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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Forty-fourth session**  
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## **Bangladesh**

### **Compilation of information prepared by 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 outcome of the previous review.<sup>1</sup> It is a compilation of information contained in relevant United Nations documents, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

#### **II. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with human rights mechanisms**

2. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee against Torture recommended ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.<sup>2</sup>

3. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Committee against Torture, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and the United Nations country team recommended ratifying the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and/or the Protocol thereto.<sup>3</sup> The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Special Rapporteur and the United Nations country team recommended ratifying the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.<sup>4</sup>

4. The United Nations country team and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recommended ratifying the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education.<sup>5</sup>

5. The Committee against Torture recommended that Bangladesh consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and any core United Nations human rights treaties to which it is not yet party.<sup>6</sup>



6. The same Committee invited Bangladesh to consider making the declarations envisaged under articles 21 and 22 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and withdrawing its reservation to article 14 of the Convention.<sup>7</sup> The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended Bangladesh to withdraw its declarations made to articles 1 to 3, 7, 8, 10 and 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.<sup>8</sup>

7. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and The United Nations country team recommended ratifying the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), of the International Labour Organization (ILO).<sup>9</sup> The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants and the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, recommended ratifying the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).<sup>10</sup> The United Nations country team and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants recommended ratifying the ILO Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155), the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187) and the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190).<sup>11</sup> The Special Rapporteur recommended ratifying the ILO Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97), and the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143).<sup>12</sup>

8. The Committee against Torture recommended that Bangladesh grant access to the nine special procedures mandate holders who had requested visits.<sup>13</sup> The High Commissioner urged Bangladesh to invite the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to visit.<sup>14</sup>

9. The United Nations country team recommended that Bangladesh implement a framework for following up on the recommendations emanating from the universal periodic review process of the Human Rights Council, the treaty bodies and the special procedure mechanisms.<sup>15</sup>

10. The United Nations country team recommended that Bangladesh facilitate the work of United Nations agencies, international non-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations through open and transparent systems that allowed for the implementation of humanitarian, development and rights programmes.<sup>16</sup>

11. The High Commissioner visited Bangladesh in 2022.<sup>17</sup>

### **III. National human rights framework**

12. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee against Torture and the United Nations country team recommended that Bangladesh strengthen the independence of the National Human Rights Commission, including by allocating adequate funding and amending the recruitment rules in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles). The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee against Torture recommended the review of the National Human Rights Commission Act, with a view to broadening the mandate of the Commission so that it may deal with the rights in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and investigate all alleged acts of torture and ill-treatment reported to have been committed by State actors.<sup>18</sup>

13. The Committee against Torture recommended that Bangladesh ensure that the National Human Rights Commission had access to all places where persons were deprived of their liberty and ensure that the staff of the Commission received appropriate training on how to investigate allegations of torture and ill-treatment.<sup>19</sup>

14. The United Nations country team recommended developing a clear monitoring and evaluation framework, with cost estimation, to measure the progress in implementation of the national action plan on violence against women, 2018–2030.<sup>20</sup>

## 1. Constitutional and legislative framework

15. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned that the rights enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights had not been fully incorporated into domestic law. It recommended that Bangladesh fully incorporate the Covenant into its domestic law with a constitutional rank and guarantee that it was applied by the domestic courts at all levels and enhance the training for judges, lawyers and public officials on the Covenant and the justiciability of the rights therein.<sup>21</sup>

16. The High Commissioner discussed legal reform to bring domestic legislation in line with international human rights law.<sup>22</sup> The High Commissioner and OHCHR called upon Bangladesh to impose an immediate moratorium on the use of the Digital Security Act and to reform its provisions to bring them in line with international human rights law, with reference to the OHCHR technical note on review of the Act to assist with such a revision.<sup>23</sup>

## 2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

17. The United Nations country team reported that repeated attempts to develop an action plan for the implementation of recommendations emanating from the universal periodic review and to establish a national monitoring and reporting framework had not been considered by the Government. Therefore, most recommendations from the previous cycle had remained unimplemented.<sup>24</sup>

# IV. Promotion and protection of human rights

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

### 1. Equality and non-discrimination

18. The United Nations country team observed that the current draft anti-discrimination law still contained weaknesses in relation to discrimination based on ethnicity, caste, religion, gender, disability, economic status and other grounds. It recommended conducting a comprehensive review of all legislation to address discriminatory practices and embed relevant provisions in legislation.<sup>25</sup>

19. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended adopting a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation prohibiting direct, indirect and multiple forms of discrimination on any grounds and providing effective remedies for victims of discrimination.<sup>26</sup>

### 2. Right to life, liberty and security of person, and freedom from torture

20. The Committee against Torture was concerned at the numerous sentences handed down prescribing the death penalty. It urged Bangladesh to establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, continue its efforts to commute all death sentences and review the application of all relevant laws in that regard.<sup>27</sup> The High Commissioner stated that the United Nations was firmly against the imposition of the death penalty in any and all circumstances and encouraged Bangladesh to take steps to reduce its scope and move towards a moratorium on its use.<sup>28</sup>

21. The Committee against Torture and the Human Rights Committee were seriously concerned at the numerous, consistent reports that officials of Bangladesh had pursued excessive use of force, extrajudicial killing and enforced disappearance. They recommended that Bangladesh revise its legislation to limit the use of force by State actors, incorporating international standards, ensure that all allegations of use of force, unacknowledged detention, disappearance and death in custody were promptly and thoroughly investigated by an independent body, and that perpetrators were punished provide all reparations and an effective complaint mechanism for victims and prohibit enforced disappearance as a distinct crime in the legislation. The Committee against Torture recommended that Bangladesh

publish a list of all recognized places of detention and ensure that no one was held in secret or incommunicado detention.<sup>29</sup>

22. The High Commissioner noted the serious allegations of continued enforced disappearances and the concerns about the lack of due process and judicial safeguards. She encouraged Bangladesh to create an independent, specialized mechanism that worked closely with victims, families and civil society to investigate allegations of enforced disappearance and extrajudicial killing. She urged Bangladesh to ensure that it had a robust system in place for the human rights screening of security personnel.<sup>30</sup>

23. The High Commissioner raised deep concerns about the serious allegations of torture involving government ministers and highlighted the need for an impartial, independent and transparent investigation and security sector reform.<sup>31</sup> The Committee against Torture was concerned about allegations of the widespread and routine commission of torture and ill-treatment by law enforcement officials, including the Rapid Action Battalion. It recommended that Bangladesh carry out effective criminal investigations into all complaints of torture, including punishing perpetrators, establish an independent investigation mechanism, provide training, ensure that confessions obtained from criminal suspects through torture were not accepted as evidence, ensure effective victim and witness protection, amend the Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention) Act, repeal the “good faith” clause in section 13 of the Armed Police Battalion (Amendment) Act and ensure that members of the Battalion were subject to criminal prosecution and penalties for crimes committed, if found guilty.<sup>32</sup>

24. The Committee against Torture was seriously concerned at reports that the law enforcement authorities frequently did not provide persons deprived of their liberty with all fundamental legal safeguards. It recommended that Bangladesh amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Penal Code and the Evidence Act to ensure compliance with international human rights obligations, ensure that pretrial detention was regulated in line with international standards, and increase the use of non-custodial measures, in accordance with United Nations standards. It was also concerned about the arbitrary arrest of political opponents, activists and protesters and recommended that all fundamental legal safeguards be provided to them.<sup>33</sup>

25. The same Committee was seriously concerned about conditions of detention. It recommended that Bangladesh eliminate custodial death under all circumstances, ensure adequate health care, ensure that women were detained in gender-sensitive conditions and that inmates with disabilities were held in humane conditions and allow independent monitoring bodies to carry out unannounced visits and inspections of all places of detention.<sup>34</sup>

### **3. Human rights and counter-terrorism**

26. The Committee against Torture recommended that Bangladesh carefully review the application of the Anti-Terrorism Act and other relevant laws that might entail the imposition of the death penalty, in the light of its international obligations.<sup>35</sup>

### **4. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law**

27. The Committee against Torture was concerned that judges reportedly faced threats and pressure in connection with their work and recommended strengthening the independence of the judiciary, protecting judicial officials from intimidation, harassment and improper interference, including from high-level government officials, and ensuring that all judges and prosecutors received adequate remuneration and guaranteed tenure until retirement or the expiration of their terms of office.<sup>36</sup>

28. The United Nations country team noted that the administration of justice in Bangladesh faced significant challenges, raising serious doubts about its independence and ability to deliver justice. It was concerned about access to justice and recommended adopting judicial remedies to address the obstacles, to ensure adequate access to justice. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommended ensuring inclusive and appropriate access to justice for persons with disabilities.<sup>37</sup>

29. The United Nations country team reported that incidents of extrajudicial killings and enforced and involuntary disappearances, with impunity for law enforcers, and the serious concerns regarding the independence of judiciary had led to a breakdown of trust among the population. It recommended establishing an impartial, independent, transparent and specialized institution to investigate and take necessary measures on allegations of enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings, in conformity with international standards.<sup>38</sup>

## 5. Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life

30. The Committee against Torture was concerned about reports that civil society activists, lawyers and journalists in Bangladesh who had criticized the conduct of the authorities had faced harassment, arbitrary arrest, torture, ill-treatment and violence. It recommended that Bangladesh investigate those allegations, amend legislation, including the Information Communications and Technology Act, the Digital Security Act and the Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Act, to eliminate any provisions that might be used as a basis for arresting and prosecuting individuals who had publicized allegations of human rights violations and that targeted minorities. Similar concerns and recommendations were made by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, UNESCO and the United Nations country team.<sup>39</sup> The High Commissioner was concerned that the Digital Security Act was being used to arrest, harass and intimidate journalists and human rights defenders and to muzzle critical voices online and called for the creation of an independent judicial panel to review all pending cases brought under the Act and for the release of all those accused.<sup>40</sup> OHCHR and the United Nations country team urged for immediate suspension of its application.<sup>41</sup>

31. The High Commissioner noted a narrowing civic space and increased surveillance, intimidation and reprisals, often leading to self-censorship. Laws and policies overregulating non-governmental organizations and broadly restricting freedom of expression made it difficult, and sometimes risky, for them to function effectively.<sup>42</sup> United Nations experts called upon Bangladesh to end all acts of harassment against representatives of the human rights organization Odhikar, referring to documented enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings and their cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms. The ongoing harassment and targeting of human rights defenders and organizations was a practice which was a clear violation of the right to freedom of association and the right to a fair trial; Bangladesh was urged to immediately cease the reprisals, judicial harassment and smear campaigns.<sup>43</sup>

32. The United Nations country team and UNESCO were concerned about the restrictions imposed by law on freedom of speech and expression and freedom of the press and recommended that Bangladesh decriminalize defamation and incorporate it into the civil code, in line with international standards.<sup>44</sup>

33. The Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations of ILO requested that Bangladesh take the measures necessary to ensure that no penalties involving compulsory labour might be imposed for the peaceful expression of political views or views opposed to the established system.<sup>45</sup>

34. The ILO Committee of Experts urged Bangladesh to address four priority areas relating to freedom of association and labour rights: labour law reform; trade union registration; labour inspection and enforcement; and addressing acts of anti-union discrimination, unfair labour practices and violence against workers.<sup>46</sup> The Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights expected that Bangladesh would review the Labour Law to reduce the minimum membership requirements for trade unions to a reasonable level and address the limits on the number of trade unions in an establishment.<sup>47</sup> They requested that Bangladesh review all the allegations of violence, harassment and intimidation against trade unionists and continue to provide training and awareness-raising to the police and public officials in that regard. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights requested the repeal of the Special Power Act.<sup>48</sup>

## 6. Right to privacy

35. The United Nations country team reported that Bangladesh had a rapidly growing pattern of surveillance of citizens by the State, with limitations on dissent online, in the name of national security and curbing extremism, which had created an environment of fear and self-censorship. It recommended that, pending review, the Digital Security Act be put on hold and that no one should be subjected to the current law.<sup>49</sup>

## 7. Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons

36. The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, noted the significant steps taken and highlighted grave concerns regarding trafficking in women and girls for sexual exploitation, child marriage, and child labour and its connection to child trafficking. She recommended ensuring that a human rights-based approach was integrated into all measures to combat trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation and taking urgent action to prevent child trafficking.<sup>50</sup>

37. While appreciating the criminalization of sex and labour trafficking, the Committee against Torture was concerned about allegations that trafficking victims chose not to pursue cases against their traffickers, often because of fear of retaliation and intimidation. It recommended that Bangladesh register complaints of sex or labour trafficking of Rohingya, ensure that allegations involving official complicity were investigated and perpetrators prosecuted and allow all victims of trafficking access to government services. A similar request was made by the ILO Committee of Experts and the United Nations country team. The former requested the Government to provide appropriate training in that regard to law enforcement officials, including labour inspectors, prosecutors and judges.<sup>51</sup>

38. The ILO Committee of Experts urged Bangladesh to take the measures necessary to ensure that thorough investigations and prosecutions were carried out for persons who engaged in the trafficking of children and that appropriate sanctions were imposed.<sup>52</sup>

## 8. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

39. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned that most of workers worked in the informal economy without social and labour protection and recommended that Bangladesh regularize the informal economy. It was also concerned about conditions of work and recommended establishing a national minimum wage that applied universally to all workers in Bangladesh and raising the existing minimum wages to ensure a decent living for all workers and their families.<sup>53</sup> The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the ILO Committee of Experts and The United Nations country team requested that Bangladesh reduce the gender pay gap and incorporate the principle of equal pay for work of equal value into labour legislation.<sup>54</sup>

40. The ILO Committee of Experts asked Bangladesh to address legal and practical obstacles to women's employment, including patriarchal attitudes and gender stereotypes, enhance women's economic empowerment and promote their access to equal opportunities in formal employment and decision-making positions, and encourage girls and women to choose non-traditional fields of study and occupations, while reducing early school dropout among girls.<sup>55</sup>

41. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the ILO Committee of Experts recommended that Bangladesh eradicate abuse and exploitation in the workplace; improve the working conditions of all workers; and establish independent and effective labour complaint mechanisms. The latter recommended investigating forced labour cases.<sup>56</sup>

42. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Bangladesh redouble its efforts to reduce and prevent occupational accidents by intensifying labour inspections, strengthening sanctions on employers who fail to comply with regulations, fully implementing the national occupational health and safety policy, adopting a national employment injury insurance scheme, and ensuring that all victims of occupational accidents and their families were provided with adequate compensation.<sup>57</sup>

43. The ILO Committee of Experts asked Bangladesh to ensure that, in the current labour law reform, direct and indirect discrimination was prohibited, a comprehensive definition

and a clear prohibition of all forms of sexual harassment in employment and occupation was included and covered all workers, domestic workers were protected, and remedies were established. Similar recommendations were made by the United Nations country team.<sup>58</sup> It noted that Bangladesh ranked 141st on the Global Gender Gap Index for women's economic and political participation and opportunity. It recommended implementing gender-responsive legislation, policies and guidelines, supported by budgetary allocations.<sup>59</sup>

44. The ILO Committee of Experts urged Bangladesh to expedite the review of the export processing zones to provide workers there with all rights and to continue to review the inspection framework to ensure the independence of the Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishment. A similar recommendation was made by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.<sup>60</sup>

45. UNESCO recommended that Bangladesh raise the minimum age of employment to at least 15 years, in accordance with international human rights law, and ensure that students completed their schooling.<sup>61</sup>

## **9. Right to social security**

46. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the United Nations country team recommended that Bangladesh increase the level of funding allocated to social services, especially in the areas of social security, housing, health and education, adopt a framework law on social security, develop a universal social security system and establish a nationally defined social protection floor.<sup>62</sup>

47. The Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights noted the challenge of mobilizing domestic resources to finance social protection, especially once Bangladesh lost its preferential access to foreign markets after graduating from least developed country status. He called for increasing budgetary allocations to social security and accelerating progress in the eradication of poverty and recommended reforming social protection and streamlining and rationalizing the various schemes.<sup>63</sup>

## **10. Right to an adequate standard of living**

48. The Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights noted remarkable gains in poverty reduction and that questions remained on maintaining the progress and ensuring that it benefited the population equally.<sup>64</sup> The ILO Committee of Experts strongly encouraged Bangladesh to ensure that poverty reduction programmes were implemented. A similar recommendation was made by the United Nations country team.<sup>65</sup>

49. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights noted with concern the series of severe food crises that had affected the Chittagong Hill Tracts, with many suffering from seasonal hunger and chronic malnutrition, which had disproportionately affected people in rural areas and poor households. It recommended that Bangladesh redouble its efforts to prevent food crises, including by securing food availability and distribution and developing a national strategy for food and nutrition security.<sup>66</sup>

50. The same Committee was concerned at the large proportion of the population living in urban informal settlements in poor living conditions, with limited access to basic services, under constant threat of eviction. It recommended increasing the provision of affordable social housing to disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups, including residents of informal settlements, improving living conditions and guaranteeing security of tenure for residents in informal settlements and establishing the procedures to be followed for evictions.<sup>67</sup>

## **11. Right to health**

51. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned about health-care services and recommended that Bangladesh improve the availability, affordability and quality of health-care services for all, especially at the primary health-care level, adopt framework legislation and policy on mental health care, ensure that sexual and reproductive health services and information were accessible and available for all women and girls and incorporate sexual and reproductive health education into curricula.<sup>68</sup>

52. The Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy (Hansen's disease) and their family members was deeply concerned about the high potential number of hidden leprosy cases, critically delayed diagnosis, ongoing transmission, disability among children and widespread disease-related discrimination and stigmatization. She highlighted limited access to care for those affected. She urged Bangladesh to allocate an adequate and well-managed budget with clear targets.

## **12. Right to education**

53. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned about the fulfilment of the right to education in Bangladesh and recommended adopting framework legislation thereon, ensuring consistency in the quality of education and school curricula across different types of schools, bringing madrasas under the control of the Ministry of Education, providing inclusive education for children with disabilities and improving education of Indigenous children and children belonging to ethnic minority groups in their mother tongues.<sup>69</sup>

54. UNESCO noted the importance of guaranteeing the right to education without discrimination and recommended that Bangladesh introduce in legislation at least 12 years of free primary and secondary education, of which at least nine should be compulsory. The ILO Committee of Experts made similar requests to prevent the worst forms of child labour.<sup>70</sup>

55. UNESCO recommended that Bangladesh increase efforts to adequately finance education, by allocating at least 4 to 6 per cent of gross domestic product to education and actively promoting women and girls entering scientific careers.<sup>71</sup>

## **13. Cultural rights**

56. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Bangladesh implement the relevant legislation to ensure that all ethnic minorities in Bangladesh were legally recognized and could fully enjoy their cultural rights. A similar recommendation was made by UNESCO.<sup>72</sup>

## **14. Development, the environment, and business and human rights**

57. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change noted that Bangladesh was highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. He recommended developing a clear policy strategy to deal with persons displaced by the impacts of climate change and persons living in slums and other informal settlements, especially Indigenous Peoples.<sup>73</sup> The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended ensuring that strategies and action plans were formulated and implemented based on human rights.<sup>74</sup>

58. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned about practices of land-grabbing and recommended implementing the Khas land distribution policy, thoroughly investigating all allegations of land-grabbing and taking measures to facilitate women's access to land ownership.<sup>75</sup>

59. The same Committee was concerned about the pervasiveness of corruption and its devastating impact on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights. It recommended improving public governance and ensuring transparency in public affairs, strictly enforcing anti-corruption legislation, prosecuting all those involved without exception, enhancing the independence and efficacy of the Anti-Corruption Commission and raising awareness of public and government officials thereof.<sup>76</sup>

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

### **1. Women**

60. The High Commissioner noted that violence against women, including sexual violence, remained high and access to justice and accountability for the victims remained difficult.<sup>77</sup> The Committee against Torture and the Committee on Economic, Social and



Cultural Rights were concerned about sexual and gender-based violence in Bangladesh in all forms, including domestic violence, rape and sexual harassment. They recommended that Bangladesh ensure that all allegations of gender-based violence against women and girls were thoroughly and effectively investigated, perpetrators were prosecuted and victims received redress and were provided with support and shelters for them and their children. They and the United Nations country team recommended strengthening the enforcement of legislation on sexual and gender-based violence and revising the Penal Code to recognize marital rape as an offence.<sup>78</sup>

61. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned that women did not enjoy equality in economic, social and cultural rights. It recommended promoting gender equality in all spheres of life, adopting a unified family law that provided for equal rights for men and women in relation to marriage, divorce, maintenance and property inheritance, raising awareness of gender equality and enhancing free legal assistance to enable women to claim their equal rights.<sup>79</sup>

## **2. Children**

62. The Human Rights Committee, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee against Torture and UNESCO were concerned about the incidence of child marriage. While welcoming the Child Marriage Restraint Act, they were concerned by weaknesses in the legislation and recommended that Bangladesh intensify its efforts to eradicate child marriage, by amending the Act and eliminating all exceptions that still allowed for the marriage of girls under 18 years.<sup>80</sup>

63. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Bangladesh ensure accountability for those who performed or facilitated child marriage, ensure that victims of child marriage who sought to leave their marriage had access to effective legal remedies and any necessary support and protection, ensure their access to sexual and reproductive health information and services and raise public awareness of the lifelong negative consequences of child marriage on girls and women.<sup>81</sup>

64. The ILO Committee of Experts and the United Nations country team urged Bangladesh to provide the necessary and appropriate direct assistance to remove children engaged in domestic work from hazardous working conditions and ensure their rehabilitation and social integration.<sup>82</sup> The former requested that Bangladesh protect street children from the worst forms of child labour, especially refugee children.<sup>83</sup>

65. The Committee against Torture, UNESCO and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities were concerned that Bangladesh had not outlawed corporal punishment in all settings. They recommended that Bangladesh adopt legislation to explicitly prohibit and prevent corporal punishment everywhere, including in schools, investigate and take appropriate action against teachers who continued to apply it, raise public awareness of its harmful effects and encourage alternative non-violent forms of discipline.<sup>84</sup>

## **3. Older persons**

66. The Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons welcomed the national policy on older persons. She urged strengthening protections and implementing measures to mitigate the impacts of climate change on older persons and expressed concern that geriatric health care was scarce, especially for those living in vulnerable situations.<sup>85</sup>

## **4. Persons with disabilities**

67. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, while welcoming improvements regarding the rights of persons with disabilities, recommended developing and implementing a national strategy for them for accessibility to all services.<sup>86</sup> It expressed concerns on discrimination against persons with disabilities and recommended prohibiting disability-based discrimination on any grounds, repealing all laws and policies that were discriminatory, adopting an anti-discrimination bill and intensifying public awareness-raising campaigns.<sup>87</sup>

68. The same Committee was concerned about women with disabilities, especially women belonging to minority groups, and recommended that Bangladesh eliminate family and social customs that were discriminatory against them, prohibit the perpetration of forced abortion and forced sterilization of women with disabilities, in particular women with intellectual and/or psychosocial disabilities, and take measures to end violence against women with disabilities.<sup>88</sup> It was also concerned about children with disabilities and recommended ensuring their access to health-care, inclusive education and other services, without discrimination and on an equal basis with other children, especially in rural and remote areas.<sup>89</sup>

## 5. Indigenous Peoples and minorities

69. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned about the absence of explicit constitutional and legislative recognition of the rights of those who self-identify as Indigenous Peoples. It recommended enacting a law recognizing and protecting their rights, ensuring their representation and participation in all decision-making affecting them, ensuring that the requirements of free, prior and informed consent were met in all cases of expropriation of land of Indigenous Peoples and providing effective mechanisms for remedies to those deprived of ancestral lands.<sup>90</sup> The Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples reported about the gross and systematic human rights violations against Indigenous Peoples and the deprivation of their land for economic and lucrative reasons. He noted that lack of full implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord was gravely affecting Indigenous women and girls and urged the Government to respect its commitments and move full implementation forward.<sup>91</sup>

70. The United Nations country team expressed serious concerns about the land rights of ethnic minorities and continuous human rights violations, with widespread violence, especially in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.<sup>92</sup> The High Commissioner noted allegations of human rights violations against minority groups, such as Hindus and Indigenous Peoples, linked with land disputes, emphasized the need for demilitarization and called for the full implementation of the Peace Accord.<sup>93</sup>

71. The Committee against Torture was concerned at reports of intimidation, harassment and physical violence committed against members of Indigenous, ethnic and religious minority communities and recommended ensuring independent investigations, protecting their safety and security, providing compensation and rehabilitation to all victims of violations and punishing the perpetrators.<sup>94</sup> The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the United Nations country team recommended intensifying efforts to resolve the large number of land dispute applications, including by providing a sufficient level of human, financial and technical resources to the land commission.<sup>95</sup>

72. The Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights noted that Dalits faced systemic discrimination, were neglected and sidelined by dominant communities and endured deplorable practices of “untouchability”, stigma, violence and social segregation, which result in lack of access to basic rights.<sup>96</sup> He and the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, were informed that the community was also confined to jobs deemed inappropriate for dominant castes and classes.<sup>97</sup>

## 6. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons

73. The United Nations country team noted that Bangladesh continued to criminalize homosexuality. While noting some progress on the recognition of *hijras* (a term for some trans groups), it reported that most sexual minorities remained on the margins of society and were faced with routine, social, legal and economic discrimination, frequently manifested through violence.<sup>98</sup>

74. The High Commissioner welcomed the Government’s legal recognition of *hijras* and hoped that it would further improve the fundamental human rights of LGBTIQ+ persons.<sup>99</sup> The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended decriminalizing same-sex relations between consenting adults, raising public awareness thereon and combating discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.<sup>100</sup> The Committee against Torture recommended that Bangladesh repeal section 377 of the Penal Code

criminalizing “unnatural behaviour” and used to prohibit consensual same-sex sexual conduct.<sup>101</sup>

## 7. Migrants and refugees

75. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants requested that Bangladesh strengthen regulation of the migrant recruitment system to protect migrant workers against exploitation and abuses.<sup>102</sup> The United Nations country team recommended that Bangladesh provide adequate assistance, protection and reintegration to all returnee migrants, increase labour inspections and prosecute and sanction persons or groups exploiting migrant workers.<sup>103</sup> The Special Rapporteur and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights were concerned about the poor living and working conditions faced by many Bangladeshi migrant workers, especially women, overseas. They recommended that Bangladesh intensify its efforts to negotiate with other States to ensure that the same level of labour and social protection applicable to national workers was provided to Bangladeshi migrant workers in the countries of destination.<sup>104</sup>

76. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and The Committee against Torture expressed appreciation for the efforts of Bangladesh to host over 1 million Rohingya refugees forced to flee systematic and violent persecution.<sup>105</sup> The former Committee was nevertheless deeply concerned that Rohingya refugees did not have legal status in Bangladesh. They recommended taking effective measures to recognize the legal status of Rohingya refugees, ensure their access to all basic services provided outside of the camps, ensure the safety of refugees in camps and safeguard against outbreaks of diseases. The United Nations country team recommended improving education quality in the camps.<sup>106</sup> The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, recommended ending restrictions on the movement of Rohingya and recognizing them as refugees.<sup>107</sup> United Nations experts called upon Bangladesh to immediately suspend a pilot repatriation project for Rohingya to return to Myanmar, where they faced serious risks to their lives and liberty.<sup>108</sup>

77. The Committee against Torture and The United Nations country team recommended that Bangladesh continue to respect the principle of non-refoulement for all refugees and adopt a comprehensive law on asylum in line with international human rights standards.<sup>109</sup> The former Committee recommended establishing an individualized procedure, providing training to all relevant officials on the principle of non-refoulement and providing redress and adequate access to health-care and psychological services to all survivors of torture.<sup>110</sup>

## 8. Stateless persons

78. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned that the birth registration rate remained low, thereby limiting access for affected children to all basic services and documentation. It and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the United Nations country team recommended that Bangladesh register all children born and living in the country, including Rohingya refugee children,<sup>111</sup> children with disabilities, children in remote and rural areas and children born from mixed marriages.<sup>112</sup>

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> [A/HRC/39/12](#), [A/HRC/39/12/Add.1](#) and [A/HRC/39/2](#).

<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>; [E/C.12/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 16 (e), 39 (f), 72 and 73; and [CAT/C/BGD/CO/1](#), para. 54.

<sup>3</sup> [CRPD/C/BGD/CO/1](#), para. 38 (c); [CAT/C/BGD/CO/1](#), para. 43 (f); United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Bangladesh, p. 11; and [A/HRC/53/28/Add.1](#), para. 70 (a).

<sup>4</sup> [A/HRC/53/28/Add.1](#), para. 70 (a); [CRPD/C/BGD/CO/1](#), para. 38 (c); and United Nations country team submission, p. 11.

<sup>5</sup> Submission of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for the universal periodic review of Bangladesh, para. 19 (i).

<sup>6</sup> [CAT/C/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 16 (f), and 51.

- <sup>7</sup> Ibid., para. 53.
- <sup>8</sup> E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 7 and 8.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid., para. 16 (e); and United Nations country team submission p. 9.
- <sup>10</sup> E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, para. 16 (e); A/HRC/53/26/Add.3, para. 118 (a); and A/HRC/53/28/Add.1, para. 70 (a).
- <sup>11</sup> United Nations country team submission pp. 9 and 11; and A/HRC/53/26/Add.3, para. 118 (a).
- <sup>12</sup> A/HRC/53/26/Add.3, para. 118 (a).
- <sup>13</sup> CAT/C/BGD/CO/1, para. 55.
- <sup>14</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>.
- <sup>15</sup> United Nations country team submission p. 9.
- <sup>16</sup> Ibid., p. 11.
- <sup>17</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>.
- <sup>18</sup> E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, para. 10; CAT/C/BGD/CO/1, paras. 26 (a)–(d); and United Nations country team submission, p. 10.
- <sup>19</sup> CAT/C/BGD/CO/1, paras. 26 (b) and (e).
- <sup>20</sup> United Nations country team submission, p. 11.
- <sup>21</sup> E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, para. 6.
- <sup>22</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>.
- <sup>23</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/03/bangladesh-turk-urges-immediate-suspension-digital-security-act-media>; and <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/countries/bangladesh/OHCHR-Technical-Note-on-review-of-the-Digital-Security-Act-June-2022.pdf>. See also para. 30 of the present report.
- <sup>24</sup> United Nations country team submission, p. 1.
- <sup>25</sup> Ibid., pp. 4, 5 and 9.
- <sup>26</sup> E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 23 and 24.
- <sup>27</sup> CAT/C/BGD/CO/1, paras. 50 and 51.
- <sup>28</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>.
- <sup>29</sup> CAT/C/BGD/CO/1, paras. 14, 16 (b)–(d) and (g), 34 and 35 (a)–(b); and CCPR/C/132/2/Add.1, para. 20.
- <sup>30</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>.
- <sup>31</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>.
- <sup>32</sup> CAT/C/BGD/CO/1, paras. 7, 8 (c)–(e), 13 (a)–(d), 45 (a)–(d), 17 and 18 (a)–(d).
- <sup>33</sup> Ibid., paras. 19, 22 (a), (c), (d), (e) and (g), 33 (b) and 37.
- <sup>34</sup> Ibid., paras. 32, 33 (a) and (c)–(h) and 16 (e).
- <sup>35</sup> Ibid., para. 51.
- <sup>36</sup> Ibid., paras. 27 and 28 (a)–(c).
- <sup>37</sup> United Nations country team submission, pp. 9 and 12; and CRPD/C/BGD/CO/1, paras. 28 (a) and (c).
- <sup>38</sup> United Nations country team submission, pp. 2 and 9.
- <sup>39</sup> CAT/C/BGD/CO/1, paras. 29, 31 (b)–(d) and 24 (b); E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, para. 12 (e); United Nations country team submission, p. 12; and UNESCO submission, para. 23.
- <sup>40</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/03/bangladesh-turk-urges-immediate-suspension-digital-security-act-media>; and United Nations country team submission, p. 10. See also <https://www.ohchr.org/en/2021/03/bangladesh-bachelet-urges-review-digital-security-act-following-death-custody-writer> and <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/countries/bangladesh/OHCHR-Technical-Note-on-review-of-the-Digital-Security-Act-June-2022.pdf>.
- <sup>41</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>42</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>.
- <sup>43</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/07/bangladesh-must-end-harassment-human-rights-defenders-un-experts>.
- <sup>44</sup> United Nations country team submission, pp. 11; and UNESCO submission, paras. 20 and 21.
- <sup>45</sup> See [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4116688,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4116688,103500:NO).
- <sup>46</sup> See [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_norm/---relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms\\_800701.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_800701.pdf).

- 47 See [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4060425,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4060425,103500:NO); and [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4060425,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4060425,103500:NO); and E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, para. 43.
- 48 See [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4060425,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4060425,103500:NO); E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 40, 41 and 12. See also E/C.12/2016/2.
- 49 United Nations country team submission, pp. 1 and 9.
- 50 A/HRC/53/28/Add.1, paras. 70–77.
- 51 CAT/C/BGD/CO/1, paras. 40 and 41 (a)–(c); [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4116528,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4116528,103500:NO); and United Nations country team submission, p. 10.
- 52 See [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4117373,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4117373,103500:NO).
- 53 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 31 and 33 (a) and (b).
- 54 Ibid., paras. 33 (a) and (b); [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4313115,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4313115,103500:NO); and United Nations country team submission, p. 10.
- 55 See [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4313616,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4313616,103500:NO).
- 56 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 33 (c) and (f); and [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4116528,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4116528,103500:NO).
- 57 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 36 and 37 (a)–(e).
- 58 See [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4313616,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4313616,103500:NO); and United Nations country team submission, pp. 9 and 10.
- 59 United Nations country team submission, pp. 6 and 9.
- 60 See [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4060425,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4060425,103500:NO); E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, para. 33(g).
- 61 UNESCO submission, para. 19 (iii).
- 62 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 20 and 45 (b) and (d).
- 63 See <https://bangladesh.un.org/en/233772-end-mission-statement-mr-olivier-de-schutter-special-rapporteur-extreme-poverty-and-human>, pp. 5, 11 and 15.
- 64 See <https://spinternet.ohchr.org/Download.aspx?SymbolNo=INT%2fCV%2fMED%2fBGD%2f26742&Lang=en>.
- 65 See [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4117375,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4117375,103500:NO); and United Nations country team submission, p. 9.
- 66 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 56 and 57 (a)–(c).
- 67 Ibid., paras. 61 and 62 (a)–(c).
- 68 Ibid., paras. 66 and 67 (a)–(d).
- 69 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 68 and 69 (a)–(e).
- 70 UNESCO submission, paras. 1, 13 and 19 (ii); and [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4117375,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4117375,103500:NO).
- 71 UNESCO submission, paras. 19 (vi) and 25.
- 72 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 70 and 71; and UNESCO submission, para. 24.
- 73 A/HRC/53/34/Add.1, paras. 5 and 84.
- 74 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, para. 14.
- 75 Ibid., paras. 59 and 60 (a)–(c). In 1997, the Khas land settlement policy was promulgated, authorizing Khas land to be distributed for a 99-year lease period or for a one-year temporary lease period.
- 76 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 21 and 22.
- 77 See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>.
- 78 CAT/C/BGD/CO/1, paras. 38, 39 (a), (c) and (d); and E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, para. 53.
- 79 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 29 and 30 (a)–(c).
- 80 CCPR/C/132/2/Add.1, para. 14; E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 49–51; CAT/C/BGD/CO/1, para. 39 (c); and UNESCO submission para. 19 (v).
- 81 E/C.12/BGD/CO/1, paras. 49–51.
- 82 See [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4117373,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4117373,103500:NO); and United Nations country team submission, p. 10.

- <sup>83</sup> See [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100\\_COMMENT\\_ID,P13100\\_COUNTRY\\_ID:4117375,103500:NO](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_COUNTRY_ID:4117375,103500:NO).
- <sup>84</sup> [CAT/C/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 48 and 49 (a)–(c); UNESCO submission, para. 19 (iv); and [CRPD/C/BGD/CO/1](#), para. 16 (b).
- <sup>85</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/11/bangladesh-invisible-older-persons-must-be-recognised-and-prioritised-says>.
- <sup>86</sup> [CRPD/C/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 6, 20 (a), 42, 44 (a) and (b) and 50 (a).
- <sup>87</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 12 (a)–(c) and 18 (a).
- <sup>88</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 10, 14 (a)–(d), 30 (a) and 36 (a) and (c).
- <sup>89</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 22, 46 (b) and 48 (a) and (b).
- <sup>90</sup> [E/C.12/BGD/CO/1](#), para. 16 (a)–(d).
- <sup>91</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/12/bangladesh-un-expert-concerned-about-non-implementation-chittagong-hill>.
- <sup>92</sup> United Nations country team submission, p. 6.
- <sup>93</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>.
- <sup>94</sup> [CAT/C/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 23 and 24 (a), (c), (d), (e) and (g).
- <sup>95</sup> [E/C.12/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 17 and 18; and United Nations country team submission, p. 9.
- <sup>96</sup> See <https://bangladesh.un.org/en/233772-end-mission-statement-mr-olivier-de-schutter-special-rapporteur-extreme-poverty-and-human>, pp. 4 and 5.
- <sup>97</sup> See <https://bangladesh.un.org/en/233772-end-mission-statement-mr-olivier-de-schutter-special-rapporteur-extreme-poverty-and-human>, pp. 4 and 5; and [A/HRC/51/26](#), para. 26.
- <sup>98</sup> United Nations country team submission, p. 6.
- <sup>99</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/08/un-high-commissioner-human-rights-michelle-bachelet-concludes-her-official-visit>.
- <sup>100</sup> [E/C.12/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 23 and 24.
- <sup>101</sup> [CAT/C/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 23 and 24 (a), (c), (d), (e) and (g).
- <sup>102</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/01/bangladesh-must-boost-regulation-migrant-recruitment-un-expert>. See also [A/HRC/53/26/Add.3](#), para. 118.
- <sup>103</sup> United Nations country team submission, p. 11.
- <sup>104</sup> [E/C.12/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 38 and 39(a); United Nations country team submission, p. 11; and [A/HRC/53/26/Add.3](#), paras. 39, 52, and 118 (b).
- <sup>105</sup> [E/C.12/BGD/CO/1](#), para. 26; and [CAT/C/BGD/CO/1](#), para. 42.
- <sup>106</sup> [E/C.12/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 27 and 28; and United Nations country team submission, p. 11.
- <sup>107</sup> [A/HRC/53/28/Add.1](#), paras. 70–77.
- <sup>108</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/06/bangladesh-must-suspend-pilot-project-return-rohingya-refugees-myanmar-un>; and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/06/bangladesh-un-experts-decry-devastating-second-round-rations-cuts-rohingya>.
- <sup>109</sup> United Nations country team submission, p. 11; and [CAT/C/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 43 (a) and (b). See also [A/HRC/53/26/Add.3](#), para. 118.
- <sup>110</sup> [CAT/C/BGD/CO/1](#), para. 43 (c)–(e) and (g).
- <sup>111</sup> [E/C.12/BGD/CO/1](#), paras. 47 and 48.
- <sup>112</sup> [CRPD/C/BGD/CO/1](#), para. 38 (a); and United Nations country team submission, p. 11.