. Morocco welcomed efforts to reduce poverty, as well as the policy of institutional transparency in the judiciary and the approval of the NPM.

58. Namibia took note of the poverty reduction efforts. It asked Paraguay to what extend it was able to reach the target of 9.4 per cent in 2015 and about any best practices Paraguay can share in this regard.

59. The Netherlands commended Paraguay for being an example in the field of international human rights mechanisms. It noted however that, no specific steps seem to have been taken to defend the safety and rights of human rights defenders.

60. Nicaragua underscored the program for child care, the National Plan for the prevention of sexual exploitation, progress in education and access to this right.

61. Norway was concerned about the high number of reports regarding threats, attacks, harassment and killings of human rights defenders. It also commended Paraguay for establishing a NPM.

62. Pakistan commended Paraguay for the passage of a number of laws and administrative reforms aiming at the promotion and protection of human rights.

63. Panama noted the strengthening by Paraguay of its normative and institutional framework to prevent torture, eradicate poverty, and to guarantee the rights to education and health.

64. Peru underscored the implementation by Paraguay of the system to monitor the follow-up on the recommendations on the first UPR cycle and its commitment to recover citizens' historical memory.

65. Philippines welcomed the abolition of death penalty in Paraguay. It also commended the efforts made to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples.

66. Poland noted with appreciation the changes made by Paraguay to its constitutional and legislative framework and the establishment of a universal accessible health-care service.

67. Portugal noted with concern that a new Ombudsman had not been appointed in Paraguay since 2008 and that the 'A' status accreditation to the institution had been suspended.

68. The Republic of Korea welcomed the National Plan of Action for the Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the National Strategy concerning child labour.

69. The Republic of Moldova shared the concerns of the treaty bodies about widespread pre-trial detention in Paraguay, especially for children between the age of 16 and 18.

70. Singapore welcomed Paraguay's commitment to prioritising poverty eradication as well as, among others, the policy to promote equal rights and opportunities for men and women.

71. Slovakia encouraged Paraguay to recognize the competence of CED under ICPPED. While welcoming the establishment of the NPM, it noted however insufficient investigation of allegations of torture and accountability of perpetrators.

72. Slovenia shared concerns about the high rate of teenage pregnancy, as well as the high maternal mortality rate. It echoed UNESCO's call to investigate all attacks on journalists and media workers.

73. South Africa was concerned that the adoption of an anti-discrimination law that adheres to international human rights standards, in line with previous commitments, is yet to be adopted.

74. Spain recognized Paraguay's efforts in the implementation of recommendations, as evidenced by the recent visits of special procedures mandate-holders and the creation of the SIMORE system.

75. Sweden expressed concern about gender-based and sexual violence. It noted recent reports describing widespread discrimination and little efforts to address human rights violations against LGBTI persons.

76. Switzerland noted the constructive cooperation of Paraguay with OHCHR, special procedures and other international organizations. It remained concern by the criminalisation of abortion in the case of rape or incest.

77. Tajikistan noted the consistent approach of Paraguay to the promotion and protection of human rights and its readiness to cooperate with the international mechanisms and procedures.

78. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was concerned about the safety of journalists, persisting stereotypes of the role of women in society and domestic violence. It asked for information on intended steps to adopt the anti-discrimination law.

79. Turkey took note of the commitment to complete the process of the appointment of an Ombudsman. It called on Paraguay to prioritize the adoption of a law to combat all forms of discrimination.

80. Ukraine acknowledged the involvement of civil society organizations in the implementation of recommendations and encouraged Paraguay to provide resources for the participation of indigenous communities.

81. While welcoming efforts by the legislature to address discrimination, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland urged the adoption of an antidiscrimination law. It asked for more information on human rights training provided to police and military units.

82. The United States of America remained concerned by the corruption in the public and justice sectors, the persistence of gender-based violence and violence against LGBTI persons and journalists.

83. Uruguay highlighted the establishment of the NPM and the online platform to monitor the implementation of the recommendations. It noted progress in the reduction of poverty and the transparency in governance.

84. Uzbekistan welcomed progress made in the implementation of recommendations, the adoption of the NHRAP, the establishment of the NPM, the ratification of human rights instruments and the cooperation with international human rights mechanisms.

85. Armenia was pleased for the commitment of Paraguay with the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantee of non-repetition, including through the recognition of past crimes and their condemnation. It noted progress in reducing poverty.

86. Algeria appreciated efforts to address trafficking in persons, bullying in public and private schools, combating acts of torture and forced disappearances and measures to reinforce the rights of indigenous peoples.

87. Angola appreciated the setting up of a system to monitor the implementation of recommendations. It encouraged Paraguay to further promote civil and political rights of women.

88. The Dominican Republic underlined the implementation of various national action plans, and urged Paraguay to continue working on the bill for the establishment of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights.

89. Paraguay thanked delegations for the interest shown by the international community and the participation of delegations in the dialogue and for expressing their support to Paraguay for the progress it had achieved since the last review, as reflected in the various comments and recommendations made to Paraguay by delegations.

90. In response to comments and questions raised regarding efforts to combat poverty and social investment, the Chief of Cabinet of the National Technical Secretariat for Planning, highlighted Paraguay's commitment to ensure equal opportunities,. He provided information on programs regarding land planning and sustainable environment. The national plan for the reduction of poverty has as a main objective to increase income and to provide access to social services for persons and families in a vulnerable condition. Paraguay noted that extreme poverty reduced from 8% in 2006 to 2% in 2013. It also reported that those having access to safe drinking water went from 43% in 1997 to 81%, in 2014, with an increase of 37.5% during that period.

91. The Minister of the Social Action Secretariat referred to previous recommendations regarding family, persons with disabilities, programs of cash transfers and consultations and prior and informed consent of indigenous people. It noted that the Tekoporã program, which is a broad social protection program, obtained the ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems certification in 2014 and covers 17 departments and 80% of the municipalities. A specific component of this program aims at promoting the involvement of indigenous people through a protocol for free previous and informed consent that was developed with the support of OHCHR in Paraguay. Additional information was provided on other components of the program.

92. The Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security noted that the Ministry was set up in 2013, to focus on the protection of workers, work and labour. It has conducted activities that seek to ensure decent work and working conditions. Responding to comments made by Colombia, Paraguay noted that it has recently promulgated the law on domestic workers, which has raised the minimum salary and sought to ensure social protection. Regarding the issue of child labour, raised by Belgium, Cuba and Chile, it noted that the Code on Children and Adolescents prohibits work for children under14 years of age. The Ministry has made the fight against child labour a priority, basically to eradicate the worst forms of child labour in the coming years. The National Commission is also being strengthened to combat child labour. Paraguay has been successful in eradicating child labour when it comes to the production of cotton, for example. Paraguay has also sanctioned a law on the protection of working mothers, in particular with regard to breastfeeding period.

93. The Minister of the Secretariat of Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities reported on their efforts to ensure that the protection of the human rights of persons with disabilities is a cross-cutting issue in all public policies and services. Last year, SENADIS was upgraded to the level of Ministry. The CONADIS, a mixed Commission with the participation of persons with disabilities and civil society with full participation in decisionmaking, was also created. Paraguay has also developed a public policy for persons with disabilities, the National Plan of Action, with the support of OHCHR. At present, Paraguay is developing indicators to monitor its implementation and assess its impact. This Plan of Action has given visibility to persons with disabilities. Through the plan, Paraguay will also ensure inclusive education and a differentiated basic basket for persons with disabilities. A manual on accessibility for persons with disabilities for all school centres is also being developed. Paraguay also established a network of state communication officials, for promoting the use of inclusive language and a rights-based approach in their work. This progress achieved is the result of an alliance between the State and the civil society with the support of the international cooperation.

94. The Minister for Children and Adolescents referred to comments regarding violence against children and adolescents. It noted that in Paraguay there is a National Commission for the prevention and comprehensive care for children and adolescents that are victims of violence. This Commission was established in 2013 as a follow-up to the United Nations Study on Violence against Children prepared by the Independent Expert Paulo Sergio Pinheiro. It is composed of State institutions and civil society organizations are working together to ensure the prevention, protection and care for children. Reference was also made to a draft bill to protect children from all forms of cruel, inhuman treatment and corporal punishment and to foster good practices when it comes to bringing up children. Paraguay also referred to the free 24hours telephone service available to make complaints and to receive guidance. When it comes to sexual abuse cases there are currently legislative proposals to amend the criminal framework. Regarding sex tourism, Paraguay has legislation that aims at preventing and punishing trafficking in persons in any of its forms, whether these occur within or outside the country. Awareness-raising campaigns are rolledout, aiming at state agents and citizens, in particular in boarder and touristic areas. Comprehensive programs for the attention of victims, including shelters for victims of trafficking have also been established. Paraguay noted that in 2015, the age for children to engage in domestic work has been raised to 18 years. The legislation has codified domestic child labour as dangerous. The sale of children is criminalized in the criminal code and discussions are currently being held in Congress to amend legislation regarding adoption.

95. The Director General of Planning of the Minister of Education and Culture reported on the increase in funding for quality education and research since 2012. A priority area for action has been attention to early education and quality support services since the age of 3, a new modality of non-formal education in particular in the rural areas. At present, Paraguay reported that it has reached 98% of enrolment rate at the primary level in 2014. The enrolment rate of children from 15-17 years of age is however still a challenge that is being addressed. The education strategies contributed to the improving the access of children to schools, through the investment in manuals and provision of educational tools for students. Paraguay is investing in technical training and diversification of educational and vocational training programs and support. It also reported on the implementation of a national program that recognizes the progressive autonomy of boys and girls, including sexual education and information on reproductive health.

96. The Head of the Human Right Department of the Minister of Health and Social Welfare thanked delegations for recommendations received with regard to the right to health, in particular from Belgium, Colombia, The Netherlands, Mexico, Kazakhstan, Turkey, the United Kingdom and others. The fight to overcome of inequalities requires a strong and systematic response. The plans and programs prepared during recent years are focused on a common vision, a strategic approach based on the national reality. Paraguay is implementing the National Sexual and Sexual Reproductive Health Plan 2014-2018, which meets the basic needs of the population. It uses a human rights-based approach and it is focused on 7 key priority areas which are part of the health-care policy, emphasising access, quality and equitable health. Information was also provided on other plans, such as neonatal, healthcare plans, prevention and monitoring of sexually transmitted diseases, prevention, detection and treatment of breast cancer, prevention and attention of persons in a situation of domestic and gender-based violence, protection for adolescents in order to reduce early pregnancies and STDs, among others.

97. The Adviser to the Human Rights Commission of the National Parliament reported on the process for the selection of a new Ombudsman and a Deputy Ombudsman. The selection will be done in 2016. Paraguay reported that the Parliament is currently reviewing two proposals, which both aim at ensuring the full exercise of all rights by the population on an equal basis without discrimination, in line with international human rights norms ratified by Paraguay. Regarding questions on the lack of legal protection in other areas, such as violence against women, the representative indicated that the Parliament will discuss this year draft legislation to ensure comprehensive protection of women from all forms of violence. Responding to questions on the legal framework regulating the use of internet, a law is being discussed. With regard to the freedom of expression and the protection of journalists, Paraguay reported on current efforts to draft legislation and cooperation requested in this regard to the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the Organization of American States (OAS).

98. In response to comments made by several delegations on the issue of institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights, the General Director on Human Rights from the Ministry of Justice reported on several initiatives in this regard, such as the National Human Rights Action Plan as well as the drafting of a Bill through which the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights is created. Furthermore, with regard to a recommendation referred to by Honduras and Moldova, Paraguay reported that both the definition of torture and the definition of enforced disappearance have been harmonized in the domestic legislation, in line with international human rights norms. Regarding the search of disappeared persons, an issue mentioned by Peru and the Republic of Korea, Paraguay informed that a national team for the search and identification of disappeared persons between 1954 and 1989 has been successfully created. Since May 2013, research investigations have been carried out with respect to possible individual and mass graves. To date, a total of 34 remains of disappeared persons have been exhumed and a database of blood samples of family members has been created. Regarding the concern expressed by Pakistan and Spain on the prisons, Paraguay has been working on the drafting of a prison reform plan with a focus on social reintegration.

99. In response to comments made, the Human Rights Director of the Supreme Court of Justice provided a brief update on the status of the process of the case of Maria Cue. Paraguay also informed about a symposium on corruption, and on quantitative and qualitative indicators developed by the judiciary with regard to access to justice, in the framework of the implementation of the 100 Brasilia regulations. Regarding preventive detention, Paraguay reported on current initiates for a reform of the penal system. On the issue of restorative justice, in 2015, the Supreme Court adopted the principles, which are part of the Lima Declaration on Juvenile Restorative Justice. Paraguay also reported on current efforts and consultations for the harmonization of the indigenous justice system with the ordinary justice system.

100. A representative of the National Institute for Indigenous Peoples thanked participants for the concern expressed by several delegations as regards the situation of the indigenous communities and the development of public policies for indigenous peoples in Paraguay. Paraguay noted that a draft bill is currently being considered by the Parliament to elevate the Institute for Indigenous Peoples to the level of Ministry. Paraguay reported on various efforts being made with regard to calls for attention to be paid to matters of the health of indigenous peoples, as well as a more participatory and inclusive education. Regarding land issues and as a follow-up to previous UPR recommendations, a system for the registration of land titles, and allows to identify potential duplicity has been created. Moreover, the representative expressed that the National Council for Indigenous Education has been created in 2015. Finally, Paraguay also shared information on the availability of community radios, previous consultations and involvement of indigenous peoples in decision-making.

101. To conclude, the head of the delegation thanked again all participating States for their interest.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations*

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

102.1. Consider ratifying (Uruguay)/ Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Djibouti) (France) (Ghana) (Montenegro) (Portugal);

102.2. Take steps to ratify (Slovakia)/ Ratify the Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure (Portugal) (Montenegro);

102.3. Encourage ratification (Iraq)/ Consider the recommendation of UNESCO to ratify (Nicaragua)/Ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education (South Africa) (Uzbekistan) (Portugal) (Ghana) (Honduras);

102.4. Make the declaration provided for in article 14 of the ICERD (South Africa);

102.5. Conclude the process of ratifying the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute swiftly with a view to contributing to the activation of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court over the crime of aggression in 2017 (Liechtenstein);

^{**} The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited

102.6. Pass legislation implementing the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court into domestic law (Djibouti);

102.7. Encourage the adoption in the short term of a bill on the implementation of the Rome Statute (Guatemala);

102.8. Deepen its commitment with the International Criminal Court through the adaptation of its national legislation to the Rome Statute (Peru);

102.9. Review its criminal legislation in order to incorporate a definition of torture in accordance with CAT (Honduras);

102.10. Continue working on harmonizing its national policies and laws, related to children in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its respective Protocols of which it is a party (Nicaragua);

102.11. Promote laws on the rights of children and adolescents especially in the area of health (Egypt);

102.12. Implement the National System for Comprehensive Protection and Advancement of Children and Adolescents, with attention to human trafficking and sexual and reproductive health. Pass legislation to protect the rights of unregistered children and remove obstacles to child registration (Canada);

102.13. Improve the domestic legislation regarding working conditions, especially for women and young people (Holy See);

102.14. Strengthen its efforts in establishing the National Human Rights Institution, in line with the Paris Principles and with full participation of the civil society (Indonesia); Expedite staffing of the Ombudsman office and strengthen it by allocating the necessary budget (Ethiopia);

102.15. Take all necessary measures to ensure the full realization of the Human Rights Defender's mandate (France);

102.16. Strengthen the capacities of the Ombudsman's Office while making it accessible to the citizens (Haiti);

102.17. Allocate sufficient financial and human resources to national human rights institutions (Kyrgyzstan);

102.18. Take all necessary measures in order to strengthen the role and operation of the Ombudsman's Office (Namibia);

102.19. Speed up the process to appoint a new Ombudsman (Israel);

102.20. Appoint a new Ombudsman without further delay, after the mandate of the present incumbent expired in 2008, while ensuring that the institution complies fully with the Paris Principles (Germany);

102.21. Finalize at its earliest the process of appointment of the Ombudsman and ensure that the institution fully complies with the Paris Principles (Kazakhstan);

102.22. Appoint an Ombudsman and ensure that the institution complies fully with the Paris Principles (Portugal) (South Africa);

102.23. Complete as soon as possible the necessary internal process to appoint the new Ombudsman (Spain);

102.24. Continue the selection process for a new Ombudsman, with a view to its appointment at the earliest possible, in line with the constitutional requirements and the Paris Principles (Uruguay);

102.25. Expedite a process related to the establishment of the national secretariat for indigenous peoples (Georgia);

102.26. Strengthen the National Institute for Indigenous Affairs (El Instituto Paraguayo del Indígena, INDI) at the legislative, structural and functional levels (Haiti);

102.27. Conclude the process to create the National Secretariat of Indigenous Peoples (Peru);

102.28. Redouble its efforts in formulating the National Human Rights Action Plan (Indonesia);

102.29. Continue further improvement of the protection and promotion of human rights in the country (Azerbaijan);

102.30. While recognizing the adoption of the National Human Rights Action Plan, and within the context of its implementation, implement awareness-raising campaigns and promote respect of human rights (Spain);

102.31. Implement public policies permitting gender equality in the political and economic life of the country (Chile);

102.32. Further promote the rights of women, children and indigenous peoples (Greece);

102.33. Further develop policies to ensure full enjoyment of rights and equality to LGBTI people (Israel);

102.34. Maintain efforts to implement the information system for the follow up of international human rights recommendations (Ecuador);

102.35. Engage a civil society in the follow-up implementation process of the UPR recommendations (Poland);

102.36. Accord priority to passing draft anti-discrimination legislation, tabled in Congress in November 2015, and reviews existing laws to ensure consistency with the draft legislation's objectives (Australia);

102.37. Ensure the adoption and implementation of an anti-discrimination law, cohering to international human rights standards (Greece);

102.38. Move towards the adoption of a comprehensive law against all forms of discrimination, including discrimination on sexual orientation and gender identity, that punishes and prohibits all forms of discrimination in public and private settings (Chile);

102.39. Foster the presentation of a new bill against all forms of discrimination (Cuba);

102.40. Adopt and implement comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation in line with international human rights standards (Slovenia);

102.41. Encourage the adoption and implementation of legislation to combat all forms of discrimination, in compliance with international human rights standards and in line with Paraguay's commitments (Guatemala);

102.42. Present to the Parliament and support the approval, as soon as possible, of a new comprehensive draft bill against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and all related forms of intolerance (Brazil);

102.43. Adopt the necessary legislative and policy measures to combat any form of discrimination, including by guaranteeing access to justice and recognizing the right to due reparation for victims (Honduras);

102.44. Adopt a law prohibiting all forms of discrimination against indigenous communities and guarantee access to comprehensive quality education for Guarani speakers (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

102.45. Consider taking up an anti-discrimination bill in dialogue with state and non-state actors, which would guarantee basic safeguards of nondiscrimination, prevention and punishment of all forms of discrimination against all human beings, in line with the main standards of international human rights instruments to which Paraguay is a State Party to (Uruguay);

102.46. Introduce a law explicitly prohibiting corporal punishment of children in all settings (Poland);

102.47. Adopt legislation clearly prohibiting all corporal punishment of children in all settings (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

102.48. Continue to promote women empowerment (Pakistan);

102.49. Eliminate all forms of inequality between men and women (Egypt);

102.50. Continue to design and implement policies that incorporate gender perspectives into public policies and promote the empowerment and advancement of women living in rural areas (Singapore);

102.51. Approve a comprehensive law for the promotion of gender equality which would include, among other issues, awareness on issues such as gender violence, and the freedom of sexual orientation (Spain);

102.52. Adopt a law prohibiting all forms of discrimination, including sexual orientation and gender identity (South Africa);

102.53. Adopt a law against all forms of discrimination, including sexual orientation and gender identity (Sweden);

102.54. Enact legislation to prohibit discrimination, including based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Canada);

102.55. Adopt a law to fight against discrimination, to prevent and punish discrimination in all its forms including discrimination on sexual orientation and gender identity (Argentina);

102.56. Pass legislation prohibiting discrimination, including comprehensive prohibitions against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

102.57. Review all type of provisions that could lead to the discrimination of LGBTI persons, as well as review labour provisions which may affect domestic workers (Colombia);

102.58. Strengthen the fight against all forms of discrimination including discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity (France);

102.59. Ensure the issuance of birth certificates to all children born on its territory, regardless of the status of their parents (Poland);

102.60. Further improve its birth registration system and ensure the issuance of birth certificates to all children born on its territory (Turkey);

102.61. Increase efforts to ensure that all children born in Paraguay can have their birth registered (Mexico);

102.62. Ensure that all state surveillance activities are in line with international human rights law and do not infringe on citizen's fundamental rights and freedoms (Liechtenstein);

102.63. Take the necessary measures to ensure that the operations of intelligence agencies are monitored by an independent oversight mechanism to ensure transparency and accountability (Liechtenstein);

102.64. Continue working in the improvement of prison conditions (Spain);

102.65. Continue to adopt measures to improve the situation in the penitentiary system of the country in line with international standards (Uzbekistan);

102.66. Increase resources to address gender-based violence (Australia);

102.67. Prevent all forms of violence against women and girls, particularly sexual abuse and domestic violence, including by adopting a law to prevent, punish and eradicate violence against women (Austria);

102.68. Ensure that legislation to prevent and eradicate violence against women is passed (Belgium);

102.69. Ensure the adoption of a comprehensive law on violence against women (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));

102.70. Pass legislation to prevent and criminalize all forms of violence against women, and provide law enforcement with training and education to ensure its effective implementation (Canada);

102.71. Implement legislation against violence and the discrimination against women in a comprehensive way and with a gender perspective (Costa Rica);

102.72. Promote the approval of the comprehensive law on violence against women (Cuba);

102.73. Strengthen and accelerate legislative and educational actions to prevent violence against women and girls, especially domestic violence (Djibouti);

102.74. Take all necessary measures to promote women's rights and fight against domestic violence (France);

102.75. Promote legislation eradicating violence against women and against discrimination based on religious beliefs (Israel);

102.76. Strengthen efforts to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence and sexual abuse, and effectively implement the legislation recently adopted in this field (Italy);

102.77. Review existing legislation and programs to prevent and eradicate violence and sexual exploitation against children and adolescents, to ensure they meet international best practices (Italy);

102.78. Further increase its efforts to effectively combat all forms of violence against women (Kazakhstan);

102.79. Strengthen the provisions for the protection of women, notably through the adoption of the draft law aiming at preventing violence against women (Morocco);

102.80. Take the necessary steps, including legislative measures to prevent and eradicate violence against women (Namibia);

102.81. Take additional measures, including providing resources and assistance, access to courts and appropriate punishment for violations, to tackle sexual and intimate partner violence and exploitation of women and girls (Netherlands);

102.82. Prevent discrimination and violence against vulnerable and marginalized groups (Panama);

102.83. Make further efforts to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls, in particular sexual abuse and domestic violence by adopting a comprehensive law to prevent violence against women as well as provide assistance and recovery for victims (Republic of Korea);

102.84. Consider adopting new specific legislation to strengthen measures aimed at prosecuting offenders and increasing support to victims of sexual violence and abuse and promote awareness raising-campaigns and educational programs, notably in schools (Italy);

102.85. Adopt a national action plan to combat gender-based and sexual violence, which includes raising general awareness through education and training, developing official and credible statistics and ensuring access to justice for victims (Sweden);

102.86. Consider adopting a law to prevent, punish and eradicate the violence against women (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);

102.87. Take further measures and strengthen its legislation to prevent and punish all violence against women and girls, particularly sexual abuse and domestic violence (Turkey);

102.88. Continue implementing specific measures to prevent all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, ill-treatment and sexual abuse, ensuring that there are complaints channels, facilitating access to justice and guaranteeing the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators (Uruguay);

102.89. Continue the work on inter-family violence and the implementation of public policies for rural women (Dominican Republic);

102.90. Consider specific measures for the protection of the rights of children and adolescents, notably through the objectives defined within the national strategy for the prevention and elimination of child labour (Angola);

102.91. Incorporate child sex tourism explicitly as a criminal offence in order to bring national legislation in conformity with the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Belgium);

102.92. Strengthen the prevention, detection and response to cases of exploitation, sexual abuses and other forms of violence against children (Panama);

102.93. Move towards the adoption of a law that prohibits the work of children below the age of 14, as well as the worst forms of child labour and domestic child labour (Chile);

102.94. Continue conducting actions with a view to eradicating child labour in the country (Cuba);

102.95. Raise the minimum age for domestic work to 18 years of age, and strongly reconsider increasing the minimum wage in this sector (Haiti);

102.96. Eradicate the practice of *criadazgo* and other forms of child labor (Panama);

102.97. Adopt a comprehensive care policy to protect children living on the streets (Mexico);

102.98. Pursue measures for the protection of children, in particular children living in the streets and domestic worker children (Algeria);

102.99. Adopt the National Plan to Prevent, Combat and Care for the victims of trafficking (Greece);

102.100. Continue its efforts to combat trafficking in human beings (Tajikistan);

102.101. Put an end to trafficking in persons, particularly for purposes of sexual exploitation or child labour (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

102.102. Effectively combat human trafficking, in particular sexual exploitation and forced labour (Malaysia);

102.103. Provide assistance, reintegration programs and skills training for victims of human trafficking to allow their reintegration into society (Malaysia);

102.104. Provide adequate human resources and budget to implement its national anti-trafficking in persons policies and programs (Philippines);

102.105. Continue working towards the modernization of justice so as to guarantee its independence and impartiality, in particular with regard to vulnerable groups, such as indigenous people and persons with disabilities (Spain);

102.106. Enhance public accountability for the judiciary by limiting political interference, increasing transparency in judicial processes, and ensuring all judicial staff hiring is merit-based (United States of America);

102.107. Facilitate access to the Judiciary, especially for indigenous persons ensuring that they are represented in public affairs (Egypt);

102.108. Develop initiatives, aimed at ensuring access to the judiciary by indigenous persons (Mexico);

102.109. Adopt the necessary measures to increase the judicial control over the duration of pre-trial detention (Slovakia);

102.110. Investigate allegations of torture and ill-treatment against persons in places of detention and bring those responsible to justice (Uzbekistan);

102.111. Establish and effective investigation mechanism concerning allegations of torture and ill-treatment that would ensure the conviction of perpetrators (Turkey);

102.112. In the context of detention, strengthen existing police oversight mechanisms and provide victims of torture and ill-treatment with compensation (Germany);

102.113. Double efforts in combatting corruption through improving the capacity of the National Secretariat to Combat Corruption (Malaysia);

102.114. Step up efforts to eliminate corruption by police officers and prosecutors, and to adopt specific legal provisions establishing a judicial procedure for ensuring investigation of the cases related to enforced disappearance and arbitrary detention, as well as to punish perpetrators and provide assistance and recovery for victims (Republic of Korea);

102.115. Combat impunity, prosecute perpetrators and ensure victims' access to effective remedies in case of journalists, human rights defenders and lawyers who become victims of human rights violations and abuses (Austria);

102.116. Combat impunity of all attacks against human rights defenders, including by investigating the murders of 17 journalists since 1991. Establish a special commission in the Public Prosecutor's Office to bring those responsible to justice (Canada);

102.117. Combat impunity by ensuring prompt, thorough and transparent investigation of all violations against, and killing of Human Rights Defenders, the prosecution of perpetrators and access to effective remedies for victims (Norway);

102.118. Investigate and prosecute allegations of abusive practices by security and law enforcement forces targeted at indigenous people (Australia);

102.119. Take effective measures to thoroughly investigate all allegations of illtreatment of detainees, of abuse of force by police and military forces and of attacks against journalists and human rights defenders, so to ensure that all those responsible are brought to justice (Italy);

102.120. Ensure implementation of impartial and independent investigations and criminal proceedings in accordance with existing law, including for cases as the Marina Cué events in Curuguaty of June 2012 in order to clarify allegations and bring perpetrators to justice (Germany);

102.121. Strengthen its specialized Juvenile Justice system, to promote alternative measures to deprivation of liberty, and continue improving the social services available to adolescents deprived of their liberty (Republic of Moldova);

102.122. Continue efforts for the promotion of truth, justice and reparation and guaranties of non-repetition related to crimes of the past (Armenia);

102.123. Abolish discrimination based on religion or beliefs (Lebanon);

102.124. Enhance laws that encourage freedom of expression (Lebanon);

102.125. Further protect the freedom of expression and prosecute crimes against journalists as a matter of priority (Greece);

102.126. Create a mechanism to give visibility and value the work of human rights defenders and, develop and implement measures to protect human rights defenders should they be exposed to any risk or threat associated with the free exercise of their activities (Brazil);

102.127. Adopt appropriate measures to disseminate widely and ensure full observance of the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (Norway);

102.128. Adopt legal and policy measures for the protection of human rights defenders (Honduras);

102.129. Acknowledge the legitimate role of human rights defenders and create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for human rights defenders and journalists to carry out their legitimate work without threat of violence or reprisals (Norway);

102.130. Ensure the protection of human rights defenders in accordance with the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (Sweden);

102.131. Implement measures to protect journalists and human rights defenders, as well as effective policies to guarantee freedom of expression in Paraguay (Costa Rica);

102.132. Take steps to reduce the harassment, intimidation and death threats against defenders of human rights, and to publicly recognize the legitimacy and importance of the role of these defenders (Netherlands);

102.133. Adopt measures to guarantee the right to life, safety of human rights defenders and journalists, including for those defending indigenous communities from land grabbing (Norway);

102.134. Take the necessary measures to guarantee the human rights of human rights defenders and to promote and protect the space of the civil society (Switzerland);

102.135. Establish greater protections for journalists under threat and ensure prompt investigations of threats, harassment, and crimes against journalists (United States of America);

102.136. Continue its efforts to facilitate a greater participation and representation of women and indigenous people in public offices (Israel);

102.137. Further promote gender equality and involvement of women in politics and public services (Lao People's Democratic Republic);

102.138. Give special attention to families as the foundation of the well-being of the country (Egypt);

102.139. Increase investment in social welfare programs (Haiti);

102.140. Take further steps to strengthen its social protection programs, in favour of the most vulnerable sectors of the population (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

102.141. Support the implementation of domestic measures to ensure the protection of socially vulnerable groups of the population, including children (Tajikistan);

102.142. Continue strengthening all human rights, particularly in the areas of eradicating poverty, promoting and protecting the rights of children and adolescents, and fighting against human trafficking (Kuwait);

102.143. Persevere in including the needs of vulnerable groups in efforts to reduce poverty, particularly of persons with disabilities (Colombia);

102.144. Elaborate and implement an effective strategy to fight child poverty (Kyrgyzstan);

102.145. Continue efforts to combat poverty and provide assistance to families with limited income (Libya);

102.146. Pursue measures to eradicate poverty through the implementation of comprehensive public policies with a human rights-based approach (Ecuador);

102.147. Continue efforts towards improving literacy and reducing poverty through education and skills enhancement programs under the National Development Plan to 2030 (Malaysia);

102.148. Continue to implement National Health Policy 2015 (Pakistan);

102.149. Make every possible effort to guarantee universal access to healthcare through the National Health Policy (Holy See);

102.150. Continue the work on policies for the universal access to health, including the Health System for Indigenous Peoples (Dominican Republic);

102.151. Take effective measures to reduce the high maternal mortality rate (Kazakhstan);

102.152. Reduce the high rate of maternal mortality (Panama);

102.153. Deepen measures which are considered as necessary to reduce maternal mortality rates and to prevent adolescent pregnancy (Colombia);

102.154. Ensure adequate access to information on sexual and reproductive rights for women and girls (Belgium);

102.155. Continue the promotion of sexual and reproductive rights of women and eliminate discriminatory practices, in conformity with what has been established by CEDAW (Mexico);

102.156. Address deficiencies of the legal and policy system regarding the issue of pregnant children for better protecting young girls, as some of them had been forced to continue high-risk pregnancies with long-lasting impact on their physical and mental health (Germany);

102.157. Undertake measures to prevent high incidences of early pregnancy, including comprehensive sexuality education in schools and access to services in support of sexual health and reproductive rights (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

102.158. Consider introducing civic and human rights education in primary and secondary school curricula (Ethiopia);

102.159. Continue efforts aimed at ensuring the availability and accessibility of the education system to all children and improvement of school's infrastructure (Georgia);

102.160. Continue its efforts to improve the quality of the education system and to expand access to education for all children and adolescents, in particular for those belonging to indigenous peoples (Holy See);

102.161. Take additional measures for the full enjoyment of the right to education by children (Kyrgyzstan);

102.162. Ensure that vulnerable children and adolescents in rural communities have access to quality education and health care services (Lao People's Democratic Republic);

102.163. Further develop measures to ensure that an inclusive education system be available and accessible to all children, including those with disabilities and improve the quality and infrastructure of schools (Republic of Korea);

102.164. Strengthen measures with a view to guaranteeing full access to education for persons with disabilities (Argentina);

102.165. Strengthen access to the national education system for all children and adolescents with disabilities, ensuring an inclusive education (Chile);

102.166. Reinforce the schooling of persons with disabilities (Algeria);

102.167. Create an independent mechanism to protect persons with disabilities (Egypt);

102.168. Encourage the efforts taken for the creation of an independent mechanism for the monitoring of the application of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Morocco);

102.169. Establish an independent mechanism for the monitoring of the situation of persons with disabilities (Turkey);

102.170. Review the provisions restricting the voting rights of persons with disabilities (India);

102.171. Continue working for the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples, peasants and other persons working in rural areas (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));

102.172. Formulate a comprehensive policy protecting the rights of indigenous peoples (India);

102.173. Encourage enacting legislation that protects and promotes the rights of the indigenous peoples (Iraq);

102.174. Continue to take effective measures for the protection of indigenous peoples rights (Armenia);

102.175. Pass legislation that recognizes the rights of indigenous communities to express their opinion and to consultations (Lebanon);

102.176. Step up efforts in formulating protocols to implement the indigenous peoples right to free, prior and informed consent (Philippines);

102.177. Put in place a legal mechanism that enables indigenous communities from protecting and claiming their lands (Lebanon);

102.178. Address extant indigenous land claims, and ensure an end to discrimination against rural and indigenous communities (Australia);

102.179. Implement the rulings of the Inter-American Court on Human Rights regarding indigenous land claims by the Yakye Axa and Sawhoyamaxa Indigenous communities promptly and effectively (Canada);

102.180. Take measures to enforce the Inter-American Court sentences on the rights of indigenous peoples (Costa Rica);

102.181. Develop a comprehensive and forgery-proof land registry to enable indigenous communities to hold legal titles to their ancestral land, as previously recommended (Germany);

102.182. Protect the rights of the indigenous communities in terms of exploiting and using their lands (Lebanon);

102.183. Implement legislation that codifies the protection guaranteed in the **1954** Convention in national legislation (Portugal);

102.184. Implement a statelessness status determination procedure to ensure the protection of stateless persons who are not refugees (Portugal);

102.185. Continue to take steps to ensure the full and effective implementation of its National Development Plan to 2030 to combat poverty, particularly in rural areas (Singapore);

102.186. Ensure the implementation of environmental standards to protect the environment (Egypt).

Paraguay considers that the recommendations 102.2, 102.5, 102.6, 102.7, 102.8, 103. 102.9, 102.11, 5,12, 102.14, 102.15, 102.16, 102.17, 102.18, 102.20, 102.21, 102.22, 102.23, 102.24, 102.25, 102.26, 102.27, 102.30, 102.31, 102.32, 102.33, 102.35, 102.36, 102.37, 102.38, 102.39, 102.40, 102.41, 102.42, 102.43, 102.44, 102.45, 102.46, 102.47, 102.49, 102.51, 102.52, 102.53, 102.54, 102.55, 102.56, 102.57, 102.58, 102.59, 102.60, 102.61, 102.66, 102.67, 102.68, 102.69, 102.70, 102.71, 102.72, 102.73, 102.74, 102.75, 102.77, 102.78, 102.79, 102.80, 102.81, 102.82, 102.83, 102.84, 102.85, 102.86, 102.87, 102.90, 102.91, 102.92, 102.93, 102.95, 102.96, 102.97, 102.98, 102.99, 102.100, 102.101, 102.103, 102.104, 102.1106, 102.107, 102.108, 102.109, 102.110, 102.111, 102.113, 102.114, 102.115, 102.118, 102.119, 102.120, 102.121, 102.123, 102.124, 102.125, 102.129, 102.131, 5,133, 102.135, 102.137, 102.138, 102.139, 102.140, 102.141, 102.143, 102.144, 102.146, 102.149, 102.151, 102.152, 102.153, 102.155, 102.156, 102.157, 102.158, 102.161, 102.162, 102.163, 102.164, 102.166, 102.157, 102.158, 102.169, 102.170, 102.172, 102.173, 102.175, 102.176, 102.178, 102.179, 102.180, 102.181, 102.182, 102.183, 102.184, 102.186 above, are already implemented or in the process of implementation.

104. The following recommendation will be examined by Paraguay which will provide a response in due time, but no later than the thirty-second session of the Human Rights Council in June 2016:

104.1. Convene an independent commission to investigate all credible allegations of human rights violations related to the 2012 law enforcement action at Marina Cue (United States of America).

105. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Paraguay and would thus be noted:

105.1. Ratify the Optional Protocol to Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ghana);

105.2. Consider withdrawing its reservation to articles 76 and 77 of the ICRMW (Philippines);

105.3. **Reform its punitive anti-abortion laws (Australia);**

105.4. Repeal legislation criminalizing women and girls for having an abortion, as well as healthcare providers performing such services, and take measures to allow legal and safe abortions at least in cases of rape or incest, in cases where the life or health of the mother is at risk, or where the foetus is diagnosed with grave health deficiencies (Austria);

105.102. Repeal legislation criminalizing abortion and ensure access to legal and safe abortion for victims of rape and incest, in cases where the life or health of a woman is at risk or when the foetus is not viable (Slovenia)

105.6. Establish and effectively apply the legal provisions authorizing abortion, in cases when pregnancies are due to rape or incest, or when it is established that the foetus is not viable, or when the life or the health of the mothers is at risk (Switzerland).

106. Concerning recommendation 105.1 put forward by Ghana, Paraguay informs that it is a State Party to the Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. It has also signed the Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure.

107. Concerning recommendation 105.2 put forward by Philippines, Paraguay informs that it has not made any reservations to articles 76 and 77 of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families.

108. Concerning recommendations 105.3, 105.4, 105.5, 105.6 put forward by Australia, Austria, Slovenia and Switzerland, Paraguay considers that these are not in accordance with the National Constitution (article 4), the commitments made by Paraguay when ratifying the Inter-American Human Rights Convention (article 4) and the national legislation.

109. 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 Paraguay was headed by H.E. Ambassador Óscar Cabello Sarubbi, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and composed of the following members:

- S.E. Guillermo Sosa, Ministro de Trabajo, Empleo y Seguridad Social;
- S.E. Héctor Cárdenas, Ministro Secretario Ejecutivo Secretaría de Acción Social;
- S.E. Rocío Florentín, Ministra Secretaria Ejecutiva Secretaría Nacional por los Derechos Humanos de las Personas con Discapacidad;
- S.E. Carlos Zárate, Ministro Secretario Ejecutivo Secretaría Nacional de la Niñez y la Adolescencia;
- S.E Embajador Juan Esteban Aguirre, Representante Permanente del Paraguay ante las Naciones Unidas y Organismos Especializados;
- Ministro Juan Miguel González Bibolini, Director General de Derechos Humanos del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores;
- Embajador Carlos Fleitas, Jefe de Gabinete de la Secretaria Técnica de Planificación;
- Sr. Ricardo González, Director General de Gabinete de la Secretaria Nacional de la Niñez y la Adolescencia;
- Sra. María José Méndez, Directora General de Derechos Humanos del Ministerio de Justicia;
- Sra. Dalila Zarza, Directora General de Planificación del Ministerio de Educación y Culto;
- Sr. Víctor Thomas, Director General de Asesoría Jurídica del Ministerio de Trabajo, Empleo y Seguridad Social;
- Sra. Nury Montiel, Directora de Derechos Humanos de la Corte Suprema de Justicia;
- Sra. Tania Abdo, Asesora de la Comisión de la Cámara de Diputados;
- Sra. Belén Morra Alvarenga, Jefa del Departamento de Informes a Órganos de Tratados y Asuntos Políticos del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores;
- Sr. Andrés Ramírez, Jefe de Departamento de Derechos Humanos de la Corte Suprema de Justicia;
- Sra. Laura Bordón, Jefa de la Unidad de Derechos Humanos del Ministerio de Salud y Bienestar Social;
- Sra. Verónica López, Jefa del Departamento de Normas Internacionales del Ministerio de Trabajo, Empleo y Seguridad Social;
- Sra. Carmen Orlandini, Técnica del Instituto Paraguayo del Indígena;
- Sr. Jorge Brizuela, Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante las Naciones Unidas y Organismos Especializados;

- Sr. Miguel Candia, Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante las Naciones Unidas y Organismos Especializados;
- Oficial Raquel Pereira, Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante las Naciones Unidas y Organismos Especializados;
- Sr. Juan Alberto Guzmán, Técnico de la Unidad General de Derechos Humanos, del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores;
- Srta. Ximena Abente, Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante las Naciones Unidas y Organismos Especializados.