



General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 December 2024

Original: English

Human Rights Council

Fifty-eighth session

24 February–4 April 2025

Agenda item 6

Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Portugal

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



Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its forty-seventh session from 4 to 15 November 2024. The review of Portugal was held at the 5th meeting, on 6 November 2024. The delegation of Portugal was headed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Nuno Sampaio; the Deputy Minister and for Justice, Maria Clara Figueiredo; and the Secretary of State for Social Action and for Inclusion, Clara Marques Mendes. At its 10th meeting, held on 8 November 2024, the Working Group adopted the report on Portugal.

2. On 10 January 2024, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Portugal: Gambia, Germany and Kazakhstan.

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

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

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

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

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Costa Rica, members of the core group of sponsors of the resolutions on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Costa Rica, Maldives and Slovenia), Germany, Panama, Paraguay, on the behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Portugal through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of Portugal, headed by three Secretaries of State, started by highlighting the importance of the universal periodic review and, noting that 2024 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Carnation Revolution, emphasized that respecting and protecting all human rights, whether civil, political, economic, social or cultural, had been priorities, in both domestic and foreign policy, of every subsequent Government of Portugal, as they were enshrined in the Constitution. The delegation recalled, as a testament to those priorities, the various resolutions that Portugal sponsored in the Human Rights Council and the fact that it was a party to eight of the core human rights treaties and all the optional protocols thereto.

6. The delegation highlighted the progress achieved since the previous review, when Portugal had accepted 231 recommendations, but recognized the challenges that the country faced. The delegation underlined the work of the National Human Rights Commission, which was the country's national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up, and of the Office of the Ombudsperson, the national human rights institution, which had been awarded A status, indicating conformity with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), whose powers had been reinforced, as well as the active role of civil society.

¹ [A/HRC/WG.6/47/PRT/1](#).

² [A/HRC/WG.6/47/PRT/2](#) and [A/HRC/WG.6/47/PRT/2/Corr.1](#)

³ [A/HRC/WG.6/47/PRT/3](#).

7. During the reporting period, Portugal had faced four crises, namely, the lingering effects of the economic and financial crisis, the repercussions of wildfires, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the inflationary crisis. In response, it had adopted a human rights-based approach, by implementing policies to minimize the impact of those crises on persons in vulnerable situations, and the results had been positive: public debt had been reduced from 131 per cent to 98 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 10 years, the number of wildfires had fallen by 60 per cent, Portugal had become the first country in the world to vaccinate 85 per cent of its population against COVID-19, and inflation had been controlled.

8. During the period under review, Portugal had ratified three International Labour Organization instruments and eight Council of Europe instruments. It had approved a large number of national strategies and action plans, including in the areas of gender equality, poverty, racism, domestic violence, the rights of the child, the inclusion of persons with disabilities, persons in situations of homelessness and Roma communities, and the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

9. Responding to advance questions, the delegation highlighted the progress made in the protection of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, noting the abandonment of coal, the share of renewables in electricity production (82 per cent in the first nine months of 2024), the creation of the largest marine protected areas in Europe, and the increase in access to sanitation, from only 50 per cent of households in the mid-1990s to 99 per cent now.

10. Responding to advance questions, the delegation underlined the steps taken to protect the rights of older persons, not only internationally, through active support for a legally binding instrument, but also domestically. It referred to the recently approved “older persons’ statute”, which had brought about greater predictability in pension arrangements, promoted the accessibility of public transport and facilitated affordable access to medicines and health products.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

11. During the interactive dialogue, 101 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

12. The Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, the Holy See, Iceland, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Qatar, the Republic of Korea and Albania made statements. The complete version of the statements can be found in the webcast archived on the United Nations website.⁴

13. In the domain of civil and political rights, and responding to a number of the advance questions and recommendations, the delegation of Portugal started by mentioning two foreign policy priorities: the universal abolition of the death penalty, with Portugal having been pioneer, the last execution having taken place in 1846, and media freedom, with Portugal ranking seventh in the current World Press Freedom Index.

⁴ See <https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k14/k142q45zzw>.

14. Regarding the security forces, in 2021, Portugal had approved a plan to prevent discrimination, the implementation of which must be reported on every three months. The plan had led to the appointment of human rights officers, stricter recruitment procedures, additional human rights training and increased resources for the Inspectorate General of Home Affairs. Developments included the introduction of provisions on the use of body cameras, more robust data systems relating to detention, mandatory autopsies in cases of death in police custody and streamlined procedures in cases where persons leaving police detention and entering the prison system showed signs of ill-treatment.

15. Regarding prison conditions, Portugal had invested in the modernization of infrastructure, which included not only building a new prison and repairing existing ones but also improving hygiene facilities and conjugal visit areas, installing closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems, installing landline phones in cells and establishing a new, secure digital platform. New rules had been put in place to protect children living with a parent in prison, and the possibility of unlimited extension of the hospitalization in forensic health units of persons who could not be held criminally liable for mental health reasons had been abolished.

16. Regarding trafficking in persons, a national referral mechanism for children who were victims of trafficking in persons had been put in place, the investigations carried out by the Authority for Working Conditions had been reinforced, and a new action plan had been drafted.

17. Regarding corruption, a new agenda had been presented, with measures to strengthen the national anti-corruption mechanism, to promote “open government” policies and public consultations and to regulate lobbying.

18. Regarding gender-based and domestic violence, Portugal had adopted two action plans (one for 2018–2021 and another for 2023–2026) and had taken concrete measures, such as the harmonization of indicators and consolidation of databases, the establishment of a single online platform to bring together data and information for victims, the introduction of a manual for the police on procedures of action in the 72 hours after a complaint was lodged and the strengthening of the Prosecutor General’s Office, notably through the creation of victim support offices. Work had also been carried out to counter harmful traditional practices, including child, early and forced marriages, with a “white paper” recently having been published, and female genital mutilation, including through the establishment of victim support offices within national support centres for migrant integration.

19. Regarding statistics, the delegation highlighted the work of the National Statistics Institute, which was an independent entity, in four areas, namely, the updating of gender equality indicators, the revision of the Sustainable Development Goals indicators, the publication of the results of a large-scale survey on security, with data on harassment, sexual violence and violence in childhood, and the publication of the results of a large-scale survey covering ethnic origin and racial discrimination, which was the first of its kind.

20. Regarding hate speech, the delegation noted the work of the Commission for Equality and against Racial Discrimination, which was now independent and under the purview of Parliament, especially its campaigns in partnership with social media platforms and the 10,000 hours of training that it had provided to different groups of professionals. The Criminal Code had been amended to criminalize hate speech and add nationality and language as prohibited grounds of discrimination.

21. Regarding the rights of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers, the delegation underlined that, during the COVID-19 pandemic, all persons with pending migration and asylum requests had temporarily been regularized, thereby granting them access to all State services. Efforts had also been made to receive and integrate refugees from Afghanistan and Ukraine, in addition to those under the national resettlement programme in partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Portugal had also brought about a paradigm shift in its migration and asylum policy by establishing the Agency for Integration, Migration and Asylum, with border control being entrusted to the security services and the tasks of analysing asylum and migration requests and promoting integration and access to services now centralized in one entity. A new plan of action had also been established, along with a new consultative body.

22. Regarding the rights of ethnic minorities, Portugal had implemented the National Strategy for the Integration of Roma Communities and was preparing a new version of the document. The Strategy had involved hiring cultural mediators, establishing local action plans, granting scholarships to Roma students, designing personal employment plans for Roma jobseekers and funding Roma associations' projects.

23. Regarding racial discrimination, Portugal had approved and implemented a plan to combat racism, with 10 priority areas. In addition to the first-ever survey covering ethnic origin and racial discrimination, conducted by the National Statistics Institute, the granting of institutional independence to the Commission for Equality and against Racial Discrimination and the changes made to the Criminal Code, Portugal had rolled out a series of online training courses and had created a new observatory in that area.

24. Regarding sustainable development, in the preparation of its second voluntary national review on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Portugal had sought to integrate a human rights-based approach, including by ensuring a participative process, with the full involvement of civil society.

25. Regarding gender equality, guided by the two consecutive action plans in the area of equality between women and men, Portugal had introduced a number of measures and actions, such as reworking school and university curricula to deconstruct gender stereotypes, launching a programme to distribute free menstrual products in all schools and local health centres, working towards more flexible working conditions and leave arrangements to ensure equality in parenthood, applying a gender impact assessment in public budgeting, incentivizing equality in science, technology, engineering and mathematics courses (where women now represented around 36 per cent of graduates) and in companies (where, between 2017 and 2022, the percentage of members of boards of directors who were women had jumped from 16 per cent to 33 per cent in companies listed on the stock exchange and from 27 per cent to 42 per cent in State-owned companies). The Government that had taken office in April 2024 had the largest ever percentage of women among its members, when counting both Ministers and Secretaries of State, at almost 41 per cent.

26. Regarding the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, as well as implementing two consecutive action plans providing for measures on access to public services, health, education and training, Portugal had prohibited so-called conversion therapies and had created a working group to tackle bullying and cyberbullying.

27. In the domain of economic, social and cultural rights, and in response to a number of the advance questions and recommendations, the delegation of Portugal highlighted the country's international leadership in the Human Rights Council, not only through the biennial resolution on that topic, but also through its efforts towards the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

28. During the reporting period and, in particular, during the COVID-19 pandemic and the inflationary crisis, Portugal had taken immediate measures, such as averting redundancies through direct State support, extending social benefits, increasing the minimum wage, freezing public transport prices, reducing income tax and limiting rent hikes. At the same time, the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Plan – a multiannual investment plan of over €22 billion – was under way.

29. Regarding the right to work, Portugal had amended the Labour Code and other legislation in order to regulate work on digital platforms, criminalize undeclared work, prohibit outsourcing in certain circumstances, define a minimum level of remuneration for professional internships and establish stricter rules for temporary work agencies. Portugal had strengthened parental leave, created a new category of leave for cases of miscarriage and launched a pilot project for a four-day work week. Recently, a new agreement had been signed with social partners to define the trajectory of the minimum wage and set goals on the median wage. New, targeted programmes had been introduced to fight unemployment among young persons, long-term unemployed persons, Roma communities and persons with disabilities. Quotas had been established in the private sector for persons with disabilities.

30. Regarding the right to social security, Portugal had focused on social infrastructure investment, the simplification and automation of administrative procedures for accessing

benefits, the provision of kindergarten care free of charge and the regulation of the work of informal carers. The Social Support Index, which served as a reference for calculating the majority of benefits, had progressively been raised, and new rules had increased the number of recipients of the solidarity benefit for older persons.

31. Regarding the right to housing, the priority was to increase public housing provision, with almost 60,000 new houses to be made available by 2030. A new plan also included measures to simplify construction, support young persons to buy a first home, facilitate procedures for awarding rental subsidies to young persons and expand student accommodation provision.

32. Regarding the right to health, Portugal had adopted a new basic law on health, a new mental health law, which promoted deinstitutionalization, and a new health plan, with a focus on the social determinants of health. Remaining fees for users of the national health service had been eliminated. A new transformation plan had been presented, with measures to end waiting lists for cancer surgeries, reinforce gynaecology teams, hire psychologists for primary care and guarantee that every person was assigned a general practitioner.

33. Regarding the right to education, an area in which there had been clear results, namely, the reduction in the early dropout rate from 45 per cent at the beginning of the century to 8 per cent in 2023, programmes on inclusive education and citizenship education had been implemented. The programme on education in priority territories, which targeted schools with higher social vulnerability scores, had been expanded. A new plan with a focus on migrant students had been presented and included measures such as hiring mediators and updating the curriculum for learning Portuguese as a foreign language. With regard to higher education, scholarships had been strengthened. Concerning lifelong learning, a new agreement had been signed with social partners.

34. Regarding cultural rights, two new national networks had been established, one for theatres and the other for the contemporary arts, the work of cultural professionals had been regulated, specific programmes for persons with disabilities, persons deprived of liberty, persons with mental health conditions, older persons and persons living in rural areas had been implemented, and new conditions had been put in place for access to museums, monuments and theatres free of charge.

35. Responding to advance questions, the delegation underlined steps taken to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, namely, the “360° Accessibilities” programme, which was aimed at adapting buildings (both public and private) and public spaces for persons with reduced mobility, and the “Plataforma +Acesso” initiative, which consolidated all relevant information for persons with disabilities and included a national georeferencing system with real-time information on accessibility, as well as a “call centre” with sign language interpretation.

36. In conclusion, the delegation recalled the tradition of openness and intercultural and interreligious dialogue in Portugal. The fact that Portugal would soon host the tenth Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations was a testament to that tradition. Portugal reiterated its commitment to analysing all recommendations that it received, with a view to implementing them, and highlighted the importance for democratic societies of ensuring the full and meaningful enjoyment of all human rights.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

37. **The response of Portugal to the following recommendations will be included in the outcome report adopted by the Human Rights Council at its fifty-eighth session:**

37.1 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bangladesh) (Burkina Faso) (Egypt) (Timor-Leste);**

37.2 **Consider the possibility of ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger);**

- 37.3 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Albania) (Libya) (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 37.4 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, in line with our recommendation from the last cycle (Paraguay);**
- 37.5 **Work towards the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, in order to strengthen its national policy to combat all forms of discrimination (Togo);**
- 37.6 **Consider signing and ratifying the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Samoa);**
- 37.7 **Maintain the commitment made to cooperate with all international mechanisms and the obligation to protect, respect and fulfil human rights for all (Cuba);**
- 37.8 **Continue social awareness and institutional training actions in the field of human rights, in particular by monitoring the implementation of laws adopted in this regard (Senegal);**
- 37.9 **Implement more training and education programmes on human rights principles for law enforcement officials (Qatar);**
- 37.10 **Pursue the consistent mainstreaming of a gender-inclusive approach in all areas of public policy (Ukraine);**
- 37.11 **Adopt a comprehensive system of care and support with an intersectional gender and human rights approach (Mexico);**
- 37.12 **Step up measures to tackle the remaining challenges (United Republic of Tanzania);**
- 37.13 **Advance with the approval of the fourth National Action Plan for the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) (Republic of Moldova);**
- 37.14 **Continue strengthening the independence of the Office of the Ombudsperson (Georgia);**
- 37.15 **Further strengthen the independence of the Office of the Ombudsperson (Kazakhstan);**
- 37.16 **Continue strengthening the National Human Rights Commission as a national implementation, reporting and follow-up mechanism (Paraguay);**
- 37.17 **Further implement policies and measures to address stigmatization, eliminate racial discrimination and prevent hate crimes and hate speech, including online (Romania);**
- 37.18 **Enhance the collection, analysis, and use of disaggregated data, including on gender, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation and disability, to enable better understanding of the challenges facing diverse population groups and improved policy responses (Canada);**
- 37.19 **Further improve its legislation to ensure that it covers the prohibition of racial discrimination in all spheres of public and private life (Armenia);**
- 37.20 **Strengthen public policies and awareness campaigns aimed at combating discrimination and racism (Morocco);**
- 37.21 **Amend national legislation to ensure that it covers the prohibition of racial discrimination and stigmatization against people of African descent and ensure that complaints are investigated and victims have access to remedies (Namibia);**

- 37.22 Further strengthen the institutions in charge of equality and non-discrimination, in particular the Commission for Equality and against Racial Discrimination, by allocating sufficient financial, technical and human resources to it (Djibouti);
- 37.23 Intensify measures to combat racial discrimination by amending legislation to expressly prohibit the promotion of and incitement to racial discrimination, in order to combat all forms of discrimination, and in particular racial discrimination against people of African descent (Djibouti);
- 37.24 Conduct investigations into complaints made by Afrodescendent groups, migrants and ethnic minorities, of violations of their rights, in order to punish those involved and guarantee reparation measures for those affected (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 37.25 Continue to make efforts to assist and protect victims of racially motivated violence, particularly those of African descent (Angola);
- 37.26 Further strengthen measures to address racial discrimination and promote equality (Viet Nam);
- 37.27 Revise legislation to combat racism and xenophobia, including through the criminalization of racial insult, racism and xenophobia, currently classified in Portuguese criminal law as misdemeanours (Brazil);
- 37.28 Further strengthen efforts, through awareness-raising campaigns, to dismantle discriminatory stereotypes regarding the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and in society (Botswana);
- 37.29 Consider introducing more awareness-raising programmes to further combat racial discrimination (United Republic of Tanzania);
- 37.30 Step up efforts to combat all forms of racial discrimination, including by effectively addressing the issue of racial profiling, abuse of authority, and excessive use of force by the police, especially against individuals on the margins of society (Philippines);
- 37.31 Adopt further measures to combat racism and ethnic hate crimes and to ensure that they are effectively investigated, and the perpetrators brought to justice (Qatar);
- 37.32 Consider strengthening its legislation to include the prohibition of the promotion of or incitement to racial discrimination by public authorities (South Africa);
- 37.33 Redouble efforts to better combat racism (Albania);
- 37.34 Intensify efforts to reduce the excessive use of force by law enforcement officials and to promote awareness aimed at reducing racially motivated misconduct within law enforcement (Indonesia);
- 37.35 Strengthen measures to combat racial discrimination, with a focus on improving access to justice (Jordan);
- 37.36 Amend legislation to ensure that it prohibits racial discrimination in all areas of public and private life (Luxembourg);
- 37.37 Intensify efforts to ensure effective responses to tackle discrimination, Islamophobia, hate speech and other related intolerance against ethnic and religious minorities (Malaysia);
- 37.38 Continue government efforts to combat any manifestations of racism, racial discrimination and hate speech (Egypt);
- 37.39 Increase efforts to combat racism and xenophobia (Bahrain);
- 37.40 Strengthen laws on prohibiting racial discrimination (Plurinational State of Bolivia);

- 37.41 Continue its efforts to further guarantee the rights of certain categories of people, such as women, children, migrants and persons with disabilities (Burkina Faso);
- 37.42 Step up efforts to protect the rights of marginalized groups through effective laws and reporting mechanisms (Cabo Verde);
- 37.43 Further its efforts against discrimination and racism and include measures aimed at combating antisemitism within its national plan for combating racism and discrimination (Israel);
- 37.44 Continue efforts to address discrimination by expanding training on prevention and combating racial discrimination and hate speech (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 37.45 Continue to combat racial discrimination and hate speech to protect the rights of persons belonging to ethnic minorities (China);
- 37.46 Redouble efforts to combat hate speech, stigma and discrimination against migrants and people of African descent (Libya);
- 37.47 Continue efforts to prevent and counter racism, discrimination, and hate crimes, including against migrants and Muslims (Pakistan);
- 37.48 Adjust legislation to guarantee non-discrimination on the grounds of race or national origin, especially against people of African descent, Roma and migrants, in national institutions, including the security forces (Colombia);
- 37.49 Continue efforts to combat racism, discrimination, and xenophobia within the framework of the National Plan to Combat Racism and Discrimination for the period 2021–2025 (Tunisia);
- 37.50 Continue efforts to combat racism and racial discrimination through the development of specific education programmes against racism and racial discrimination and strengthen hate crime legislation, ensuring prompt investigation and prosecution of racially motivated crimes (Costa Rica);
- 37.51 Take measures to prevent racial discrimination by the security forces and address any kind of racism and discriminatory police action (Chile);
- 37.52 Reform police oversight mechanisms to ensure effective investigations of police misconduct, in particular in cases motivated by racism (Costa Rica);
- 37.53 Strongly combat the growing level of racism in the country, and ensure that police officers are effectively investigated and held accountable for their misconduct (Russian Federation);
- 37.54 Redouble efforts to combat racism in the country (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 37.55 Take effective measures to address the problem of overcrowding, and consider greater investment in the modernization of buildings and facilities of the penitentiary system (Russian Federation);
- 37.56 Continue to address overcrowding and lack of resources in prisons (Holy See);
- 37.57 Take urgent steps to improve prison conditions by addressing overcrowding and ensuring that all detainees have access to humane and sanitary facilities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 37.58 Take measures to improve conditions of detention in prisons in order to fully comply with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) (Switzerland);
- 37.59 Develop policies to improve living standards in prisons and detention facilities, in particular by expanding access to healthcare (United States of America);

- 37.60 **Implement plans to improve the quality of detention facilities, including through multi-annual investment in the justice sector (Australia);**
- 37.61 **Accelerate efforts to ensure adequate living conditions in prisons, and the full implementation of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Austria);**
- 37.62 **Increase public investment in penitentiary buildings and facilities (Costa Rica);**
- 37.63 **Ensure the operational autonomy of the national preventive mechanism against torture and provide it with the necessary earmarked financial and personnel resources to fulfil its mandate (Montenegro);**
- 37.64 **Maintain efforts to prevent and address ill-treatment in prisons (Germany);**
- 37.65 **Strengthen the investigation capacity of law enforcement officials on hate crimes and criminal hate speech, including on the Internet, and ensure that all cases are systematically investigated (Greece);**
- 37.66 **Take measures to strengthen the investigation capacity of law enforcement officials on hate crimes and criminal hate speech, including on the Internet, and ensure that all cases are systematically investigated, and that perpetrators are held accountable (Republic of Korea);**
- 37.67 **Take effective measures to combat hate speech on the Portuguese Internet (Russian Federation);**
- 37.68 **Strengthen the investigative capacity of law enforcement officials on hate crimes and hate speech, online and offline, ensuring that all cases are systematically investigated, perpetrators are brought to justice and victims have access to full reparation (Montenegro);**
- 37.69 **Provide enhanced training for law enforcement officers on equity, diversity and inclusion in order to prevent discrimination and to promote greater representation of diverse communities within law enforcement agencies (Canada);**
- 37.70 **Continue and strengthen awareness-raising activities and capacity-building measures of law enforcement and judicial authorities to tackle discrimination in all its forms, as well as hate crimes and criminal hate speech, both offline and online (Belgium);**
- 37.71 **Ensure that all complaints of torture and ill-treatment by law enforcement are promptly and impartially investigated by an independent body (Norway);**
- 37.72 **Fully investigate reports of excessive use of force and other misconduct by police and prison guards (United States of America);**
- 37.73 **Focus on robustly tackling instances of serious ill-treatment of suspects by Portuguese law enforcement bodies, and of prisoners by prison officials (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 37.74 **Ensure that all allegations of torture, ill-treatment and unnecessary or excessive use of force by law enforcement officials are properly investigated (Italy);**
- 37.75 **Conduct awareness-raising campaigns and training programmes for law enforcement officials aimed at preventing racially motivated violence and excessive use of force against ethnic minorities and migrants, in particular Roma, Africans, and people of African descent (Azerbaijan);**
- 37.76 **Take additional measures to combat racially motivated violence, including excessive use of force by law enforcement agencies against ethnic minorities and migrants (Belarus);**

- 37.77 Continue strengthening law enforcement training to prevent excessive use of force, particularly against women and racial minorities (Austria);
- 37.78 Implement stronger measures to address and prevent police misconduct, particularly in cases involving racial discrimination and violence (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 37.79 Ensure prompt and impartial investigations of complaints related to excessive use of force by law enforcement officers, preferably by an independent body (Austria);
- 37.80 Strengthen law enforcement capacities to investigate hate crimes, ensuring that victims have access to comprehensive reparation (Spain);
- 37.81 Increase efforts to address trafficking in persons and take additional steps to ensure victims' access to legal aid and effective compensation (Bahrain);
- 37.82 Review the Criminal Code to make sexual intimidation in public, including online and through catcalling, punishable (Kingdom of the Netherlands);
- 37.83 Develop and implement comprehensive social reintegration programmes for persons released from detention and persons subject to non-custodial measures, with a focus on human rights (Costa Rica);
- 37.84 Decriminalize defamation and place it within the Civil Code in accordance with international standards (Ireland);
- 37.85 Take steps to advance the protection of freedom of expression, including by repealing criminal penalties for defamation and blasphemy (United States of America);
- 37.86 Protect the right to freedom of religion and conscience of patients, healthcare professionals and others, notably protecting conscientious objection in the medical field (Holy See);
- 37.87 Ensure appropriate safeguards to fully protect freedom of religion, conscience and expression in the implementation of the law criminalizing so-called conversion therapies (Holy See);
- 37.88 Develop regulations to protect the privacy of children in the digital environment and the media (Estonia);
- 37.89 Remove all exceptions to the minimum age of marriage at 18 in article 1601 in the Portuguese Civil Code in order to ensure that forced and early marriages are prevented (Sweden);
- 37.90 Remove all exceptions to the minimum age of marriage at 18 in the Portuguese Civil Code, article 1601, to end child, early and forced marriages (Norway);
- 37.91 Amend its legislation to remove all exceptions that allow marriage under the age of 18 (Cyprus);
- 37.92 Remove all legal exceptions that allow marriage under the age of 18 and put in place a concrete action plan to prevent de facto marriages of minors (Germany);
- 37.93 Raise the minimum age of marriage to 18, without any exceptions (Iceland);
- 37.94 Raise the legal minimum age of marriage to 18 years for both parties without any exceptions (Ireland);
- 37.95 Raise the minimum legal age of marriage to 18 for women and men, without exception (Mexico);
- 37.96 Modify legislation to eliminate all exceptions allowing marriage for persons under 18 (Chile);

- 37.97 **Address the root causes of child, early, and forced marriage, including by amending current legislation to raise the legal minimum age of marriage to 18 years (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**
- 37.98 **Remove all exceptions that allow marriage under the age of 18 (North Macedonia);**
- 37.99 **Strengthen measures to protect and support the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society (Egypt);**
- 37.100 **Ensure that cases of trafficking in persons are thoroughly investigated, and those responsible prosecuted, and improve criteria for the identification of victims to guarantee their protection and access to compensation (Qatar);**
- 37.101 **Ensure that cases of trafficking in persons are thoroughly investigated and those responsible are prosecuted (Armenia);**
- 37.102 **Continue to strengthen efforts to prevent and combat human trafficking (Timor-Leste);**
- 37.103 **Strengthen measures to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, and ensure access to adequate protection and support for all victims of trafficking (Zimbabwe);**
- 37.104 **Strengthen ongoing efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, ensuring access to adequate protection and support for all victims of trafficking (Peru);**
- 37.105 **Continue efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, ensure redress for victims, increase employment opportunities for women, especially migrant women, and reduce the gender pay gap in employment (Iraq);**
- 37.106 **Intensify efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, including by putting in place effective procedures for the identification and referral of victims among vulnerable groups, such as asylum-seekers and irregular migrants (Namibia);**
- 37.107 **Bolster the campaign against human trafficking by providing continuous and targeted training to law enforcement on identifying victims, particularly among undocumented migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers, while also improving access to justice and support services for victims (Philippines);**
- 37.108 **Intensify efforts to combat human trafficking, including by providing adequate resources to national authorities involved in these efforts (Lebanon);**
- 37.109 **Continue its efforts to combat human trafficking, including by ensuring that those responsible are prosecuted and that victims are provided with appropriate protection and assistance (Greece);**
- 37.110 **Take measures to effectively identify victims of human trafficking and ensure their rights, as well as to prevent crimes related to human trafficking (Belarus);**
- 37.111 **Strengthen efforts to combat human trafficking, including in the intensive agriculture sector, in particular through the identification, assistance and protection of victims, as well as through the prosecution of perpetrators (Switzerland);**
- 37.112 **Prevent human trafficking and labour exploitation, including through increased inspections by the authorities in regions with high irregular migrant worker arrivals (Australia);**
- 37.113 **Continue to improve procedures for identifying trafficking victims, particularly among vulnerable groups such as asylum-seekers and irregular migrants, and ensure adequate protection for victims (Bangladesh);**
- 37.114 **Redouble efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons by establishing effective procedures to detect and refer victims belonging to**

vulnerable groups, such as asylum-seekers and migrants in an irregular situation (Colombia);

37.115 Strengthen efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, including by establishing effective procedures for the identification and referral of victims among vulnerable groups, and improve training for law enforcement officials and other first responders by including statutory training on the identification of potential victims of trafficking (Kazakhstan);

37.116 Strengthen mechanisms for preventing, combating and punishing human trafficking and intensify awareness-raising and sensitization measures, as well as victims' access to justice and support and protection services (Paraguay);

37.117 Continue efforts to combat trafficking in persons (India);

37.118 Redouble efforts to prevent and combat human trafficking (Côte d'Ivoire);

37.119 Continue taking measures for the full and equal participation of women in the labour market (Serbia);

37.120 Develop plans and/or policies to promote the right to equal work, particularly for vulnerable persons (Plurinational State of Bolivia);

37.121 Continue the implementation of national policies aimed at equal opportunities and equal treatment in employment and the professions, in particular by including asylum-seekers (Cameroon);

37.122 Continue adopting measures to reduce the gender pay gap (Chile);

37.123 Continue efforts to increase employment opportunities for specific groups, such as women and persons with disabilities (Malaysia);

37.124 Scale up efforts to eliminate the gender pay gap (Nepal);

37.125 Implement a comprehensive social protection system that articulates existing plans, programmes and strategies with a systemic approach and addresses the root causes of poverty and inequalities to ensure an adequate standard of living for all (Paraguay);

37.126 Step up measures to ensure vulnerable people's access to adequate and affordable housing, especially through more publicly financed housing projects, as well as adequate living conditions and adequate protection from eviction (Austria);

37.127 Implement robust housing policies to combat homelessness and guarantee affordable housing, especially in urban areas facing housing shortages (Mozambique);

37.128 Focus on implementing policy measures in order to ensure access to adequate housing for everyone (Slovakia);

37.129 Fully implement specific national legislation, such as the housing law, in order to ensure that the right to adequate housing is guaranteed, in line with international standards (Romania);

37.130 Implement comprehensive solutions to address the housing crisis and ensure adequate housing for all (Viet Nam);

37.131 Strengthen the measures already initiated to guarantee access to decent housing for vulnerable families (Burundi);

37.132 Take all appropriate measures to ensure the right to adequate housing and provide adequate resources to improve housing conditions, especially for families with children (Italy);

37.133 Address the particular effects of the housing crisis on women and the security of women, and strengthen measures to ensure access to adequate and

affordable housing, including social housing, as well as access to safe drinking water and sanitation (Finland);

37.134 Make adequate resources available to improve housing conditions, with priority given to families identified as living in unsanitary housing (France);

37.135 Continue to build on the good work of local authorities in providing housing for the homeless and the poorest families (Holy See);

37.136 Continue providing affordable student housing (United Republic of Tanzania);

37.137 Continue further measures aimed at poverty reduction by strengthening social policies for vulnerable groups (Uzbekistan);

37.138 Continue to develop the National Strategy to Combat Poverty in order to reduce the risks of extreme poverty (Cuba);

37.139 Continue to reduce poverty and social exclusion rates, in particular through the implementation of the National Strategy to Combat Poverty (2021–2030) (Ecuador);

37.140 Enhance measures to address poverty and unemployment (Sierra Leone);

37.141 Guarantee adequate water supply and sanitation for its population, adopting immediate measures to provide drinking water to all communities (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

37.142 Strengthen laws to ensure access to basic services (Plurinational State of Bolivia);

37.143 Take measures to eliminate unilateral coercive measures that negatively affect world trade and food security at the global level and violate human rights everywhere (Belarus);

37.144 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, so as to lay a solid foundation for the enjoyment of human rights by all (China);

37.145 Strengthen partnerships between different sectors to advance the National Strategy for Food and Nutrition Security (Oman);

37.146 Improve healthcare access, especially for vulnerable populations (Viet Nam);

37.147 Continue to share experiences to promote progress in health (Oman);

37.148 Ensure a mental health perspective in the implementation of the Health Emergency and Transformation Plan, especially in the services offered to persons with disabilities (Spain);

37.149 Review national laws and policies and the implementation of comprehensive sexuality education to ensure the fulfilment of sexual and reproductive health and rights (Finland);

37.150 Ensure that access to abortion is upheld throughout the country (Sweden);

37.151 Guarantee the right to medical care, including palliative care for the terminally ill (Holy See);

37.152 Implement education programmes on diversity and inclusion in schools (Cabo Verde);

37.153 Maintain a robust investment in human, technical, and financial resources to facilitate the development and expansion of quality, affordable early childhood education (Sierra Leone);

- 37.154 Enhance human, technical, and financial resources to support the development and expansion of high-quality, affordable early childhood education (Ukraine);
- 37.155 Continue taking effective measures to increase access to quality education for vulnerable groups, including children with disabilities, children living in poverty, and those living in rural areas (Republic of Korea);
- 37.156 Increase access to all levels of education for children in vulnerable situations, especially Roma and people of African descent (Spain);
- 37.157 Further enhance access to education for children from the Roma community and of African descent, children with disabilities, and those living in poverty and in rural populations (Philippines);
- 37.158 Continue promoting access to quality education in rural areas (Algeria);
- 37.159 Continue to undertake measures towards the increased access of children from vulnerable groups to secondary and tertiary education (India);
- 37.160 Increase access to education for children from vulnerable groups, particularly in secondary and tertiary education, and ensure that the rights of the child are incorporated into the school curriculum at all levels of education (Maldives);
- 37.161 Establish mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the educational outcomes of all students in an inclusive manner to identify gaps in achievement and inform policy and programme adjustments (Bangladesh);
- 37.162 Consider enshrining compulsory pre-primary education for at least one year (Cyprus);
- 37.163 Continue efforts to provide good quality and affordable education for all (Mauritius);
- 37.164 Strengthen preparedness and response for climate-vulnerable communities, by implementing robust climate resilience measures, and early warning systems (Samoa);
- 37.165 Strengthen measures to protect the communities affected by the impacts of climate change (Nepal);
- 37.166 Continue to advocate the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Timor-Leste);
- 37.167 Enhance sustainable environmental policies and ensure access to a clean and healthy environment, focusing on reducing carbon emissions and increasing the use of renewable energy (Jordan);
- 37.168 Continue to strengthen its climate policies and goals (Bhutan);
- 37.169 Continue to apply an effective, human rights-based approach to national and international climate action (Dominican Republic);
- 37.170 Raise its level of ambition and increase the pace of implementation to address human rights concerns, such as air pollution and waste management, applying a rights-based approach to all actions related to climate and the environment (Vanuatu);
- 37.171 Raise awareness and establish a system to deal with the risks of climate change and extreme heat, which significantly impact the health of children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities (Italy);
- 37.172 Ensure the effective participation of children in climate action and prioritize them in strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change (Luxembourg);

- 37.173 **Ensure that climate policies protect the most vulnerable populations, especially low-income families (Vanuatu);**
- 37.174 **Continue to promote national programmes and policies to address strategic challenges related to climate change, demographics, inequalities, and digitalization (Cuba);**
- 37.175 **Adopt a draft action plan on responsible business conduct and human rights, which should provide for the obligation of human rights due diligence for business entities operating in Portugal or subject to its jurisdiction and operating abroad (Luxembourg);**
- 37.176 **Assess the possibility of adopting a national plan of action on responsible business conduct and human rights (Peru);**
- 37.177 **Continue the implementation of measures aimed at ensuring the full participation of women in public life and in the labour market, and the representation of women in leadership positions (Belarus);**
- 37.178 **Continue its efforts for greater representation of women in the economic and political life of the country (Albania);**
- 37.179 **Continue its efforts aimed at guaranteeing gender equality and increasing the participation of women in economic life (Bulgaria);**
- 37.180 **Increase women's participation in economic and political life (Dominican Republic);**
- 37.181 **Continue to raise awareness of the need and discuss the opportunities to advance gender equality and parity in decision-making at the international, national and local levels (Finland);**
- 37.182 **Sustain further the increased representation of women in political life and in senior positions in the public administration (Republic of Moldova);**
- 37.183 **Strengthen the effective implementation of the Action Plan for Equality between Women and Men 2023–2026 (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**
- 37.184 **Continue to promote actions aimed at ensuring that all women have access to free legal assistance, particularly those with limited resources and those in vulnerable situations (Ecuador);**
- 37.185 **Ensure, including through awareness-raising campaigns, that all women, particularly those from disadvantaged groups, have access to legal aid (South Africa);**
- 37.186 **Continue efforts to promote gender equality and combat domestic violence (Tunisia);**
- 37.187 **Ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Iceland);**
- 37.188 **Continue its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Republic of Korea);**
- 37.189 **Take concrete steps to ensure that victims of domestic violence are supported by law enforcement and the court system and in their communities (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 37.190 **Continue taking additional steps to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence (Serbia);**
- 37.191 **Focus on combating domestic and sexual violence against women and children (Belarus);**

37.192 **Guarantee the effective implementation of the Action Plan on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Sierra Leone);**

37.193 **Strengthen preventative measures for sexual and gender-based violence, including against children, by improving statistics and data collection based on indicators disaggregated by, among others, age, ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status, to inform effective policymaking, targeted prevention campaigns, education and awareness-raising (Belgium);**

37.194 **Encourage the reporting of cases of violence against women and ensure that these cases are thoroughly investigated, the perpetrators prosecuted and punished with appropriate sanctions, and the victims provided with access to effective remedies (Slovenia);**

37.195 **Provide adequate training on gender-based violence to authorities and magistrates and simplify access to free legal aid for victims (Australia);**

37.196 **Facilitate access to justice for women victims of violence, notably by simplifying administrative procedures and reducing practical obstacles to obtaining legal aid (Switzerland);**

37.197 **Strengthen support services for survivors of gender-based violence, including by ensuring adequately funded safe shelters and crisis centres that can provide trauma-informed health services (Canada);**

37.198 **Redouble efforts to eliminate gender-based violence, considering the criminalization of femicide (Chile);**

37.199 **Take all appropriate measures to address gender-based violence in law, policy and practice, including through thorough investigation into all allegations of gender-based violence (Cyprus);**

37.200 **Ensure full and effective implementation of the Action Plan on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, especially by focusing on ensuring thorough investigations of cases of sexual and gender-based violence so that perpetrators can be prosecuted (Denmark);**

37.201 **Continue efforts to strengthen mechanisms to prevent and combat violence against women in accordance with the Action Plan on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Djibouti);**

37.202 **Ensure the effective implementation of the new Action Plan on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (2023–2026), particularly by addressing the low prosecution rate of domestic violence cases (Indonesia);**

37.203 **Continue to strengthen its efforts to combat violence against women and domestic violence (Bhutan);**

37.204 **Intensify efforts to prevent violence against women and to support victims, especially by ensuring consistent and reliable institutional funding for women's rights and victim protection non-governmental organizations, by ensuring automatic free legal aid for victims and by creating courts specialized in domestic violence, as well as by making rape an ex officio crime (Germany);**

37.205 **Strengthen initiatives aimed at protecting women and children from gender-based violence, with particular emphasis on the training of professionals and expanding victim support services (Greece);**

37.206 **Enhance protections for victims of domestic violence, and improve access to shelters and support services for affected individuals (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

37.207 **Take steps to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence (Israel);**

- 37.208 Continue to address the issue of violence against women, including by introducing clear definitions of various types of violent crimes and ensuring prompt, thorough and impartial investigations into all allegations of gender-based violence (Italy);
- 37.209 Ensure that law enforcement officials, the judiciary, prosecutors and other relevant stakeholders receive appropriate training on gender-sensitive approaches to prosecuting cases of violence against women (Maldives);
- 37.210 Pursue efforts to implement the Action Plan on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Mauritius);
- 37.211 Take all appropriate measures to address gender-based violence in law, policy and practice, including through prompt, thorough and impartial investigations into all allegations of gender-based violence, and through the prosecution of suspected perpetrators in fair trials, and reparations for survivors (Norway);
- 37.212 Collect systematically comprehensive data on ownership of firearms and their use in cases of femicide, gender-based violence and domestic violence, in order to identify risk factors and formulate evidence-based policies (Panama);
- 37.213 Revise the Criminal Code to encompass all forms of cyberviolence, classify rape as a public crime and femicide as a distinct crime, and amend the definition of rape by replacing “cognizable will” with “consent” (Iceland);
- 37.214 Amend the provisions of the Criminal Code to make rape a crime “of a public nature” in order to facilitate the investigation of this crime (France);
- 37.215 Amend the legal definition of rape to bring it in line with the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (Malta);
- 37.216 Continue efforts to establish a mechanism for the prevention and repression of perpetrators of all forms of violence against women and girls (Senegal);
- 37.217 Ensure adequate resources and fully implement the Action Plan on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and the Action Plan for Equality between Women and Men (Estonia);
- 37.218 Carry out awareness campaigns on the importance of reporting cases of violence against women, strengthen early warning mechanisms and continue to train law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, the prosecutor’s office and other competent entities in the fight against gender-based violence (Spain);
- 37.219 Eliminate corporal punishment, in law and in practice, and intensify awareness-raising activities on the matter (Paraguay);
- 37.220 Ensure the complete prohibition of corporal punishment in all settings, in law and in practice, as per the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Cyprus);
- 37.221 Intensify efforts to ban corporal punishment in all its forms through awareness-raising campaigns and capacity-building programmes on non-violent child-rearing and the inclusion of specific references to combating corporal punishment in national programmes and strategies on children’s rights and the prevention of violence (Belgium);
- 37.222 Further strengthen efforts to increase the access of children from vulnerable groups to education (Uzbekistan);
- 37.223 Allocate resources to support the promotion of inclusive education, in particular to address the needs of children with disabilities (Dominican Republic);

- 37.224 **Increase support for mental health services in schools and protect children from bullying, particularly online harassment (Mozambique);**
- 37.225 **Build the capacities of children, parents, legal guardians and teachers on the responsible use of information and communications technology (Botswana);**
- 37.226 **Develop and fund programmes to improve digital literacy among children in order for them to be safe and empowered in an increasingly digital world (Denmark);**
- 37.227 **Fully implement the Child Guarantee Action Plan to address child poverty locally, aligning with the decentralization process and ensuring equity (Morocco);**
- 37.228 **Continue to implement development initiatives to support children and youth, especially in marginalized areas (Oman);**
- 37.229 **Establish a special ombudsperson for the rights of children, as an entity that is independent or subordinate to the Office of the Ombudsperson, equipped with the necessary authority and resources to coordinate policies and promote comprehensive and cross-sectoral strategies for the well-being of children (Panama);**
- 37.230 **Continue efforts to promote the rights of child and the rights of older persons (Pakistan);**
- 37.231 **Continue to promote the human rights of older persons at the national level through the implementation of the Action Plan for Active and Healthy Ageing, as well as in multilateral forums with a legally binding instrument in this area (Republic of Moldova);**
- 37.232 **Continue its efforts aimed at recognizing and protecting the rights of older persons, who are a vulnerable group (Dominican Republic);**
- 37.233 **Adopt policies and provide educational and awareness-raising workshops to improve the digital literacy of older persons (Panama);**
- 37.234 **Take effective measures to ensure that buildings and institutions open to the public meet accessibility requirements (Russian Federation);**
- 37.235 **Proceed with initiatives aimed at improving accessibility for persons with disabilities, with a focus on inclusive education, public accessibility and vocational training (Georgia);**
- 37.236 **Take further measures to implement the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities to ensure timely progress in meeting accessibility and inclusion standards (Israel);**
- 37.237 **Continue ongoing efforts to address the specific needs of children with disabilities and to build an inclusive education system (Burundi);**
- 37.238 **Continue efforts to promote the integration of children with disabilities into the educational process and ensure their access to quality and comprehensive education (Qatar);**
- 37.239 **Take further steps to eliminate barriers that create difficulties for people with disabilities, especially children, to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life (Bulgaria);**
- 37.240 **Improve the provision of assistive products and physical accessibility, as well as the timely issuance of disability certificates (North Macedonia);**
- 37.241 **Strengthen efforts to ensure a timely response to requests for certificates of disability (South Africa);**
- 37.242 **Take measures with regard to systematic deficiencies in the inclusion of persons with disabilities (Bahrain);**

- 37.243 Ensure disability-sensitive mechanisms that enable medical procedures to be carried out with full, free and informed consent, including in cases of the sterilization of persons with disabilities, especially in relation to girls and women (Colombia);
- 37.244 Adopt the necessary measures to ensure the prior, free and informed consent of women with disabilities for any medical intervention or treatment (Mexico);
- 37.245 Continue taking measures to protect the rights of persons with disabilities and develop programmes to ensure their enjoyment of their rights to education and health (Algeria);
- 37.246 Consider taking further steps to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities (Uzbekistan);
- 37.247 Intensify efforts to extend as far as possible the implementation of public policies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities (Ecuador);
- 37.248 Continue working on ensuring easier access to basic social services for persons with disabilities (Serbia);
- 37.249 Improve measures to enhance the inclusivity of schools for children with disabilities, including through financial support (Samoa);
- 37.250 Intensify efforts to address discrimination against Roma and people of African descent, and ensure that complaints are investigated and victims have access to remedies (Zimbabwe);
- 37.251 Step up efforts to address stigmatization and discrimination against Roma and people of African descent, and ensure that complaints are investigated, and victims have access to remedies (Azerbaijan);
- 37.252 Take concrete and sustained measures in addressing systemic racism, particularly among the Roma people and people of African descent (Sierra Leone);
- 37.253 Continue efforts to combat hate speech and discrimination against migrants and people of African descent, and work to reduce the spread of hate speech, discrimination and racism (Iraq);
- 37.254 Continue efforts to combat discrimination against the Roma and people of African descent (India);
- 37.255 Take the necessary measures to promote the access of Roma and Afrodescendent persons to the labour market and education (Mexico);
- 37.256 Ameliorate the integration of the Roma people and people of African descent and combat all forms of discrimination against them (North Macedonia);
- 37.257 Counter discrimination and improve the integration of persons belonging to the Roma community, including by improving access to housing, education, healthcare and employment (Sweden);
- 37.258 Continue to promote access to education, work and housing for minority populations as part of the National Strategy for the Integration of Roma Communities (Cuba);
- 37.259 Strengthen employment policies promoting racial equality (Cabo Verde);
- 37.260 Consider implementing new actions to strengthen the fight against discrimination directed towards Roma and Afrodescendent communities (Peru);
- 37.261 Amend the Constitution to include legal protections for sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (Iceland);

- 37.262 Consider introducing constitutional amendments to expressly refer to sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (Malta);
- 37.263 Ensure that the legal framework and procedures on legal gender recognition include a non-binary or third gender option (Iceland);
- 37.264 Implement measures aimed at eliminating discrimination against LGBTQI+ persons (Chile);
- 37.265 Consider strengthening training programmes for civil servants and security forces personnel to reduce instances of the stereotyping of different population groups, including LGBTQI+ persons (Malta);
- 37.266 Guarantee adequate conditions in migrant integration centres (Russian Federation);
- 37.267 Guarantee adequate conditions at support centres for migrants' integration and prevent overcrowding in detention centres (Morocco);
- 37.268 Redouble efforts to address overcrowding in migrant reception centres and to improve detention conditions (Zimbabwe);
- 37.269 Pursue targeted policies to improve detention conditions, particularly for migrants (Lebanon);
- 37.270 Further support migrant integration programmes, especially in the areas of education, health, housing and social protection (Tunisia);
- 37.271 Continue to ensure the integration of migrants by issuing residency documents in a timely manner (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 37.272 Speed up the processing of migratory regularization and implement public policies aimed at guaranteeing migrants' access to health and education services, including during the period in which they are waiting for migratory regularization (Brazil);
- 37.273 Improve the living and working conditions for migrant workers by enforcing safe housing standards (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 37.274 Continue measures to facilitate the pathways for safe, orderly and regular migration and to protect migrant workers (Nepal);
- 37.275 Ensure adequate support services and legal protections for migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees, including improved access to healthcare (Mozambique);
- 37.276 Strengthen the protection of the human rights of migrants (Cameroon);
- 37.277 Diversify the language training available to asylum-seekers and refugees to ensure a flexible, needs-based and modular approach, including through increased collaboration among national and municipal governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector (Costa Rica);
- 37.278 Promote awareness campaigns aimed at migrant and older women, including ensuring access to legal assistance (Angola);
- 37.279 Enhance refugee integration efforts by establishing effective mechanisms for collaboration with civil society entities, including refugee-led organizations (Canada);
- 37.280 Strengthen efforts to protect the rights and safety of migrants and refugees, including measures to prevent and address human trafficking and cases of labour exploitation (Indonesia);
- 37.281 Increase the annual quota for the resettlement programme with UNHCR and include Rohingya refugees in the programme (Malaysia).

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

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Portugal was headed by H.E. the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Mr. Nuno SAMPAIO, H.E. the Deputy Minister and for Justice, Ms. Maria Clara FIGUEIREDO and H.E. the Secretary of State for Social Action and for Inclusion, Ms. Clara MARQUES MENDES and composed of the following members:

- Ms. Joana FISHER, Minister Counsellor, Chargée d’Affaires a.i. and Deputy-Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Portugal, Geneva;
 - Ms. Mara SOUSA, Counsellor for Human Rights, Permanent Mission of Portugal, Geneva;
 - Ms. Camila CRISPIM, Attachée, Permanent Mission of Portugal, Geneva;
 - Ms. Cristina CASTANHETA, Deputy Director-General for Foreign Policy;
 - Ms. Sara ÁGOAS, Head of the Human Rights Unit, International Political Organisations Department;
 - Ms. Raquel BASTOS, Advisor to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation;
 - Mr. Miguel ALEGRE, Desk Officer, Human Rights Unit, International Political Organisations Department;
 - Ms. Joelma ALMEIDA, Head of the Multidisciplinary Team for International Relations and the 2030 Agenda of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers;
 - Ms. Marta FEIO, Member of the Governing Board of the Agency for Integration, Migration and Asylum;
 - Ms. Maria Lídia MARTINS FRANCISCO DE PAULA JACOB, Director-General for Justice Policy;
 - Ms. Inês HORTA PINTO, Advisor to the Deputy Minister and for Justice;
 - Ms. Susana LAMAS, Chief of Staff to the Secretary of State for Social Action and for Inclusion;
 - Ms. Ana Margarida SEVERINO, Director of the Department for International Relations and Cooperation, Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security;
 - Ms. Andreia MARQUES, Advisor to the Deputy Minister and for Equality.
-