

EVALUATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF UPR RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA.

**Right of Association,
Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Right to
Assembly and Peaceful Demonstration**

Situation in Angola – Context

- During the 3rd Cycle of the UPR, the Government of Angola received 14 recommendations regarding space for civil society (civic space). It accepted all 14 recommendations. The Government of Angola did not implement 10 recommendations and partially implemented four.

The main concerns.

- Additional legal restrictions in the draft law on the Status of Non-Governmental Organizations and in the National Security Law, Law on Crimes of Vandalism of Public Property and Services.
- Arbitrary arrests and prosecution of human rights defenders, journalists and protesters, the use of excessive force during peaceful protests and the detention of protesters.

Recommendations No. 124-131–Right of Association

(Indonesia, Ireland, Canada)

The government has committed to “*to ensure the protection and respect of civic space, ensuring the timely and effective legal registration of non-governmental organizations*”.

New developments since the first evaluation

- a) Proposed Law Regulating Non-Governmental Organizations violates Article 21 of the ICCPR.
- c) Approval of Presidential Decree No. 214/24 – creates the Institute for the Supervision of Community Activities, powers that violate article 22 of the ICCPR

Recommendations:

- i. Domestic legislation complies with Articles 21 and 22 of the ICCPR.
- ii. Implement the Commentary issued by the UN Special Rapporteurs on the Draft Law on the Status of Non-Governmental Organizations (Ref.: OL AGO 2/2023, 29 August 2023).

Recommendations No. 127,129, 130,131-Harassment, intimidation and attacks against human rights defenders, civil society activists and journalists(France, Iceland,France, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg)

The Angolan Government accepted all eight recommendations for "*ensure the protection of human rights defenders*".

New developments since the first evaluation

Threats to human rights defenders are the cases of Professor Eduardo Alberto Peres, Secretary General of the Teachers' Union, Lawyer Zola Ferreira Bambi and journalists Coque Mukuta and Mariano Brás.

Recommendations

- i. We urge that the Angolan Government be advised to repeal or amend all legislation that unjustifiably restricts the legitimate work of human rights defenders.
- ii. Amend Article 333 of the Penal Code and Law 23/10 of 3 December 2010 on Crimes against State Security to align them with the ICCPR.
- iii. Implementation of the Opinion of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detentions Ref.: AL AGO 2/2024, of 22 July 2024.

Recommendations No. 119-123—Freedom of expression and freedom of the press (Thailand, Australia, Norway, Belgium and Sweden)

During the 3rd cycle of the UPR, the government received nine recommendations relating to freedom of expression and freedom of the media.

New developments since the first evaluation

i. The legal restrictions contained in the Penal Code, the draft National Security Law and the Law on the Exercise of Broadcasting Activities.

Recommendations

- i. Review the Penal Code, the draft National Security Law and the provisions on the minimum share capital required for the creation of media entities in Law 4/17 of 23 January 2017,
- ii. Reform defamation legislation in line with Article 19 of the ICCPR.

Recommendations No. 124-126, 132 –Freedom of peaceful assembly (Indonesia, Ireland, Canada, Slovakia)

The government received (5) five recommendations and committed to “Continue legislative reforms”.

New developments since the first evaluation

i. Security forces frequently use excessive and lethal force. 100 deaths were recorded in demonstrations in Lunda Norte province and 05 deaths in Huambo province.

Recommendations

i. Adopt best practices on freedom of peaceful assembly, as presented in the 2012 report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association.

ii. Implement General Comment No. 37 on the right to peaceful assembly, adopted by the UN Human Rights Committee in 2020.

Thanks

This statement is made on behalf of the MUDEI Civic Movement, a national network of individuals and organizations, here represented by the Lusophone Human Rights Platform (PLUDH) which, in their joint action, intend to defend the civic and democratic space.



MOVIMENTO CÍVICO - MUDEI
EM DEFESA DO ESTADO DEMOCRÁTICO E DE DIREITO EM ANGOLA

