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Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review Thirty-fifth session 20–31 January 2020

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

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

### I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 11 stakeholders' submissions to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

### II. Information provided by stakeholders

# A. Scope of international obligations<sup>1</sup> and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies<sup>2</sup>

- 2. ICAN recommended Lesotho to sign and ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a matter of international urgency.<sup>3</sup>
- 3. JS4 recommended the ratification of the following peace and disarmament treaties and conventions on: the Optional Protocol III of the 1949 Geneva Conventions; the three Hague conventions on the protection of cultural property; the Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques; the amended protocol II of the Convention of conventional weapons; and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
- 4. JS9 noted that Lesotho has made no efforts to adopt the country's stance in relation to the recommendation on the article 2 of the UN convention on Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).<sup>4</sup>
- 5. JS9 noted that Lesotho has not implemented supported recommendations on domesticating CAT nor ratified OP-CAT. The State Report to the Committee Against Torture has not been submitted.
- 6. JS9 recommended to ratify OP-CAT.<sup>5</sup>

st The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.







7. JS4 recommend the swift ratification of Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.<sup>6</sup>

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

#### 1. Cross-cutting issues

Equality and non-discrimination<sup>7</sup>

- 8. JS1 stated that there remained societal barriers against women which prevented them from seeking redress.<sup>8</sup> It also said that the Land Act changed the law that provided only men could register land and allowed women to register land in their names.<sup>9</sup>
- 9. JS3 requested Lesotho to amend its nationality legislation and remove discriminatory provisions which allow Lesotho men to pass on their nationality to their spouses while Lesotho women cannot.<sup>10</sup>
- 10. JS9 recommended to amend the Constitution and repeal section 18(4)(c) to include disability and sexual orientation as prohibited grounds of discrimination and minority languages as official languages in Lesotho.<sup>11</sup> It further recommended to enact a law aimed at the protection of elderly people.<sup>12</sup>
- 11. JS6 noted that there are no endorsed or legal means for transgender people to change the gender markers on identity documents. As a result, transgender persons are presented with complications in accessing services because the assigned gender or sex which appear in the identification documents do not match their self-identified gender.<sup>13</sup>
- 12. JS6 recommended to give LGBTI people similar rights and benefits which are definite to heterosexual and cis-gender people, to establish an independent national human rights commission in compliance with the Paris Principles where their work will be to enforce laws which protect and promote the rights of the LGBTI Persons, to work towards altering public views concerning diverse sexual and gender identities for LGBTI persons to be entirely accepted by society, as well as to criminalise homophobia and transphobia to prevent violence and discrimination against LGBTI persons, and to amend Section 3 of Marriage Act 1974 for it to be inclusive of same-sex couples.<sup>14</sup>
- 13. JS6 recommended to eliminate all sodomy laws to advance the universal vision of human rights, to work alongside LGBTI activists to eradicate stigma and discrimination, to establish advance toilets policies which would promote unisex toilets and facilities to accommodate transgender and non-gender conforming persons, as well as to enact laws recognising reassigned gender {on gender identity documents} as a done in the name changes.<sup>15</sup>
- 14. JS7 noted that Lesotho has done little to tackle the pervasive patriarchal and heteronormative beliefs and practices which has an impact on the current legal and policy framework that translates into a context that prevents most LGBTI persons from expressing their sexual orientation and gender identity openly for fear of violence, discrimination and stigma, which the government has used to justify its reluctance to change discriminatory laws in the area of land inheritance and female chieftainship.<sup>16</sup>
- 15. JS7 and JS9 stated that sexual orientation and gender identity is not recognised as a ground for non-discrimination in the Constitution<sup>17</sup> as a result it fosters a climate of fear among LGBTI persons and fuels stigma and discrimination against them.<sup>18</sup>
- 16. JS7 condemned the legal ambiguity in relation to same sex conduct as well as the government's silence and so-called 'neutral position' in matters of LGBTI rights, coupled with dominant patriarchal and heteronormative norms, which according to them leaves legal and social loopholes for a homophobic state and non-state actors to exploit and use against LGBTI persons making them vulnerable to violence, harassment and discrimination in all avenues of life.<sup>19</sup>

- 17. JS6 noted that there was no specific protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity<sup>20</sup> which makes lesbians, gays, bisexual and transgender people, experience societal disregard and discrimination<sup>21</sup> thus, according to the Southern African Litigation Centre (2016), transgender identifying persons in Lesotho experience discrimination in the hands of healthcare staff in health institutions.<sup>22</sup>
- 18. JS9 noted that the omission of a legislative framework for the protection of the LGBTI community leads to discrimination of various forms including targeted assaults by the police, non-recognition of LGBTI unions like lawful marriages, prohibition to adopt children, denial of access to healthcare services which has led to high prevalence of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) amongst the LGBTI community and spread of such in the entire country as well as direct victims of domestic violence, denial of rights within their families, social exclusion and being forced into conventional marriages and initiation schools amongst others, not forgetting the discrimination against inter-sexed children whom at birth, are subjected to sex-reassigning and consequently a number of complications when such a child is older.<sup>23</sup>

Development, the environment, and business and human rights<sup>24</sup>

- 19. JAI noted that climate change would negatively impact the water resources and agricultural productivity in Lesotho.<sup>25</sup> Desertification<sup>26</sup> and food security<sup>27</sup> is a concern. The consequences may be addressed, by aiding in sustainable agricultural practices, and land and water management.<sup>28</sup>
- 20. JS9 noted that the rights of individuals and communities affected by the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) have been violated by the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) in various ways, including denial of participation in the decision-making processes affecting expropriation of their land and other property, insufficient compensation, delayed payment of compensation with no interest upon payment and failure to compensate them for loss of communal property.<sup>29</sup>
- 21. JS9 recommended the State to improve public participation in development activities to ensure that affected people give informed consent to expropriation of their property and also benefit from such developments as well as to adopt a comprehensive compensation policies and laws to guide compensation which considers, the rights of affected communities and individuals.<sup>30</sup>

#### 2. Civil and political rights

Right to life, liberty and security of person<sup>31</sup>

- 22. JS4 noted with concern that death penalty was still present in the Constitution of Lesotho and urged to change the law, to abolish the death penalty and to commute all remaining death sentences.<sup>32</sup>
- 23. JS4 recommended to urgently adopt the suicide prevention plan as well as a traffic casualties' prevention.<sup>33</sup>
- 24. JS1 stated that journalists and human rights defenders (HRDs) have frequently been threatened when they reported on corruption related cases or anti-government protests over the past two years<sup>34</sup> as well as they have been shot, injured or killed . JS1 recommended that those responsible need to be held accountable.<sup>35</sup>
- 25. JS9 said that there was still no anti-torture legislation, and that perpetrators of torture were not punished and its victims were without redress.<sup>36</sup> JS9 expressed with concern the absence of a comprehensive legal framework, which has led to the occurrence of many acts of torture by police and military.<sup>37</sup>

Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law<sup>38</sup>

26. JS9 recommended the State to appoint court intermediaries, similar to those employed in the Children's Court, to ensure accommodation and access to justice for persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities.<sup>39</sup>

- 27. JS9 recommended investigating, prosecuting and punishing perpetrators of torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment as well as providing redress, including rehabilitation, for victims of torture and members of their families.<sup>40</sup>
- 28. JS1 noted that sedition was still criminalised along with other laws, which curtailed a free press and free speech, and preventing Lesotho from achieving freedom of expression as protected in its Constitution and under international human rights law.<sup>41</sup>
- 29. JS1 recommended to repeal the crime of sedition from the Penal Code and to reduce restrictions and regulations on the press,<sup>42</sup> and to ensure that detainees are brought promptly before an independent court as well as to proceed with a fair trial in reasonable time.<sup>43</sup>
- 30. JS2 recommended to strengthen its efforts in addressing domestic violence and all forms of violence against women and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice and duly punished.<sup>44</sup>

#### Fundamental freedoms<sup>45</sup>

- 31. JS9 expressed with concern that freedom of association and peaceful assembly were unduly limited and the Public Processions and Meetings Act gave the police excessive powers including the discretion to give permits for processions and meetings.<sup>46</sup>
- 32. JS9 noted that the Public Service Act prohibited formation of trade unions by public servants thereby stifling their ability to negotiate with the employer and or strike.<sup>47</sup> JS9 recommended to amend the Public Service Act to allow civil servants to unionise.<sup>48</sup>
- 33. JS1 recommended to amend the law to remove penalties for failure to register an association and to amend the law to remove penalties for being part of an assembly which lacks a permit.<sup>49</sup>
- 34. JS1 recommended to ensure that the passage of any future Cyber Crimes Bill includes ample opportunity for public participation and protects the human rights of internet users, including the right to access information.<sup>50</sup>
- 35. JS1 noted that Lesotho lacked legislation that would give access to its citizens of information that is essential to participating in a free, democratic society. Since 2012, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights adopted a Model Law on Access to Information, however, the government has made no progress towards adopting a law on Access to Information.<sup>51</sup>

#### Prohibition of all forms of slavery<sup>52</sup>

- 36. JS2 appreciated Lesotho's effort in recognizing the awareness campaigns put in place on human trafficking, especially in the urban areas, but noted with deep concern the serious violations that young victims continued to face.<sup>53</sup>
- 37. JS2 recommended to ensure effective mechanisms and guidelines for reporting cases of sexual exploitation and trafficking in persons, and to provide psychological support and reintegration services for the victims as well as to take appropriate measures to eradicate sexual exploitation and human trafficking, by prosecuting and imposing appropriate sanctions on perpetrators of the violations.<sup>54</sup>

#### Right family life55

- 38. JS2 recommended to continue its efforts aimed at sensitizing parents, guardians, and children on child marriage and its consequences 56 as well as to provide financial support to families in disadvantaged economic situations and create new employment opportunities. <sup>57</sup>
- 39. JS3 stated that gender discrimination can lead, as the Global Campaign on Equal Nationality Rights, to other issues, such as threatened family unity, and the lack of economic opportunities and poverty of the husband.<sup>58</sup>

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

Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work<sup>59</sup>

- 40. JS9 recommended to improve working conditions of the factory workers<sup>60</sup> as well as implement the laws against child labour and punishment of its perpetrators.<sup>61</sup>
- 41. JS2 noted with concern about the high rate of youth unemployment, corresponding to 40.05% in 2018, according to the World Bank.<sup>62</sup>
- 42. JS2 recommended to implement the action programme for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour (APEC) with the provision of sufficient resources.<sup>63</sup>

Right to an adequate standard of living<sup>64</sup>

- 43. JS1 expressed concern at the fact that many communities which were displaced by large projects faced unequal access to potable water.<sup>65</sup>
- 44. JS1 noted that Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) with impact watersheds over 40 percent of the country's total area, has led to many concerns about the right to water and sanitation for communities impacted by the dams. For a country that already struggles to provide access to safe drinking water for its population, altering the water system at such drastic levels could exasperate the problem.<sup>66</sup>
- 45. JS1 recommended to dedicate more money to water and sanitation in order to provide universal access to potable water and improved sanitation facilities as well as to conduct a review of compensation effort by the LHDA and ensure just compensation of communities relocated and impacted by the LHWP.<sup>67</sup>
- 46. JS2 noted with concern that child poverty was considerably higher in rural than in urban areas, as well as a serious gap in access to education and health services and in terms of protection from child labour, trafficking and exploitation.<sup>68</sup> JS2 recommended to continue its efforts to eliminate extreme poverty that leads to overshadowing the right to education due to concrete and current needs<sup>69</sup> as well as to monitor and protect children driven by poverty to migrate from rural to urban areas or to other countries to engage in child labour or the worst forms of child labour in order to sustain their own families.<sup>70</sup>
- 47. JS2 recommended to ensure safe access to education, health services, and water in order to reduce exposure to violence of children.<sup>71</sup>

Right to health<sup>72</sup>

- 48. JS9 recommended the decriminalisation of abortion and enactment of laws to regulate it.<sup>73</sup>
- 49. JS9 recommended the decentralisation of healthcare services as well as the establishment of a Health Commission through an Act of Parliament for it to regulate healthcare and an increase of the Budget to the Ministry of Health in order to improve implementation of the right to health by employing specialised medical practitioners, ensuring the welfare of medical practitioners during practice, and make provision for their early retirement.<sup>74</sup>
- 50. JS2 noted that despite the presence of mobile clinics, people living in rural areas were still discriminated in access to health services.<sup>75</sup>
- 51. JS2 recommended to implement policies aimed at improving child health and strengthening measures to reduce child mortality, included in the remote regions, <sup>76</sup> as well as to reduce the disparities in access to health care, by providing the poorest sections of the population with adequate financial support; to improve the quality of public health services, including the provision of qualified medical staff and adequate infrastructures especially in remote areas; and also to strengthen endeavours to raise awareness on HIV/AIDS and to increase prevention of mother-to-child transmission.<sup>77</sup>
- 52. ADF commended Lesotho for pursuing strategies of positive maternal healthcare as an alternative to legalizing abortion.<sup>78</sup>

- 53. ADF recommended to take further measures to improve health care infrastructure, access to emergency obstetric care, midwife training, and resources devoted to maternal health.<sup>79</sup>
- 54. JS6 and JS7 stated that Lesotho is the second country with the highest HIV and AIDS incidence, with a prevalence of 25% in the world.<sup>80</sup>
- 55. JS7 expressed concern over most healthcare providers' attitudes towards LGBTI persons seeking health services remain judgmental<sup>81</sup> since they are not adequately trained and supervised in providing health services and information to LGBTI in a non-discriminatory manner.<sup>82</sup>
- 56. JS7 highlighted the efforts made by the Minister of Health in the National Budget Speech in February 2019 which issued a call for increasing the Health sector budget to fulfil issues of "Key Populations" more specifically the LGBTI community, people living with disabilities etc<sup>83</sup> but regretted that there has been a failure to adequately roll out HIV prevention services to incarcerated persons<sup>84</sup> and that the only contraceptive that have been provided through the public health system are condoms.
- 57. JS7 recommended to collaborate with LGBTI civil society organisations to develop and implement mandatory training programs for health care workers to reduce stigma and discrimination against all members of key populations, and to promote a human rights-based approach to healthcare and service delivery.<sup>85</sup>
- 58. JS7 asked Lesotho to review the current data collection in the areas of health, gender-based violence, education and training to ensure that the information collected is disaggregated by sexual orientation and gender identity and to use this data to review and improve access for LGBTI persons to current programs and services provided in these areas.<sup>86</sup>

#### Right to education87

- 59. JS4 recommended to Lesotho and all its educational staff the integration of peace and peaceful relations, of non-violent conflict prevention and management, in the education curricula.<sup>88</sup>
- 60. JS9 noted with concern that school dropout remained high due to factors such as pregnancy, child marriage, going to initiation school, lack of funding to study and unfriendly environment for LGBTI learners.<sup>89</sup>
- 61. JS9 hinted other challenge regarding the implementation of the right to education at the fact that the teachers were overloaded as the teachers-student ratio did not conform to international standards.<sup>90</sup>
- 62. JS9 recommended to revive Distance Learning to accommodate learners who cannot be in class during the normal learning hours like herd boys, teenage mothers and learners who were married very young; revisit the new curriculum and resuscitate the seemingly collapsing education system; as well as to create an effective implementation of the Education Act and the Children's Protection and Welfare Act to ensure access to education for all learners.<sup>91</sup>
- 63. JS1 recommended to conduct trainings for police officers on human rights and prevention of arbitrary arrests and torture<sup>92</sup> and to conduct community trainings on the Legal Capacity of Married Persons Act of 2006 and the Land Act of 2010 to help educate women about their property rights as well as to provide training and financial support for public lawyers dedicated to helping women protect property claims that are being encroached on by community leaders or family members.<sup>93</sup>
- 64. JS2 noted with deep concern the high fees and the level of dropout in secondary school. In 2017, the school gross enrolment rate at secondary level was 56,02% and a low rate was registered among boys (47,56 in comparison to 64,54 of girls), most from the remotest rural area. In families with limited resources, boys have fewer possibilities of access due to their frequent work as herders. JS2 noted the existence of school drop-out connected to early marriages, child labour and not married pregnant girls' discrimination.

- 65. JS2 recommended to guarantee the provision of quality education, especially in rural areas, through the construction of educational infrastructures and ensuring an adequate number of trained and qualified teachers, as well as facilitate access to secondary school, through progressive elimination of fees and provision of secondary schools in rural regions, and to raise awareness among children, parents, and teachers on the right to education for all, including people with disabilities and pregnant girls, thus promoting and supporting inclusive education.<sup>96</sup>
- 66. JS2 appreciated Lesotho's effort in welcoming the prohibition of corporal punishment in schools by law but noted that this practice continued to be used in some schools.<sup>97</sup>
- 67. JS2 recommended to increase the compulsory education age that is creating a lack of protection for children between the end of the compulsory education age and the minimum age of work<sup>98</sup> as well as to expand national programs aimed to raise awareness among children of their right to be protected from violence and of where to report acts of violence against them, in urban as well in rural areas.<sup>99</sup>
- 68. JS2 recommended to continue to strengthen human rights education in school programs, including by providing in-depth training programs for all teachers and human rights training for parents. 100

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

- 69. JS9 mentioned that the government has not adopted any laws or policies aimed at preserving the minority cultures and languages<sup>101</sup> and has also not implemented the recommendation to align customs and attitudes with international obligations to eliminate discrimination against women which received Lesotho's support in as much as vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities as well as sexual and linguistic minorities in Lesotho continue to face discrimination based on attitudes and customary practices.<sup>102</sup>
- 70. JS2 welcomed the presence of the Child and Gender Protection Unit (GCPUs) aimed to protect the rights of children and women in case of abuse or any other violation. <sup>103</sup> JS2 recommended the state to provide sufficient material, logistical and human resources for the Child and Gender Protection Unit and ensure ongoing training to GCPU's officials on gender and child-related matters. <sup>104</sup>

#### $Women^{105}$

- 71. ADF pointed out that the high rates of maternal mortality were linked to the high incidence of HIV in Lesotho, an inability to access obstetric care, lack of information, lack of transportation, and lack of health workers, especially in the case of women living in poverty and in remote or rural areas.<sup>106</sup>
- 72. ADF recommended the state to make advance efforts to safely get mothers and babies through pregnancy and childbirth, with special attention paid to improving health-care access for women from poor and/or rural backgrounds. 107
- 73. JS1 noted that discrimination against women was written into the Constitution, and created a legal environment which did not provide women with equal protection under the law<sup>108</sup> but appreciated Lesotho's progress in recognising, advancing respect for, and enforcing women's rights with reference to the case of Private Lekhetso Mokhele and Others v The Commander, Lesotho Defence Forces and Others on 14th February 2018.<sup>109</sup>
- 74. JS1 expressed with concern the violation of women's rights written into Section 18 of the Constitution of Lesotho, which allowed discrimination against women if it was part of customary law which violated their rights. Women cannot succeed their fathers with regards to chieftainship in Customary Law which excludes them from the traditional political power structures and due to the absence of domestic violence legislation, physically and sexually abused victims rarely get the justice they deserve because of the backlog in cases. 112
- 75. JS1 recommended to repeal Section 18(4)(c) of the Constitution. 113

- 76. JS2 recommended to raise awareness among women of their rights and of reporting mechanisms in case of acts of violence against them.<sup>114</sup>
- 77. JS2 expressed with deep concern the lack of endeavours to investigate all cases of gender violence in rural as well as urban areas, and about the lack of measures taken by the Government to punish perpetrators.<sup>115</sup>
- 78. GIEACPC noted that a Domestic Violence Bill was under discussion but there is no information on proposed provision<sup>116</sup> JS9 recommended passing the Domestic Violence Bill into an Act of Parliament.<sup>117</sup>

#### Children<sup>118</sup>

- 79. GIEACPC noted that corporal punishment was lawful in penal institutions and in alternative care settings under the provisions for "justifiable" chastisement in the Children's Protection and Welfare Act 2011 (art. 16) and for "lawful and reasonable chastisement of children" in the Penal Code Act 2010 (art. 32). 119 JS2 expressed with deep concern that corporal punishment is not expressly prohibited by law at home. 120
- 80. JS3 noted that births in rural areas were less likely to be registered, with a percentage of 40.1% in 2014. Even though birth registration is free, the penalties levied for late registration of birth is a major disincentive for parents once it is not done after three months and, in the absence of parents, those registering births often do not know which documents to produce to facilitate birth registration. 121
- 81. JS3 noted with importance that there were no provisions for granting citizenship to foundlings in either the Constitution or the Citizenship Order and as a consequence children found in Lesotho and who appear to have been born in Lesotho were not afforded the right to a nationality at birth.<sup>122</sup> Thus, children who are stateless will not have access to citizenship until they have attained adulthood.<sup>123</sup>
- 82. JS3 recommended to take all necessary steps to break down barriers in accessing birth registration, including by allocating sufficient human and financial resources to the National Identity and Civil Registry Department, and ensure that the births of all children born in Lesotho are registered immediately as well as to ensure non-discriminatory, comprehensive and consistent implementation of regulations relevant to birth registration, particularly, children born in rural areas, among indigenous populations and for children not born in hospitals, to provide free birth registration for those unable to pay the current costs and raising awareness about the importance of birth registration.<sup>124</sup>
- 83. JS3 recommended to ensure that all national laws, regulations and policies are in line with Lesotho's obligations under international law and its Constitution, and to ensure the right of every child to acquire a nationality and prevent childhood statelessness as well as to help prevent discrimination against children who are particularly vulnerable to statelessness due to their circumstances or discriminatory legal provisions, in particular, foundlings, children whose births have not been registered, children of Lesotho citizens married abroad and children of Lesotho mothers and foreign or stateless fathers. 125
- 84. JS3 recommended to ensure that all foundlings or abandoned children found on territory are protected and that their right to acquire Lesotho nationality is guaranteed, in compliance with Article 7 CRC, SDG 16.9 and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.<sup>126</sup>
- 85. JS9 expressed with concern that despite the prohibition of child labour under both the Labour Code and Children's Protection and Welfare Act, children continued to be employed as domestic workers, hawkers, sex workers, herd boys and factory workers<sup>127</sup> and that although public awareness campaigns were often held against child marriages, early and forced child marriages continued to take place at an alarming rate in Lesotho. <sup>128</sup>
- 86. JS9 recommended the State to provide social grants to all orphaned and vulnerable children. 129
- 87. JS2 commended Lesotho for the ongoing law reform process to prohibit the child marriage without exception, including by repealing the section of the Marriage Act (1974) that allows girls to marry at the age of 16 but stated with deep concern about the high

prevalence of early marriages and noted that this harmful cultural tradition had a higher rate in remote areas and was often connected to school drop-out. <sup>130</sup> JS9 recommended that the State should eradicate early and forced child marriages. <sup>131</sup>

88. JS2 noted that children continued to be involved in several forms of child labour in Lesotho where they were illegally employed in various jobs such as domestic work, herding, farming, street work, sexual exploitation. The most vulnerable children facing the major risks are usually from rural areas.<sup>132</sup>

Persons with disabilities 133

- 89. JS9 noted with concern that persons with disabilities faced discrimination in different forms, including lack of employment opportunities, access to justice, as well as lack of inclusion and accommodation in education.<sup>134</sup>
- 90. JS9 recommended Lesotho to pass the Disability Equity Bill into an Act of Parliament. 135

Stateless persons136

- 91. JS3 commended Lesotho for its efforts towards strengthening the registration system<sup>137</sup> but highlighted that the penalty levied for late registration has become a major disincentive for parents which corresponds to a childhood statelessness risk.<sup>138</sup>
- 92. JS2 recommended Lesotho to continue its efforts to raise awareness on the importance of birth registration and on the related theme of statelessness and provide outreach facilities in the remotest areas of the country to encourage poor communities and vulnerable groups to exercise their rights to registration at birth as well as eliminating the penalty for late registration.<sup>139</sup>
- 93. JS3 stated that there was a need for provision of free services including outreach facilities in the remotest areas of the country to especially encourage poor communities and vulnerable groups to exercise their rights to registration at birth<sup>140</sup> and commended Lesotho for the 2018 amendment of its Constitution to include dual citizenship,<sup>141</sup> but noted that the requirement for stateless persons to have legal status in Lesotho for at least three years before making an application for nationality could prove difficulty, since it was often hard for stateless persons to get a residence permit in Lesotho.<sup>142</sup>
- 94. JS3 recommended Lesotho to establish a statelessness determination procedure and domesticate a legal framework for the protection of stateless persons, in line with the 1954 Convention, and in order to ensure that stateless persons enjoy their human right as well as to amend section 10 of the Citizenship Order which requires that a stateless person should be 18 years old to have legal status in Lesotho before making an application for nationality.<sup>143</sup>
- 95. JS3 recommended Lesotho to ensure that all stateless children, regardless of legal status, can apply for citizenship without discrimination and that all Lesotho citizens who were themselves born abroad can pass on their Lesotho nationality to their children born abroad.<sup>144</sup>

Notes

<sup>1</sup> The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:

ICERD International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of

Racial Discrimination;

ICESCR International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural

Rights;

OP-ICESCR Optional Protocol to ICESCR;

ICCPR International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

ICCPR-OP 1 Optional Protocol to ICCPR;

ICCPR-OP 2 Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of

the death penalty;

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CEDAW
                                                 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination
                                                 against Women;
            OP-CEDAW
                                                 Optional Protocol to CEDAW;
                                                 Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or
            CAT
                                                 Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
            OP-CAT
                                                 Optional Protocol to CAT;
                                                 Convention on the Rights of the Child;
            CRC
            OP-CRC-AC
                                                 Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in
                                                 armed conflict;
            OP-CRC-SC
                                                 Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child
                                                 prostitution and child pornography;
            OP-CRC-IC
                                                 Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure;
            ICRMW
                                                 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All
                                                 Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
                                                 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
            CRPD
                                                 Optional Protocol to CRPD;
            OP-CRPD
            ICPPED
                                                 International Convention for the Protection of All Persons
                                                 from Enforced Disappearance.
<sup>2</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.1, 113.3, 113.4, 113.6 113.10, 113.12,
    113.45 - 113.47, 113.49 - 113.52, 113.74, 114.1 - 114.14, 114.18, 115.1 - 115.6, 115.11, 115.18, 115.19,
    115.22, 115.23.
<sup>3</sup> ICAN, page 1.
<sup>4</sup> JS9, para. 5.
<sup>5</sup> JS9, para. 35.
<sup>6</sup> JS4 page 6.
<sup>7</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.5, 113.7, 113.9, 113.53, 113.57, 113.67,
    114.16, 115.12.
<sup>8</sup> JS1, para. 63.
<sup>9</sup> JS1, para. 54.
<sup>10</sup> JS3, para. 34.
<sup>11</sup> JS9, para. 13.
<sup>12</sup> JS9, para. 13.
<sup>13</sup> JS6, para. 8.
<sup>14</sup> JS6, para. 9.
<sup>15</sup> JS6, para. 9.
<sup>16</sup> JS7, paras. 5 and 6.
^{\rm 17}~ JS7, para. 8 and JS9, para. 11.
<sup>18</sup> JS7, para. 9.
<sup>19</sup> JS7, para. 17.
<sup>20</sup> JS6, para. 2.
<sup>21</sup> JS6, para. 3.
<sup>22</sup> JS6, para. 4.
<sup>23</sup> JS9, para. 11.
   For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.85, 113.86, 113.88, 113.89, 113.91,
    113.117, 113.119-113.121.
<sup>25</sup> JAI, para. 3.
<sup>26</sup> JAI, para. 4.
<sup>27</sup> JAI, para. 10.
<sup>28</sup> JAI, para. 16.
<sup>29</sup> JS9, para. 46.
<sup>30</sup> JS9, para. 50.
<sup>31</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 115.10, 115.16–115.20, 115.21, 115.24.
<sup>32</sup> JS4, page 6.
<sup>33</sup> JS4, page 7.
<sup>34</sup> JS1, para. 28.
<sup>35</sup> JS1, para. 37.
<sup>36</sup> JS9, para. 23.
<sup>37</sup> JS9, para. 24.
38 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.38–113.40, 113.59, 113.60, 113.77–
    113.79, 114.22, 115.8, 115.9.
<sup>39</sup> JS9, para. 21.
<sup>40</sup> JS9, para. 35.
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<sup>41</sup> JS1, para. 12.
 <sup>42</sup> JS1, para. 13.
<sup>43</sup> JS1, para. 40.
<sup>44</sup> JS2, para. 36.
<sup>45</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.42–113.44.
<sup>46</sup> JS9, para. 37.
<sup>47</sup> JS9, para. 39.
<sup>48</sup> JS9, para. 40.
<sup>49</sup> JS1, para. 20.
 <sup>50</sup> JS1, para. 27.
 <sup>51</sup> JS1, para. 21.
<sup>52</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.61–113.63, 113.65, 113.66, 114.21.
 <sup>53</sup> JS2, para. 31.
 <sup>54</sup> JS2, para. 33.
 <sup>55</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.11, 113.70–113.72, 113.84.
 <sup>56</sup> JS2, para. 24.
 <sup>57</sup> JS2, para. 30.
<sup>58</sup> JS3, para. 32.
<sup>59</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.80.
<sup>60</sup> JS9, para. 53.
<sup>61</sup> JS9, para. 67.
62 JS2, para. 29.
<sup>63</sup> JS2, para. 30.
<sup>64</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.82.
<sup>65</sup> JS1, para. 2.
 66 JS1, para. 41.
 67 JS1, para. 50.
 <sup>68</sup> JS2, para. 7.
 69 JS2, para. 11.
<sup>70</sup> JS2, para. 30.
<sup>71</sup> JS2, para. 11.
<sup>72</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.92–113.104, 114.24.
<sup>73</sup> JS9, para. 45.
<sup>74</sup> JS9, para. 45.
<sup>75</sup> JS2, para. 25.
<sup>76</sup> JS2, para. 11.
<sup>77</sup> JS2, para. 27.
 <sup>78</sup> ADF, para. 14.
 <sup>79</sup> ADF, para. 20.
 80 JS6, para. 4 and JS7, para. 18.
 81 JS7, para. 26.
 82 JS7, para. 25.
 83 JS7, para. 19.
 84 JS7, para. 24.
 85 JS7, para. 32.
 86 JS7, para. 34.
 <sup>87</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.105–113.112, 113.115, 114.23.
 88 JS4, page 8.
 89 JS9, para. 57.
 <sup>90</sup> JS9, para. 58.
 <sup>91</sup> JS9, para. 62.
 <sup>92</sup> JS1, para. 40.
 <sup>93</sup> JS1, para. 66.
 <sup>94</sup> JS2, para. 16.
<sup>95</sup> JS2, para. 17.
 <sup>96</sup> JS2, para. 21.
<sup>97</sup> JS2, para. 23.
<sup>98</sup> JS2, para. 30.
<sup>99</sup> JS2, para. 33.
<sup>100</sup> JS2, para. 21.
<sup>101</sup> JS9, para. 10.
<sup>102</sup> JS9, para. 8.
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<sup>103</sup> JS2, para. 34.
 <sup>104</sup> JS2, para. 36.
^{105} \ \ For \ relevant \ recommendations \ see \ A/HRC/29/9, \ paras. \ 113.2, \ 113.41, \ 113.54-113.56, \ 113.68, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113.69, \ 113
             113.73, 113.76, 114.15, 114.17.
<sup>106</sup> ADF, para. 5.
<sup>107</sup> ADF, para. 20.
<sup>108</sup> JS1, para. 2.
<sup>109</sup> JS1, para. 51.
<sup>110</sup> JS1, para. 52.
<sup>111</sup> JS1, para. 53.
<sup>112</sup> JS1, para. 56.
<sup>113</sup> JS1, para. 66.
<sup>114</sup> JS2, para. 36.
<sup>115</sup> JS2, para. 35.
116 GIEACPC, page 3.
<sup>117</sup> JS9, para. 13.
<sup>118</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.64, 113.75, 113.81, 113.83.
119 GIEACPC, page 3.
<sup>120</sup> JS2, para. 23.
<sup>121</sup> JS3, para. 21.
<sup>122</sup> JS3, para. 26.
<sup>123</sup> JS3, para. 27.
<sup>124</sup> JS3, para. 34.
<sup>125</sup> JS3, para. 34.
<sup>126</sup> JS3, para. 34.
<sup>127</sup> JS9, para. 64.
<sup>128</sup> JS9, para. 65.
<sup>129</sup> JS9, para. 62.
<sup>130</sup> JS2, para. 22.
<sup>131</sup> JS9, para. 67.
<sup>132</sup> JS2, para. 28.
<sup>133</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.114.
<sup>134</sup> JS9, para. 12.
<sup>135</sup> JS9, para. 13.
<sup>136</sup> For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/29/9, paras. 113.58, 114.20.
<sup>137</sup> JS3, para. 18.
<sup>138</sup> JS2, para. 13.
<sup>139</sup> JS2, para. 14.
<sup>140</sup> JS3, para. 22.
<sup>141</sup> JS3, para. 23.
<sup>142</sup> JS3, para. 28.
<sup>143</sup> JS3, para. 34.
<sup>144</sup> JS3, para. 34.
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