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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Guyana

* 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-ninth session from 28 April to 9 May 2025. The review of Guyana was held at the 14th meeting, on 6 May 2025. The delegation of Guyana was headed by the Permanent Representative of Guyana to the United Nations, Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett. At its 17th meeting, held on 9 May 2025, the Working Group adopted the report on Guyana.
2. On 8 January 2025, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Guyana: Belgium, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Dominican Republic.
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 Guyana:
 - (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 Canada, Costa Rica, on behalf of the 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), the Dominican Republic, on behalf of the members of the core group of sponsors of the resolution on the open-ended intergovernmental working group on an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the rights to early childhood education, free pre-primary education and free secondary education (Armenia, Bulgaria, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Panama, Romania and Sierra Leone), Germany, Panama, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Guyana 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 Guyana stated that it was honoured to participate in the fourth cycle of the universal periodic review and reaffirmed its commitment to the promotion, protection and progressive realization of human rights. Guyana underscored the substantial progress that it had made over the previous four years and its engagement with the international and regional human rights systems. Guyana had translated its political will into action, mandating the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance to coordinate the State's interactions with the international human rights system and creating a national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up.
6. Over the previous four years, Guyana had rapidly transformed its society and improved the quality of life of its people by both improving the country's physical infrastructure and modernizing its legal and administrative systems. Guyana had implemented fiscal initiatives to reduce poverty and geographical disparities, achieving

¹ [A/HRC/WG.6/49/GUY/1](#).

² [A/HRC/WG.6/49/GUY/2](#).

³ [A/HRC/WG.6/49/GUY/3](#).

67 per cent progress in Sustainable Development Goal implementation. Such progress notwithstanding, Guyana faced several challenges as a small, developing nation.

7. Guyana remained committed to the universal periodic review as a constructive platform for advancing human rights and sustainable development and had made significant strides in implementing the 140 supported recommendations of the third cycle of the review. Inclusion and participation were a hallmark of the Government of Guyana, with daily ministerial outreaches across the country. Every year, the President and the Cabinet met for one week with Indigenous leaders to discuss their challenges and development plans. Over 1,000 consultations with communities had been held across Guyana on policy initiatives and national issues.

8. Guyana was a global leader in climate action. With the second highest percentage of forest cover in the world, Guyana was a carbon-negative country, sequestering 154 million tonnes of CO₂ annually. It was also advancing an ambitious energy transition aimed at tripling domestic energy supply by 2030, while keeping energy-related greenhouse gas emissions to pre-2018 levels. Guyana was following international best practices to address the environmental impacts of the oil and gas sector, enforcing environmental regulations and establishing spill prevention and response plans.

9. Guyana had integrated respect for human rights into its engagement with carbon markets. In December 2022, Guyana had become the first country to receive REDD-plus Environmental Excellence Standard credits for successfully preventing forest loss and degradation. Under the Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030, 15 per cent of carbon credit revenues were allocated to Indigenous villages to support the implementation of village sustainability plans, which were designed and implemented by those communities. In 2023, US\$22.5 million had been disbursed to over 240 villages. The allocation had been increased to 26.5 per cent in 2024. Guyana was committed to doubling its protected areas to 16 per cent of the country's territory by December 2025 and 30 per cent by 2030.

10. In July 2025, Guyana would host the first summit of the Global Biodiversity Alliance, aimed at implementing biodiversity conservation debt swaps, issuing biodiversity bonds and developing biodiversity taxonomies to guide investment and policy decisions.

11. Guyana had achieved the highest real gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate globally, averaging 47 per cent during the period 2022–2024. The non-oil economy remained robust, with real non-oil GDP expected to rise to 13 per cent in 2025. Oil revenue accounted for 30 per cent of the annual budget. The economic outlook remained positive, with projections of 14 per cent annual growth over the following five years, driven by both oil production and an increasingly diversified non-oil sector.

12. As Guyana built a resilient economy, it considered that ensuring equal opportunities and equitable access to goods and services was critical to safeguarding fundamental human rights. Infrastructural developments had enhanced connectivity through an expanded road network, improved port facilities and transportation systems and an expanded telecommunications sector. Those investments were reducing geographical disparities, including the digital divide in rural and hinterland locations. Energy investments were increasing power-generation capacity, integrating renewable sources including solar and hydropower. In 2024, over 30,000 households in hinterland and Indigenous communities had received solar panels, bringing electricity to most of those households for the first time. Over the previous four years, more than 50,000 new jobs had been created and more than 10,000 new small businesses had been established, of which approximately one third were headed by women.

13. Since 2020, Guyana had expanded social transfer initiatives aimed at reducing poverty and addressing food security. Undernourishment in Guyana was below 2.5 per cent, well below the regional average of 6.6 per cent. The Government had reintroduced the “Because We Care” cash grant for all students and had increased it by over 360 per cent by 2025, benefiting more than 200,000 students in public and private schools. Since 2022, all persons with disabilities received a monthly stipend. A cash grant of 100,000 Guyana dollars was being distributed to all Guyanese citizens from the age of 18, totalling 30 billion Guyana dollars. Further initiatives had been introduced in the 2025 budget.

14. Guyana had increased access to clean water, particularly in hinterland and riverine communities. The national housing programme provided affordable housing for low- and middle-income families and over 100 new housing areas had been developed. The process of the regularization of squatters had also progressed, with 1,559 informal settlers regularized since 2020.

15. The Constitution of Guyana enshrined education as a fundamental right for all Guyanese citizens. The Government's initiatives included increased school infrastructure, digital connectivity and targeted financial support, ensuring equitable access to quality education for all, regardless of ethnicity or background. The public education system ensured free access to education, from the nursery to the tertiary levels. Universal primary education had been achieved, and universal secondary education was on track to be achieved by 2026. Tertiary education would be free from September 2025 at the University of Guyana and other technical and vocational institutions. Over 20 new secondary schools were being constructed, some featuring dormitories for Indigenous children in hinterland regions. In 2024, more than 68 per cent of schools had Internet access, an increase from just 22 per cent in 2020. The Hinterland/Riverine Television, Solar and Satellite Project and other distant learning programmes ensured equitable access to learning resources.

16. Guyana had made significant strides in advancing the right to health. Six new regional hospitals were being constructed, alongside specialized paediatric and maternal care facilities. Over 50 telemedicine sites had been introduced in interior areas, further improving healthcare delivery to Indigenous Peoples. The maternal mortality rate had declined by 42 per cent between 2021 and 2024, and adolescent birth rates had declined by 51 per cent between 2016 and 2022. The Government had initiated voucher programmes for private medical services including eye tests, spectacles, cervical cancer screenings and general health testing.

17. Addressing land issues for Indigenous Peoples remained a priority for Guyana. Indigenous Peoples represented over 10 per cent of the population and were the second largest landowners after the State, owning 16.1 per cent of the country's territory. An Indigenous community could apply for communal land title and have their land claim addressed, provided that it had been in existence for at least 25 years and comprised at least 150 residents. Consultations on the revision of the Amerindian Act of 2006 had begun in 2023, engaging all 242 Indigenous communities. An oversight committee, including the National Toshihos Council and other stakeholders, had been established to ensure that the principles of free, prior and informed consent were upheld.

18. In its *Global Gender Gap 2024 Insight Report*, the World Economic Forum had ranked Guyana 35 out of 153 countries, 25 for female representation in Parliament and 15 for female senior officials and managers. Women comprised 39 per cent of the National Assembly and held over 33 per cent of elected positions at the regional and local levels. Representation of female judges in the judiciary had reached 70 per cent, the highest in the western hemisphere. Despite those achievements, domestic and sexual violence remained a challenge, and legal measures and programmes had been undertaken by the Government to address them.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

19. During the interactive dialogue, 70 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

20. Colombia congratulated Guyana for joining the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean. Colombia noted that the 2025 World Biodiversity Summit would be held in Guyana.

21. Costa Rica commended Guyana for the significant progress achieved in improving living standards for its population since the previous cycle.

22. Cuba welcomed the efforts made by Guyana to promote sustainable growth, improve the standard of living of its population and achieve the goal of zero net carbon emissions. It congratulated the country on the positive results achieved in addressing climate change.
23. Cyprus commended Guyana for the progress made in the field of healthcare, especially on maternal and child health, the expansion of welfare initiatives and the increase in budgetary allocations to education and to the Gender Affairs Bureau.
24. The Democratic Republic of the Congo welcomed the adoption by Guyana of the Restorative Justice Act (2022), the Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act (2023), the Family Violence Act (2024) and the data protection (amendment) bill (2023).
25. The Dominican Republic welcomed progress made by Guyana to strengthen democratic institutions, ensure free education at all levels and promote gender equality. It underscored the strengthened protection of women and girls following the passage of the Family Violence Act (2024) and commended Guyana for the adoption of the Low Carbon Development Strategy (2030).
26. Equatorial Guinea expressed appreciation for the efforts made by Guyana to protect and promote human rights, including the ratification of and accession to various international instruments.
27. Eritrea welcomed the progress made by Guyana in maternal and child health, in reducing infant and under-5 mortality and in providing free education countrywide, while projecting the attainment of universal secondary education by 2026. Eritrea welcomed the implementation of the Education Strategic Plan 2021–2025 – Vision 2030.
28. Estonia welcomed the measures taken by Guyana to improve the efficiency of the judicial system and advance children’s rights. Estonia encouraged Guyana to make further efforts to prevent and combat gender-based violence, including domestic violence against women.
29. The Gambia commended Guyana for establishing the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up and launching the Constitutional Reform Commission in 2024. The Gambia welcomed the sustained investments made by Guyana to expand universal healthcare, access to education and rural electrification.
30. Georgia commended Guyana for making significant strides in building a resilient economy and advancing social welfare and climate action. Georgia also expressed appreciation for the comprehensive legislative modernization programme initiated under the Law Reform Commission.
31. Germany commended Guyana for its efforts to improve the inclusion and participation of Indigenous communities, taking measures to address food security and reconstituting the Ethnic Relations Commission. Germany remained concerned about the continued legality of the death penalty, the lack of protection of LGBTQI+ individuals and the situation of Indigenous Peoples and other vulnerable groups.
32. Ghana congratulated Guyana on the receipt of a transparency award at the twenty-ninth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. It applauded the efforts of Guyana to offer affordable and sustainable housing for low- and middle-income families and to expand access to clean water and sanitation.
33. Iceland made recommendations.
34. India noted the rapid economic and developmental transformation of Guyana and the emphasis that the country put on addressing socioeconomic disparities and gender-based violence and on ensuring inclusivity, irrespective of race, religion or sexual orientation.
35. Indonesia commended the efforts of Guyana to foster a growing economy, combat trafficking in persons and expand educational access, including through the construction of new schools and measures to achieve universal secondary education.

36. The Islamic Republic of Iran commended the progress made by Guyana on several critical issues and the establishment of the Constitutional Reform Commission as a positive step towards enhancing constitutional rights.
37. Iraq welcomed the positive developments achieved by Guyana through the adoption of a number of national initiatives and strategies, including the Low Carbon Development Strategy, as well as electoral and legislative reforms.
38. Ireland welcomed the establishment by Guyana of a national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up to coordinate the country's human rights treaty obligations and to provide and facilitate training opportunities on human rights treaties. It was concerned that Guyana continued to criminalize consensual same-sex sexual activity between adults.
39. Italy welcomed the adoption by Guyana of the Family Violence Act in 2024.
40. Jamaica applauded Guyana for being the first English-speaking Caribbean country to establish a sexual offences court, in 2017, to provide a dedicated space for the efficient and sensitive handling of cases, with additional judges and magistrates appointed in 2024.
41. Kuwait expressed appreciation for the efforts of Guyana to enhance the human rights situation, particularly its efforts to establish a development model that prioritized the interests of persons living in poverty, supported growth and focused on sustainable development.
42. Malawi commended Guyana for its progress on protecting and promoting human rights. It also commended Guyana for managing State affairs with greater transparency and accountability, exemplified by the inclusion and participation of Indigenous and other communities in policy initiatives and national issues.
43. Malaysia commended Guyana for its progress in economic development, infrastructure, healthcare expansion and social welfare, as well as its efforts to promote inclusive governance.
44. Maldives commended Guyana for its strides in advancing sustainable and inclusive development. In particular, it applauded the launch of the Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030 as a visionary framework that integrated human rights and environmental justice.
45. The Marshall Islands acknowledged the attention paid by Guyana to social equity in the context of climate action, particularly through its revised Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030. It was encouraged by the focus of Guyana on the protection of vulnerable groups.
46. Mauritius, being a small island developing State, understood the challenges faced by Guyana, in particular the impacts of climate change on the economy. It commended the progress made by Guyana in the development of basic infrastructure such as the improvement of communications facilities with a view to reducing the digital divide.
47. Mexico acknowledged the ratification by Guyana of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean and the ongoing legislative modernization process.
48. Montenegro welcomed the progress achieved by Guyana. However, it regretted the lack of progress in reaching overwhelming public support to fundamental human rights issues such as the abolition of the death penalty, the decriminalization of consensual same-sex relationships and a strict prohibition of the corporal punishment of children in all settings.
49. In response to issues raised during the interactive dialogue, the delegation of Guyana detailed various initiatives aimed at tackling poverty, addressing geographical disparities and supporting youth. The delegation emphasized increased automatic old-age pensions for individuals aged over 65, subsidies for water and electricity for older persons and programmes designed to protect children from child labour. Guyana highlighted improvements in access to secondary education in Indigenous communities.
50. Proud of its multi-ethnic identity, Guyana viewed diversity as a strength and reiterated that equal opportunities and equitable access would mitigate the potential for division. The

delegation underscored the Government's commitment to fostering unity across its diverse population.

51. Although Guyana had not ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, Guyana had maintained a de facto moratorium on the death penalty since 1997. The Constitutional Reform Commission had been established and it would, among other issues, address the death penalty through nationwide consultations, reflecting efforts to engage citizens on significant national issues.

52. The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security was leading efforts against gender-based violence, maintaining specialized units dedicated to that purpose. The Family Violence Act repealed the Domestic Violence Act and enhanced protection for survivors. The Legal Pro Bono 500 Initiative, implemented in partnership with the Bar Association, offered free legal aid to domestic violence survivors, while the Guyana Legal Aid Clinic had received increased government funding and had expanded its services. Survivor-centred services, such as the Hope and Justice Centres, provided integrated support, including legal, health and psychosocial services, to those affected by gender-based violence.

53. The delegation highlighted that, although Guyana had not yet ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Constitution and criminal laws prohibited and punished related offences. To address prison overcrowding, laws such as the Bail Act, the Criminal Law Procedure (Paper Committals) Act and the Criminal Procedure (Plea Discussion) Act had been enacted. In addition, the Prison Act was under review to enhance prisoners' rights.

54. Morocco commended the progress achieved by Guyana since the previous cycle, including its commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights. It acknowledged the importance of the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up, which coordinated the human rights treaty obligations of Guyana.

55. Mozambique thanked Guyana for the presentation of the national report outlining the progress made since the previous review.

56. Namibia commended Guyana for establishing a national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up on human rights in 2022, the Law Reform Commission in 2021 and the Constitutional Reform Commission in 2024.

57. Nepal commended Guyana for the significant socioeconomic progress achieved in the country and took positive note of its efforts to provide countrywide healthcare services.

58. The Kingdom of the Netherlands commended the steps taken by Guyana to combat sexual crimes and gender-based violence but noted that domestic violence remained a concern and that continued efforts were needed. It welcomed further measures to improve the position of LGBTQI+ persons in society.

59. Pakistan expressed appreciation for the Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030 and the efforts of Guyana with regard to Indigenous Peoples, health services and social cohesion.

60. Panama thanked Guyana for presenting its national report.

61. Paraguay welcomed the establishment by Guyana of the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up of human rights recommendations, as well as the progress made in reducing adolescent pregnancy rates.

62. Peru acknowledged the progress made by Guyana, including the update of the Domestic Violence Act, adopted in 2024, and the Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030.

63. The Philippines congratulated Guyana on the success of its pro-growth development model and welcomed the adoption of the revised Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030.

64. Poland welcomed the adoption by Guyana of the Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act in 2023, recognized the latest achievements by the country in increasing women's representation in the Parliament and expressed the hope that the authorities would uphold their commitment to achieving gender equality.

65. Portugal commended Guyana for establishing the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up in 2021, as well as for its collaboration with the OHCHR regional office for the Caribbean Community, particularly in the development of a national action plan on human rights.
66. The Russian Federation expressed appreciation for the efforts of Guyana to implement the recommendations from the previous cycle, including through the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up. It welcomed efforts to improve the conditions of detention and programmes to expand the enjoyment of the rights of Indigenous Persons.
67. Samoa commended Guyana for the introduction of telemedicine and improved access to healthcare, as well as on the enforcement of environmental regulations. It acknowledged the country's vulnerability to climate change and susceptibility to natural disasters and consequent food insecurity.
68. Singapore recognized the progress made by Guyana in protecting the rights of women and children. It welcomed the reduction in maternal and neonatal mortality rates and the expansion of healthcare services, including the construction of a specialized paediatric and maternal care hospital.
69. Slovenia commended Guyana for being a party to eight of the nine core international human rights treaties. It expressed concern about reports of the high incidence of gender-based violence.
70. Spain congratulated Guyana for the de facto moratorium on the death penalty since 1997 and encouraged it to continue public consultations with a view to its definitive abolition.
71. The State of Palestine acknowledged ongoing efforts in promoting and protecting human rights and expressed appreciation for its commitment to human rights and justice.
72. The Sudan commended Guyana for the constitutional and legal reforms it had made, as well as for the adoption of the Restorative Justice Act. It welcomed the enactment of the Natural Resource Fund Act and the adoption of the Low Carbon Development Strategy.
73. Suriname welcomed the adoption by Guyana of the Low Carbon Development Strategy. It also welcomed the efforts of Guyana to reduce the court case backlog by strengthening the capacity and efficiency of the judicial system and its establishment of a national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up.
74. Togo noted the progress made by Guyana, particularly the improvement of access to justice for children and adolescents and the existence of rehabilitation measures and protections adapted to children in contact with the justice system.
75. Trinidad and Tobago noted the economic growth of Guyana and the challenges that it faced as a high-income small island developing State. It highlighted the expansion of healthcare services, the Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030, the Natural Resource Fund Act and the leadership of Guyana in climate action and food security.
76. Ukraine commended Guyana for the establishment of the Constitutional Reform Commission, the adoption of the Restorative Justice Act and the Family Violence Act 2024, and the expansion of universal healthcare and education. It welcomed the leadership of Guyana in climate action, transparent carbon credit initiatives and reinvestments in Indigenous communities.
77. The United Kingdom welcomed the improvements made by Guyana to its legal framework and on gender equality. It noted challenges in protecting LGBT+ persons and persons with disabilities, press freedom and civic space, highlighting the need to ensure non-discrimination.
78. Uruguay welcomed the efforts made by Guyana to improve its institutional and regulatory framework for the protection of human rights.
79. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela regretted the inclusion in the national report of Guyana of references to the territorial controversy over the Essequibo region and called for the universal periodic review process to be conducted strictly within the scope of its established mandate.

80. Viet Nam commended Guyana for its achievements in strengthening democratic governance, economic transformation and equitable access to essential services. It also expressed appreciation for the continued investments by Guyana in legal reforms, inclusive infrastructure and the modernization of the public sector.

81. Zimbabwe congratulated Guyana on its milestones in the implementation of accepted recommendations. It commended the country for initiating constitutional reforms and for implementing policies that enhanced development and positively affected the human rights of all its citizens.

82. Argentina congratulated Guyana on the establishment of the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up in 2021 and on the recent economic growth, which had enabled an improvement in the quality of life of the population.

83. Armenia commended the efforts of Guyana to strengthen its legislative framework, including the ongoing work of the Ethnic Relations Commission in promoting social cohesion. Armenia recognized the establishment of a national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up.

84. Australia welcomed the commitment of Guyana to protecting victims of gender-based violence through amendments to its Domestic Violence Act, which extended protections to same-sex couples and cohabiting couples who were not legally married. While welcoming the de facto moratorium on the death penalty, Australia remained concerned that Guyana continued to impose new death sentences.

85. The Bahamas commended Guyana for its significant achievements since the previous review, including the establishment of the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up. It acknowledged the country's notable legislative advancements, particularly the passage of the Family Violence Act (2024) and the Combating Trafficking in Persons Act (2023). The Bahamas commended the pioneering achievements of Guyana in climate resilience.

86. Barbados commended Guyana for its Low Carbon Development Strategy, which promoted inclusive and sustainable development while preserving forests, and for increasing budgetary allocations for programmes benefiting children and older persons. It highlighted the shared challenges posed by climate change, which severely affected small island developing States.

87. The Plurinational State of Bolivia valued the consultations conducted by Guyana with communities, civil society, academia and other stakeholders.

88. Brazil acknowledged the establishment by Guyana of a national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up. It commended it for its humanitarian approach to migrants from neighbouring countries and called upon the Government to accede to key refugee and statelessness conventions.

89. Cabo Verde highlighted the adoption by Guyana of a national budgetary framework aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and the principle of leaving no one behind, as well as the 2021 launch of the general programme for legislative modernization.

90. Canada welcomed the allocation by Guyana of budgetary resources for the revision of the Amerindian Act of 2006. It remained concerned about reports of harassment and intimidation of journalists, including through online targeting.

91. Chile praised the commitment of Guyana to the rights of persons with disabilities, as reflected in educational inclusion, expanded rehabilitation services and strengthened accessible infrastructure, recognizing those as steps towards a more inclusive and equitable society.

92. China commended the active efforts of Guyana to promote economic development, alleviate poverty and promote the right to development. It expressed appreciation for the implementation of the Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030, the enforcement of the Protection of Children Act and the commitment to combating trafficking in persons.

93. Jordan congratulated Guyana on the progress made in several areas, including the impact on the welfare and rights of citizens in Guyana through the positive transformation of the economy and the promotion of infrastructure projects.

94. Vanuatu congratulated Guyana for receiving a transparency award at the twenty-ninth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, recognizing its commitment to transparent climate reporting.

95. The delegation of Guyana emphasized that the nation's Constitution guaranteed equal pay for equal work of equal value and that the Equal Rights Act mandated equal remuneration for men and women performing the same work. The Women and Gender Equality Commission collaborated with both the public and the private sectors to further women's rights.

96. The delegation reported that over 4,000 migrant children were enrolled in Guyanese schools, where they received access to educational services, including grants, that was equal to that of Guyanese children. In 2021, Guyana had established the Migrant Education Support Unit within the Ministry of Education to facilitate school placements and had prioritized teaching English as a second language for migrant students.

97. The delegation underscored that all policies and programmes were focused on ensuring that all Guyanese citizens benefited equally. In addition, the Government had allocated 70 million Guyana dollars annually to support Afro-Guyanese organizations and had endorsed the Second International Decade for People of African Descent (2025–2034). The delegation highlighted the historical development gaps faced by Indigenous Peoples and that specific measures were being taken to address them.

98. Guyana expressed pride in the harmony achieved among its ethnic and religious groups. It actively worked to ensure unity among its citizens. While acknowledging the occasional challenges inherent in a multi-ethnic society, the delegation reaffirmed the belief that diversity was a source of strength for Guyana, underscoring its commitment to fostering unity across the nation.

99. Guyana noted that the claim of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to two thirds of its territory was threatening its development and consequently the human rights of its citizens.

100. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela raised a point of order, requesting Guyana to refrain from presenting territorial themes of a strictly bilateral nature during its universal periodic review. It stated that, according to the rules of procedure, such issues should be excluded from the deliberations in the Working Group. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council reminded all States to refrain from addressing bilateral issues in what was essentially a multilateral process and stressed the importance of adhering to the legal framework established by the Council in its resolution 5/1 and the political framework set by the General Assembly and the Security Council.

101. The delegation of Guyana stated that the universal periodic review guidelines requested States to address threats, and Guyana considered claims to its territory as a major threat. The delegation concluded by thanking all delegations for their recommendations and comments and committed to implementing recommendations where further progress was needed.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

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

102.1 **Continue cooperating with the United Nations human rights system (Malawi);**

102.2 **Work progressively towards submitting outstanding reports on international human rights instruments (Malawi);**

102.3 **Continue efforts to improve the legal and institutional frameworks for human rights (Sudan);**

- 102.4 Continue strengthening the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up, considering the possibility of receiving cooperation for that purpose (Paraguay);
- 102.5 Continue to pursue technical cooperation opportunities, namely through the OHCHR regional office, in order to strengthen the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up (Trinidad and Tobago);
- 102.6 Repeal any provision authorizing cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, such as flogging and whipping (Chile);
- 102.7 Strengthen law enforcement on detention, in line with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), including undertaking measures to improve prison conditions (Malaysia);
- 102.8 Continue implementing anti-corruption measures with the technical support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Cuba);
- 102.9 Strengthen civic participation by establishing formal and transparent mechanisms for regular consultations with civil society organizations in policy development (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 102.10 Continue to put in place measures to combat corruption, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Kuwait);
- 102.11 Continue to build democratic institutions, particularly in the criminal justice system (Kuwait);
- 102.12 Strengthen democratic institutions, especially in the criminal justice system (Dominican Republic);
- 102.13 Take all necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation of the Restorative Justice Act for all persons under 18 years of age and to extend the services of the Restorative Justice Centre throughout the country (Paraguay);
- 102.14 Accelerate the digitalization of the public administration and the judiciary, expanding e-governance platforms and electronic litigation systems nationwide to enhance transparency and citizens' access to services (Viet Nam);
- 102.15 Ensure that digital access is inclusive and equitable (Estonia);
- 102.16 Continue the commendable efforts in combating trafficking in persons and the policy of protecting victims (State of Palestine);
- 102.17 Strengthen anti-trafficking measures and victim protection by expanding regular training for law enforcement officers and enhancing services such as shelter and psychosocial support (Indonesia);
- 102.18 Strengthen the implementation of the Combating Trafficking in Persons Act (2023) by ensuring appropriate mechanisms for prevention and sanctions, awareness-raising and sensitization actions and victims' access to justice and appropriate support services, as well as data collection (Paraguay);
- 102.19 Strengthen actions against trafficking in persons, ensuring that victims have comprehensive assistance, protection and access to justice (Peru);
- 102.20 Enhance anti-trafficking efforts, especially in rural areas, through capacity-building for law enforcement officers on early identification, investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases, while ensuring support and compensation to victims and survivors (Philippines);
- 102.21 Continue to provide support to government anti-trafficking teams (Jordan);
- 102.22 Continue initiatives and programmes to reduce poverty and geographical disparities (Dominican Republic);

- 102.23 Continue national efforts to reduce poverty and geographical disparities (Cuba);
- 102.24 Continue special measures to support low- and middle-income families, particularly ensuring access to healthcare, housing and education (Pakistan);
- 102.25 Expedite the development and enactment of the draft bill on food security and nutrition and the right to adequate food (Samoa);
- 102.26 Continue to prioritize enhancing access to safe drinking water and sanitation for all (Singapore);
- 102.27 Continue to improve access to drinking water and basic sanitation and enhance public services (China);
- 102.28 Strengthen inclusive urban and housing development policies, ensuring equitable access to affordable housing and basic services for low-income and marginalized populations (Viet Nam);
- 102.29 Develop special programmes to address social issues, with a particular focus on youth support (Cuba);
- 102.30 Ensure the protection, in law and in practice, of the rights of socially vulnerable groups, in particular women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons (Russian Federation);
- 102.31 Continue national policies and programmes aimed at implementing the sustainable development agenda (Sudan);
- 102.32 Enhance healthcare services and ensure that all citizens, especially marginalized groups, receive adequate medical attention (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 102.33 Strengthen healthcare infrastructure, ensuring equitable access to quality medical services and essential supplies for all populations, including those in remote areas (Maldives);
- 102.34 Pursue efforts aimed at developing public hospitals and expanding the availability of contraception and related family planning services in rural and hinterland communities (Morocco);
- 102.35 Continue health outreach measures and ensure that the most vulnerable areas benefit from advancements in the health sector (State of Palestine);
- 102.36 Redouble efforts in providing the necessary healthcare and amenities to communities living in remote areas (Zimbabwe);
- 102.37 Strengthen efforts to achieve universal health coverage and build climate resilience for health systems through international cooperation and assistance (Samoa);
- 102.38 Proceed with sustaining progress in decreasing the maternal mortality rate, including through the provision of enhanced access to maternal healthcare services and health facilities (Georgia);
- 102.39 Continue to strengthen the measures in place to prevent and combat maternal mortality (Ghana);
- 102.40 Expand training on the use of the electronic perinatal information system to further reduce maternal and neonatal mortality (Eritrea);
- 102.41 Ensure access to sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning and modern contraceptives (Iceland);
- 102.42 Reduce adolescent pregnancy rates and facilitate the availability of and access to a range of contraceptive methods (Estonia);

- 102.43 Continue efforts to improve access to maternal and child healthcare services in all regions (Singapore);
- 102.44 Continue expanding access to treatment and care for HIV/AIDS, including through measures to reduce stigmatization (Brazil);
- 102.45 Consider implementing public education campaigns to prioritize the prevention of new HIV infections, facilitate HIV testing and reduce stigma and discrimination (Cyprus);
- 102.46 Continue to support the implementation of the Guyana Education Strategic Plan 2021–2025 – Vision 2030, to provide quality education opportunities for all, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Jordan);
- 102.47 Strengthen efforts to ensure equitable and inclusive educational opportunities for all sectors of society, including by improving infrastructure, teacher training and access to schooling in rural areas (Indonesia);
- 102.48 Prioritize inclusive education policies that cater to the needs of all children, particularly those in rural and Indigenous communities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 102.49 Strengthen inclusive education in rural areas (Dominican Republic);
- 102.50 Invest in targeted support to boost school enrolment and retention, especially for boys, and ensure free education for all children, including those from marginalized communities (Maldives);
- 102.51 Further expand digital connectivity and educational infrastructure, ensuring equal access to quality education, particularly for hinterland and remote communities (The Bahamas);
- 102.52 Further enhance policies and programmes for access to technical education and skills development, particularly for women (Pakistan);
- 102.53 Continue efforts to ensure that all children have access to free education (Iraq);
- 102.54 Enhance inclusive education by increasing support for children with disabilities, including accessible learning tools and teacher training (Eritrea);
- 102.55 Continue to implement the Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030 to further promote sustainable development (China);
- 102.56 Adopt a comprehensive approach that integrates gender equality and the inclusion of persons with disabilities into climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, in line with the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 (Costa Rica);
- 102.57 Expand climate education and community participation in disaster risk management (Dominican Republic);
- 102.58 Strengthen environmental regulations to prevent plastic and microplastic pollution (Dominican Republic);
- 102.59 Strengthen and increase investment in climate-resilient infrastructure and preparedness for natural disasters (Zimbabwe);
- 102.60 Enhance infrastructure resilience and disaster preparedness, particularly addressing the vulnerabilities of coastal and hinterland communities exposed to climate change risks (The Bahamas);
- 102.61 Continue supporting climate justice initiatives, primarily for small island developing States (Cuba);
- 102.62 Continue national policies and programmes aimed at protecting the environment and addressing the risks and consequences of climate change (Sudan);

- 102.63 Continue ongoing efforts towards promoting equitable growth and sustainable development while upholding the values of plurality and a multicultural, multireligious and multi-ethnic ethos (India);
- 102.64 Continue efforts to empower women, including adopting measures to achieve gender equality in all areas where women are underrepresented (State of Palestine);
- 102.65 Continue strategies that promote gender equality through the participation of women in sustainable forest management, agriculture and conservation (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 102.66 Strengthen programmes to reduce violence against women and girls (Dominican Republic);
- 102.67 Enact laws that further protect women from gender-based violence (Equatorial Guinea);
- 102.68 Strengthen the legal framework to prevent, combat and punish all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence and gender-based violence, and ensure that all acts of violence are thoroughly investigated and that perpetrators are brought to justice (Portugal);
- 102.69 Strengthen protections against gender-based violence and promote women's equal access to leadership positions (Italy);
- 102.70 Scale up efforts to prevent violence against women, including through strengthened enforcement and support for survivors (Malaysia);
- 102.71 Build on efforts to combat gender-based violence by expanding survivor support services and strengthening law enforcement capacity through the Cop Squad initiative (The Bahamas);
- 102.72 Strengthen efforts to combat violence against women and continue and enhance measures aimed at preventing and eliminating all forms of violence against women (Barbados);
- 102.73 Take steps to activate the National Task Force for the Prevention of Sexual Offences by ensuring diverse representation to fulfil its mandate, including the allocation of adequate resources for it to carry out its mandate (Vanuatu);
- 102.74 Continue strengthening programmes and initiatives to reduce violence against women and children (Cuba);
- 102.75 Expand access to legal identity and civil registration services, particularly for remote communities, ensuring universal access to birth certificates and national documents (Viet Nam);
- 102.76 Consider adopting measures to ensure birth registration, as well as the issuance of birth certificates, through mobile registration offices and information programmes throughout the country (Peru);
- 102.77 Continue efforts to put in place adequate social protection policies and make appropriate budgetary allocations to support children in vulnerable situations in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 4 (Mauritius);
- 102.78 Strengthen child protection systems by improving coordination among agencies and ensuring adequate funding for child welfare services (Armenia);
- 102.79 Expand child protection mechanisms and data collection and ensure that all children, regardless of legal or migration status, have full access to education, health and social services (Ukraine);
- 102.80 Continue to implement the Protection of Children Act, increase investment in and attention to vulnerable groups and take effective measures to

protect the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and other specific groups (China);

102.81 **Continue measures to prevent all forms of violence against children, including the elimination of child labour (Georgia);**

102.82 **Continue to pursue efforts to eliminate child labour and strengthen child protection (Trinidad and Tobago);**

102.83 **Invest in early childhood care and education, including in Indigenous communities, as well as in parenting support programmes to foster social-emotional learning in homes, families and communities (Panama);**

102.84 **Strengthen public policies addressed to older persons (Dominican Republic);**

102.85 **Improve accessibility for persons with disabilities by redoubling efforts to improve the accessibility of public spaces, transportation and essential services for individuals living with disabilities (Barbados);**

102.86 **Enhance legal and policy protections for Indigenous Peoples by ensuring their meaningful participation in decision-making process affecting their rights, land and livelihoods (Malaysia);**

102.87 **Strengthen inclusion and participation through consultations with Indigenous communities on public policy initiatives (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

102.88 **Increase engagement with Indigenous communities, especially in rural areas and with regard to equal access to education, political participation and healthcare (Germany);**

102.89 **Continue efforts in the fields of connectivity, healthcare, housing and vocational education, especially for Indigenous and other marginalized communities (India);**

102.90 **Ensure the meaningful participation of Indigenous People and other vulnerable groups in environmental decision-making processes (Marshall Islands).**

103. **The following recommendations will be examined by Guyana, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the sixtieth session of the Human Rights Council:**

103.1 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile) (Costa Rica) (Estonia) (Ghana); Finalize the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

103.2 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Australia) (Estonia) (Germany) (Iceland) (Ireland) (Uruguay); Consider acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Namibia);**

103.3 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Cabo Verde);**

103.4 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Slovenia);**

103.5 **Consider acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Suriname);**

- 103.6 **Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Colombia);**
- 103.7 **Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and continue public engagement on this issue (Ukraine);**
- 103.8 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Australia);**
- 103.9 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Cyprus);**
- 103.10 **Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Morocco);**
- 103.11 **Consider acceding to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Namibia);**
- 103.12 **Consider the possibility of ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Paraguay);**
- 103.13 **Ratify additional human rights conventions, particularly the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, to strengthen international commitments (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 103.14 **Ratify the remaining core international human rights treaties, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (Gambia);**
- 103.15 **Finalize the ratification of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**
- 103.16 **Ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and establish a legal framework to protect refugees, and develop comprehensive national legislation and policies on migration (Spain);**
- 103.17 **Consider ratifying the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (Uruguay);**
- 103.18 **Consider ratifying the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Malawi);**
- 103.19 **Consider ratifying the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Mauritius);**
- 103.20 **Accede to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Jamaica);**
- 103.21 **Ratify the American Convention on Human Rights (Uruguay);**
- 103.22 **Consider signing and ratifying the American Convention on Human Rights of 1969 (Pact of San José) (Chile);**
- 103.23 **Issue a standing invitation to accept all visits by United Nations human rights special procedures (Marshall Islands);**
- 103.24 **Continue to take steps to improve national legislation on the observance of human rights and freedoms (Russian Federation);**

- 103.25 **Put into operation the Human Rights Commission as an independent national human rights institution, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Colombia);**
- 103.26 **Take necessary measures to operationalize the Human Rights Commission, ensuring that it is independent and fully compliant with the Paris Principles (Indonesia);**
- 103.27 **Work towards operationalizing the Human Rights Commission as a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Iraq);**
- 103.28 **Take the necessary measures to operationalize the Human Rights Commission as an independent national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Mozambique);**
- 103.29 **Consider establishing a national human right institution in line with the Paris Principle (Nepal);**
- 103.30 **Further enhance the independence and capacity of the Human Rights Commission, enabling it to function effectively in line with the Paris Principles (Armenia);**
- 103.31 **Ensure the implementation of a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Australia);**
- 103.32 **Accelerate the effective establishment of the National Human Rights Commission (Cabo Verde);**
- 103.33 **Create a single national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and review constitutional provisions and nomination processes that could impede the designation of an institutional chairperson (Canada);**
- 103.34 **Strengthen laws and measures against discrimination and xenophobia (Equatorial Guinea);**
- 103.35 **Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, prohibiting all direct and indirect discrimination on all grounds in all spheres of life (Estonia);**
- 103.36 **Finalize and implement the drafting of anti-discrimination legislation, incorporating the prohibition of direct, indirect and intersectional discrimination (Mexico);**
- 103.37 **Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law that explicitly prohibits direct, indirect and intersectional discrimination on all grounds and in all spheres of life, and ensure access to appropriate remedies for victims (Montenegro);**
- 103.38 **Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation and adopt measures to seek greater social and economic integration of ethnic minority groups, particularly Indigenous Peoples and people of African descent (Brazil);**
- 103.39 **Redouble efforts to end divisions and tensions between ethnic groups and discrimination against ethnic minority groups and combat hate speech and incitement to racial hostility (Togo);**
- 103.40 **Eliminate all discriminatory practices implemented in the country against ethnic minority groups, eradicating hate speech and guaranteeing victims redress for violations of their human rights (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 103.41 **Strengthen measures aimed at guaranteeing that Afro-Guyanese fully enjoy their economic, social and cultural rights on an equal basis with all citizens (Cabo Verde);**
- 103.42 **Amend article 138 of the Constitution to abolish the death penalty and reaffirm the State's commitment to human rights through the signature and**

ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Costa Rica);

103.43 Adopt a formal moratorium on executions and commute all existing death sentences to terms of imprisonment (Germany);

103.44 Abolish the death penalty (Iceland);

103.45 Remove the death penalty from the law and carry out awareness-raising measures to mobilize public opinion in support of the abolition of the death penalty (Poland);

103.46 Formalize the moratorium on the death penalty and take steps towards its full abolition (Italy);

103.47 Establish a formal moratorium on executions, remove all legal provisions for mandatory death sentences with a view to abolishing the death penalty and commute sentences to the death penalty to prison terms (Kingdom of the Netherlands);

103.48 Consider the establishment of an official moratorium on the application of death penalty with a view to its complete abolition (Marshall Islands);

103.49 Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and replace the death penalty with sanctions that are fair, proportionate and compliant with human rights (Mexico);

103.50 Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and take concrete steps towards removing the death penalty from the legal system (Mozambique);

103.51 Abolish the death penalty from the Constitution and legislation and consider signing the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Portugal);

103.52 Abolish the death penalty definitively and explicitly criminalize torture in domestic legislation, along with the elimination of references to flogging (Spain);

103.53 Remove the death penalty from the legislation, including the Constitution, and carry out awareness-raising activities to mobilize public opinion in favour of the abolition of the death penalty (Togo);

103.54 Promote the elimination of laws and provisions relating to the death penalty and adopt awareness-raising measures to mobilize public opinion in favour of the abolition of the death penalty (Argentina);

103.55 Approve specific laws to prohibit torture, in line with international law, and establish mechanisms providing care to victims (Mexico);

103.56 Take appropriate legislative actions to define and criminalize torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in the legislation, in order to eradicate such practices from the country (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

103.57 Align national legislation with the prohibition of torture enshrined in the Constitution and international law (Chile);

103.58 Adopt specific legislation against torture and other inhuman or degrading treatment, including all forms of corporal punishment (Italy);

103.59 Prevent arbitrary and unlawful arrest by police officers, immediately release those who have been unlawfully detained and ensure adequate compensation for victims (Poland);

- 103.60 **Permanently eliminate arbitrary detention in the country, including of minors, and guarantee without conditions comprehensive reparations to victims (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 103.61 **Consider taking all measures necessary to eliminate racial profiling by law enforcement officers (Namibia);**
- 103.62 **Establish an independent mechanism to monitor prison conditions and strengthen measures to reduce overcrowding and improve detention facilities (Gambia);**
- 103.63 **Review the constitutional provisions impeding the processes of designating the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Chancellor of the Judiciary (Canada);**
- 103.64 **Ensure that journalists, media workers and human rights defenders can carry out their work freely, efficiently and without fear of intimidation or reprisals (Cyprus);**
- 103.65 **Ensure that journalists, media workers and human rights defenders are free to carry out their work effectively and without fear of reprisals (Namibia);**
- 103.66 **Ensure that journalists, media workers and human rights defenders can carry out their work effectively and without fear of reprisals (Poland);**
- 103.67 **Take steps to safeguard press freedom and ensure the independence of the media by refraining from intimidation, ensuring equitable access to State resources for all media outlets and committing to international press standards (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 103.68 **Consider the possibility of joining the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (Argentina);**
- 103.69 **Pursue concrete actions to guarantee the work of the media and human rights defenders (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 103.70 **Amend the legislation to set the minimum age for marriage at 18 years, without exception (Colombia);**
- 103.71 **Establish the minimum legal age of marriage at 18 years, without exception, to reduce child, early and forced marriage, particularly affecting girls, in line with target 5.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals (Costa Rica);**
- 103.72 **Eliminate all exceptions for marriage under 18 years (Iceland);**
- 103.73 **Provide comprehensive support to the institution of the family (Russian Federation);**
- 103.74 **Continue efforts to promote decent jobs and reduce the gender pay gap (Nepal);**
- 103.75 **Redouble efforts to reduce the gender pay gap through the effective application of the principle of equal remuneration (Peru);**
- 103.76 **Expand access to safe abortion services throughout the country (Iceland);**
- 103.77 **Adapt the legislation to guarantee at least 12 years of compulsory primary and secondary education, and prohibit corporal punishment in educational settings (Argentina);**
- 103.78 **Adopt legislation prohibiting corporal punishment in educational settings (Iraq);**
- 103.79 **Adopt a human rights-based approach in the 2025 nationally determined contribution submission to support diversification from oil production (Marshall Islands);**

- 103.80 **Redouble measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation, including through climate-resilient infrastructure (Nepal);**
- 103.81 **Further promote inclusive public participation in environmental decision-making, ensuring that marginalized communities have access to relevant data and a meaningful voice in shaping policies that affect them (Philippines);**
- 103.82 **Enhance public awareness on the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and consider integrating it into national curricula (Samoa);**
- 103.83 **Consider increasing funding for sustainability plans focused on climate action with Indigenous communities and provide culturally relevant solutions in infrastructure, agriculture and economic projects (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**
- 103.84 **Integrate menstrual health into policies and strategies on climate change and disaster risk reduction (Panama);**
- 103.85 **Strengthen efforts to close the gender wage gap and promote equal economic opportunities, including continued support for women in non-traditional sectors and leadership roles (Ukraine);**
- 103.86 **Ensure the adoption and enforcement of comprehensive legislation to criminalize all forms of gender-based violence, including the crime of femicide, and ensure access to appropriate remedies for victims (Cyprus);**
- 103.87 **Adopt and enforce comprehensive legislation to criminalize all forms of violence against women and girls, including intentional killings of women and girls with a gender-related motivation (Panama);**
- 103.88 **Criminalize all forms of gender-based violence and ensure that survivors have access to protection, legal aid and justice (Gambia);**
- 103.89 **Criminalize all forms of gender-based violence (Iceland);**
- 103.90 **Adopt and implement comprehensive legislation criminalizing all forms of violence against women, including intentional gender-based killings (Chile);**
- 103.91 **Reinforce the institutional regulatory and public policy framework to prevent and punish sexual and domestic violence against women, including femicide, as well as to ensure adequate support services for surviving victims (Paraguay);**
- 103.92 **Continue to uphold the rights of women and children by amending the national legislation to criminalize all forms of gender-based violence, including femicide (Philippines);**
- 103.93 **Design and implement plans to address gender-based violence and introduce specific legislation to address femicide (Slovenia);**
- 103.94 **Adopt a national action plan to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, ensuring adequate protection, shelter and justice for women and girls, especially in rural and Indigenous communities (Ukraine);**
- 103.95 **Accelerate the review process of the Amerindian Act of 2006 to ensure that the rights of Indigenous Peoples to occupy, use and develop their traditional lands, territories and resources are fully respected, and expedite the demarcation and titling process of Indigenous Peoples' collective lands, guaranteeing free, prior and informed consent at all times (Colombia);**
- 103.96 **Consider accelerating recognition of land rights for Indigenous communities, ensuring their full and effective participation in decision-making processes that affect their ancestral lands (Armenia);**

- 103.97 **Ensure effective protection of ancestral lands, including those belonging to the Akawaio Indigenous community (Italy);**
- 103.98 **Guarantee effective access to water and sanitation for Indigenous communities and continue working on the development of the necessary infrastructure to ensure the rights to water and sanitation (Spain);**
- 103.99 **Amend article 149 of the Constitution to prohibit discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Costa Rica);**
- 103.100 **Amend the Constitution to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression (Ireland);**
- 103.101 **Prohibit discrimination and repeal discriminatory legislation based on sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression (Germany);**
- 103.102 **Pass comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that includes discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression (Uruguay);**
- 103.103 **Decriminalize and legalize same-sex relations between consenting adults (Iceland);**
- 103.104 **Decriminalize consensual same-sex relations and introduce comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation (Italy);**
- 103.105 **Decriminalize consensual same-sex relations and legally prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in the 1997 Prevention of Discrimination Act (Spain);**
- 103.106 **Repeal provisions of the Criminal Code that criminalize consensual same-sex sexual relations, and train security forces to eradicate hostile behaviour toward LGBTIQ+ people (Mexico);**
- 103.107 **Repeal sections 351 to 353 of the Criminal Law (Offences) Act to decriminalize consensual same-sex sexual activities between adults (Ireland);**
- 103.108 **Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex (Chile);**
- 103.109 **Repeal sections 352 to 354 of the Criminal Law (Offences) Act that fuel discrimination against persons of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (Iceland);**
- 103.110 **Revise the legal framework with a view to decriminalizing consensual same-sex conduct between adults and take measures to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against LGBTIQ+ persons (Kingdom of the Netherlands);**
- 103.111 **Continue to strengthen legal protections for LGBT+ individuals by decriminalizing consensual same-sex relations between adults and combating discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 103.112 **Develop and implement the national public campaign against hate speech and intolerance based on different sexual orientation or gender identity (Montenegro);**
- 103.113 **Continue taking all necessary measures to guarantee to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons the full enjoyment of all human rights, repealing the norms that penalize and stigmatize them and investigating and punishing cases of violence or discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity (Portugal);**
- 103.114 **Repeal laws that prohibit consensual same-sex relations between adults and expand a constitutional anti-discrimination provision to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression (Canada);**

103.115 **Provide legal protections and access to essential services for migrants, particularly for women (Islamic Republic Iran of);**

103.116 **Adopt the necessary legislative measures to ensure that no child becomes stateless (Colombia).**

104. **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.**

III. Voluntary pledges and commitments

105. Guyana pledges:

(a) To continue to build the institutional capacity of the national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up on its human rights treaty obligations;

(b) To continue to incrementally increase its budgetary support for education, health, housing and water, social protection and the development of Indigenous communities to ensure that no one is left behind;

(c) To continue to build the institutional capacity of constitutional oversight bodies, including the rights commissions, the Elections Commission and the judiciary.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Guyana was headed by H.E. Ambassador Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, Permanent Representative of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana to the United Nations in New York, and composed of the following members:

- Honourable Oneidge Walrond, Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce;
- Ambassador Dr. Leslie Ramsammy, Permanent Representative of Guyana of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
- Ms. Joann Bond, Deputy Chief Parliamentary Counsel, Ministry of Legal Affairs;
- Mrs. Alicia Jerone-Reece, Special Projects Officer, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance;
- Mr. Anil Persaud, Senior Research Officer, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance;

The Chairperson of the National Toshaos Council, Mr. Derrick John, accompanied the delegation as an observer to the 4th universal periodic review of Guyana.
