



Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Fifty-first session
Geneva, 19–30 January 2026

Summary of stakeholders' submissions on Mauritania*

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

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review and the outcome of the previous review.¹ It is a summary of 26 stakeholders' submissions² for the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. A separate section is provided for the contribution by the national human rights institution that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

II. Information provided by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles

2. The National Human Rights Commission of Mauritania recommended that Mauritania ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.³

3. The Commission highlighted the adoption of Ordinance No. 043/2006, which enshrines the principles of inclusion, non-discrimination, accessibility and participation in public life for persons with disabilities. The Commission recommended that Mauritania adopt the implementing decrees for this ordinance and improve the physical and digital accessibility of public buildings, transport and websites for persons with disabilities.⁴ It also recommended that Mauritania: (a) train public officials and educators in the rights of persons with disabilities; (b) involve civil society and organizations of persons with disabilities in the design and monitoring of policies; and (c) harmonize national legislation on the rights of persons with disabilities with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.⁵

4. The National Human Rights Commission noted that articles 10 and 11 of the Constitution guarantee fundamental freedoms. However, Act No. 2021-004 on Associations replaced the licensing system with a notification system. The Commission recommended that Mauritania facilitate the organization of peaceful demonstrations, train law enforcement officers to respect the rights of demonstrators, embed a culture of citizenship and comply with the legal conditions for the use of public space. It also recommended developing a legal

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



framework for the protection of human rights defenders and avoiding any misuse of legal proceedings as a form of intimidation.⁶

III. Information provided by other stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations⁷ and cooperation with human rights mechanisms

5. The Center for Global Nonkilling (CGNK) recommended to Mauritania the ratification of the Genocide Convention.⁸

6. CGNK, The Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA), JS4 and JS7 recommended that Mauritania sign and ratify ICCPR-OP 2.⁹

7. JS1 recommended that Mauritania ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.¹⁰

8. The Association Mauritanienne de la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme recommended that Mauritania ratify the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).¹¹

9. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons urged the Government of Mauritania to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.¹²

10. Unite for Rights recommended to Mauritania to lead efforts to strengthen the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.¹³

11. The Association Pour la Défense des Droits de la Femme en Mauritanie recommended that Mauritania withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.¹⁴

12. The European Centre for Law and Justice (ECLJ) recommended to Mauritania to remove its reservation to Article 18 of the ICCPR.¹⁵

B. National human rights framework

1. Constitutional and legislative framework

13. MFWA noted that the death penalty was still enshrined in the Mauritanian constitution.¹⁶ JS4 and CGNK noted that the expression of "The Right to Life" was absent from the constitution of Mauritania. JS4 and CGNK recommended to change the Constitution to reaffirm the value of life and the nonkilling principle and to abolish the death penalty.¹⁷

14. JS4 noted that Mauritanian law contains over 40 legislative provisions on the application of the death penalty, many of which do not comply with the international human rights commitments of Mauritania. JS4 recommended that Mauritania repeal the provisions that provide for the application of the death penalty for crimes that are not considered the "most serious" crimes under international law, notably for treason, espionage and conspiracy to undermine State security, as well as the provisions relating to drug use and trafficking.¹⁸

15. JS1 pointed out that the fight against gender-based violence has been largely taken into account in the "Karama" draft law, which has been adopted by the Mauritanian Government but rejected twice by parliament. JS1 noted that, in view of this opposition, the Government ultimately withdrew the bill. JS1 recommended that Mauritania include online violence in the "Karama" draft law, as well as provisions on protection, support and reparation for victims. JS1 also recommended that Mauritania urgently adopt the "Karama" law and ensure its effective implementation.¹⁹

2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

16. The national mechanism for the prevention of torture noted that the mechanism was established by Act No. 034 of 20 April 2016 with the aim of preventing torture and cruel,

inhuman or degrading treatment.²⁰ The national preventive mechanism recommended that Mauritania: (a) provide the mechanism with sufficient financial, human and logistical resources; (b) guarantee the institutional and budgetary independence of the mechanism; and (c) set up a department within the national preventive mechanism responsible for receiving and investigating complaints and allegations of torture, with a 24-hour hotline.²¹

17. JS2 noted that the limited human and financial resources allocated to the national human rights commission undermined its ability to expand geographically and substantively. The limited participation of civil society within the Commission, both in terms of representation and influence, did not reflect the size of civil society and its actual role in defending rights.²² JS2 recommended that Mauritania amend the statutes of the Commission, strengthening its independence, expanding its scope of representation, granting it advanced oversight and proposal powers, and providing the Commission with a significant financial grant, while ensuring accountability and transparency.²³

C. Promotion and protection of human rights

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

Equality and non-discrimination

18. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) noted the "vestiges" or "legacies" of slavery in Mauritania, which subjects people to discriminatory treatment that violates their dignity, particularly in the form of physical abuse, psychological torture, vexatious and humiliating measures, violations of freedom of movement, freedom of marriage, property rights, the right to health, and the right to education.²⁴

19. The Association Mauritanienne de Développement pour la Base stated that, although the Constitution of Mauritania guarantees equality before the law between men and women, inequalities persist in various areas, including education, employment and access to positions of power. Patriarchal social norms continue to influence women's roles and opportunities, limiting their autonomy and participation in public life. The Association Mauritanienne de Développement pour la Base recommended that Mauritania amend its laws to guarantee gender equality and equal pay.²⁵

20. JS5 noted that Mauritania's nationality law contains provisions that discriminate against women, denying them equal rights with men to confer nationality to their children and spouses. This legal framework perpetuates harmful gender stereotypes, such as the notion that a child's identity and nationality derive solely from the father. These discriminatory norms undermine women's autonomy, restrict their freedom to choose a spouse, and threaten family unity. JS5 recommended to Mauritania to: (a) amend the nationality law to ensure full gender equality in the right to confer nationality to children and spouses; (b) ensure automatic acquisition of nationality for children born to Mauritanian mothers, regardless of the father's nationality or status.²⁶

21. ACHPR, JS9 and the Global Forum of Communities Discriminated by Work and Descent (GFOD) noted that the Haratin faced systemic discrimination in all facets of life, including in the political sphere, access to justice, the labour market and basic services. Their right to self-determination and participation in public life remained severely limited, resulting in a lack of equal opportunities within Mauritanian society, reinforcing the legacy of slavery.²⁷

22. JS8 recommended that Mauritania: (a) effectively prevent and combat discriminatory practices through awareness-raising campaigns and the use of affirmative action measures; (b) ensure access to effective remedies for potential victims of discrimination, including the possibility of obtaining redress; and (c) make every effort on the economic, social, and cultural fronts to eliminate all disparities resulting from social discrimination through targeted training, awareness-raising, mobilization, and support programmes.²⁸

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

23. JS4 pointed out that Mauritania had a moratorium on the death penalty, with the last execution dating back to 1987. This moratorium is not official, and several death sentences are handed down each year. JS4 noted that at least 23 people had been sentenced to death in 2024, 18 more than in 2023, and that at least 150 people had been serving death sentences at the end of 2024. JS4 recommended that Mauritania: (a) maintain the de facto moratorium on executions; and (b) encourage the use of alternatives to the death penalty.²⁹

24. JS3 stressed that, despite a progressive legal framework, the practice of torture remained widespread in Mauritania. It added that many citizens had lodged complaints of torture and inhuman treatment inflicted by the security forces or police. JS3 also added that the issue had been raised in parliament, but that the authorities had ignored calls for justice for torture victims.³⁰

25. JS3 noted that conditions of detention in Mauritanian prisons were extremely worrying. Convicted criminals, defendants awaiting trial, and sometimes even minors were not held separately in prisons.³¹ JS3 recommended that Mauritania immediately release all those arbitrarily detained, including human rights defenders, peaceful demonstrators and activists.³²

Human rights and counter-terrorism

26. JS6 pointed out that article 3 of Act No. 2010-035 on combating terrorism contained an imprecise definition of terrorism that included “perverting the fundamental values of society and destabilizing constitutional, political, economic or social structures and/or institutions of the nation”. JS6 also stated that persons accused of terrorism could be held in police custody for up to 45 days, without being brought before a judge or having access to legal assistance. JS6 added that this type of regime exposed accused persons to a high risk of torture or ill-treatment. JS6 recommended that Mauritania amend the 2010 counter-terrorism law to ensure its compliance with human rights standards.³³

Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

27. The African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights called on the Mauritanian authorities to conduct a prompt and independent investigation and to take all necessary measures to shed light on the circumstances surrounding the death on Friday, 10 February 2023 of Mr. Souvi Ould Jibril Ould Cheine, a human rights defender who died as a result of ill-treatment in detention. The African Commission also called on Mauritania to prosecute the perpetrators of this criminal act.³⁴

28. JS3 noted that, up to the end of 2023, the national preventive mechanism had not made any recommendations to open investigations into cases of torture. JS3 recommended that Mauritania independently, impartially and thoroughly investigate all allegations of torture, ill-treatment and enforced disappearance and ensure that those responsible were brought to justice.³⁵

29. JS6 pointed out that between the mid-1980s and early 1990s, during the period of human rights violations commonly referred to as the “passif humanitaire”, large swathes of the Afro-Mauritanian minority had been subjected to summary executions, torture, expulsions to Senegal and Mali, expropriation of land outside any legal framework, and discrimination. JS6 noted that those responsible for those violations included the highest ranks of the military hierarchy, including several members of the Military Committee for National Salvation, who had allegedly been personally involved in the torture and executions.³⁶

30. JS6 noted that the authorities had promulgated Act No. 93-23 in 1993, granting amnesty to members of the security forces for any offences they might have committed in the exercise of their duties between 1 January 1989 and 18 April 1992. JS6 recommended that Mauritania repeal the 1993 Amnesty Act and set up an independent truth and reconciliation commission to establish the facts by investigating all human rights abuses committed during that period.³⁷

31. Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme en Mauritanie noted that, despite notable advances with respect to transitional justice, a number of major shortcomings remained that required urgent attention. Some widows had still not received compensation, despite the steps taken to that end. Civilian and military survivors had not received reparations, either in the form of compensation or statutory rehabilitation. Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme recommended that Mauritania: (a) finalize the compensation of all victims without exception; and (b) set up a national monitoring and redress mechanism, with adequate resources and a clear mandate.³⁸

Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life

32. ECLJ was concerned that the right to freely adopt a religion, a fundamental right that is found in the ICCPR and UDHR, was punishable by death in Mauritania. ECLJ stressed that Christians must be careful when conducting baptisms because it is viewed as a sign that proselytization and apostasy have taken place.³⁹

33. ECLJ recommended to Mauritania to immediately reform its Criminal Code and permit people to freely adopt whatever religion they want and to permit people of all faiths to freely and publicly practice their faith without fear of being arrested or harassed. ECLJ called on Mauritania to work to guarantee the right to freedom of religion or worship for all its citizens.⁴⁰

34. MFWA noted a number of violations of freedom of expression in Mauritania since the last review in 2021, with the authorities leveraging the Cybercrime Act and the Act on the Protection of National Symbols as tools of repression.⁴¹ MFWA recommended to Mauritania to: (a) amend its Penal Code and information and communication legislation to bring them in line with international standards; (b) amend its penal code to remove vague provisions that often lead to interpretations that are abusive and discriminatory towards dissenting voices and online whistle-blowers and generally citizens; (c) ensure state security agents and officials put a stop to attacks, arrests and intimidation of people, including political opponents for the exercise their freedom of expression rights both offline and online.⁴²

35. JS3 noted that, although article 10 of the Mauritanian Constitution explicitly guaranteed freedom of assembly, restrictions imposed by the authorities regularly impeded its effective exercise. JS3 added that those restrictions indiscriminately affected non-State actors such as legally constituted political parties. On 3 January 2025, security forces had surrounded the headquarters of the Rassemblement des Forces Démocratiques party, preventing some of its members from leaving, in the context of internal tensions within the party.⁴³ JS3 recommended that Mauritania amend or repeal legislative provisions that unduly restricted freedom of expression and peaceful assembly and guarantee the effective exercise of those rights, in accordance with international law.⁴⁴

Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons

36. JS2 noted that Mauritania has made commendable progress in legal reforms and awareness-raising in combating slavery, human trafficking, and contemporary forms of slavery. However, entrenched social norms, weak enforcement, and limited resources continued to hinder the full eradication of slavery and trafficking. JS2 recommended that Mauritania takes the following measures: (a) Support for victims by ensuring access to education, employment, housing, health services, and legal remedies and by implementing positive measures for economic and social reintegration; (b) Strengthen the legal and institutional framework by fully implementing the Labor Code and regulating domestic and child labor and by providing specialized courts with adequate resources; (c) Awareness and Social Change through continued nationwide campaigns to shift public attitudes and promotion of inclusive participation of civil society without discrimination in addressing slavery, human trafficking, and contemporary forms of slavery.⁴⁵

37. Anciens Esclaves Nouveaux Citoyens stressed that, despite the progress made in the fight against slavery, the concrete implementation of measures remained insufficient given the scale and complexity of the practices of slavery, trafficking and exploitation. Obstacles related to a lack of resources, the limited accessibility of specialized courts, and inadequate victim support mechanisms limited the effectiveness of the actions taken.⁴⁶

38. Anciens Esclaves Nouveaux Citoyens recommended that Mauritania: (a) strengthen the effective implementation of existing laws on slavery and trafficking in persons by providing adequate resources to specialized courts, ongoing training for judges and investigators, and protection for victims and witnesses; (b) accelerate the implementation of the National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons, with adequate resources and greater involvement of civil society organizations; (c) set up a mechanism for collecting reliable data on all forms of exploitation, including data disaggregated by gender, age, location and social background; and (d) create a national fund to support victims, including the provision of psychosocial care and free legal assistance and support for economic reintegration.⁴⁷

Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

39. JS2 noted that unemployment rates were high in Mauritania, particularly among women and youth, and traditionally vulnerable groups – such as the poor, Haratines, and Black people – face significant difficulties in accessing the labor market.⁴⁸

40. The Association des Haratines de Mauritanie en Europe highlighted the discrimination faced by the Haratine community in securing access to decent work. It noted that the victims of slavery, once released from the yoke of their slave masters, were left to fend for themselves, with no qualifications. It added that the State did not train the Haratine people in trades that would enable them to enter the job market. Aspiring Haratine entrepreneurs were unable to obtain loans from public or private banks.⁴⁹

41. The Association des Haratines de Mauritanie en Europe recommended that the Mauritanian Government: (a) create and fund shelters for victims and vocational training centres to ensure the effective integration of the Haratine people into Mauritanian society; (b) introduce a system of positive discrimination in favour of the Haratine people to facilitate their integration into the public and private sectors, thus enabling them to narrow the gap with other ethnic groups; and (c) stop the expropriation of land cultivated by communities living in *adwaba* villages.⁵⁰

Right to social security and rights to an adequate standard of living

42. JS2 stressed that poverty continued to affect the majority of the population, particularly in rural and remote areas, where public services, particularly in the areas of education and health, are ineffective and lack widespread access.⁵¹

43. JS2 recommended that Mauritania: (a) take concrete measures to promote social and economic justice, achieve equality; (b) ensure the effective mobilization of domestic resources by, inter alia, developing a more efficient, progressive and socially just fiscal policy and a royalty's charge for foreign investors licensed to exploit natural resources such as mining resources that is fair and equitable, with the aim of combating economic inequalities and progressively guaranteeing the full exercise of economic, social and cultural rights; (c) ensure that the process of strengthening fiscal policy and formulating budget proposals is transparent and participatory.⁵²

Right to health

44. JS2 noted that the population benefiting from health coverage in the form of support, assistance, or health insurance remains modest, and the largest family expenses were health-related expenses. JS2 stressed that the individual benefits annually from only \$57, compared to the necessary amount set by the United Nations at \$112 needed to achieve SDG 3. In fact, for every 1,000 citizens there were 0.39 specialized doctors, and for every 1,000 citizen there were 0.41 general practitioners. Regarding women and their access to the right to health in a qualitative and equal manner as men, the Ministry of Health has adopted several positive programs in favour of women. However, the various programs have yet to succeed in bridging the gender-based gap and disparities. Indeed, health services are still patriarchal despite all the investments and incentives that were made.⁵³

45. JS2 recommended that Mauritania: (a) adopt a rights-based approach to enable citizens to access the right to health; (b) prioritize the health of mothers and girls, and care for the disabled and vulnerable groups; and (c) expand health and social coverage.⁵⁴

Right to education

46. Broken Chalk, JS1 and JS2 noted that, despite commendable efforts by the Mauritanian government, primary school enrolments have failed to meet targets.⁵⁵ Broken Chalk stated that the Net Enrolment Rate for children aged 6 to 11 has remained below 75 per cent, significantly lower than the averages for both Sub-Saharan Africa and the Arab states. Broken Chalk also stated that enrolment in secondary education in Mauritania remained extremely limited, which reflect a steep drop-off after the completion of primary school. Mauritania lagged significantly behind its regional peers in tertiary education, with a gross enrolment rate of just 5.8%, among the lowest in West and Central Africa.⁵⁶

47. Broken Chalk recommended to Mauritania to: (a) increase investment in evidence-based teacher training programmes, with particular emphasis on subject-matter proficiency in Arabic, French, and mathematics; (b) establish an independent, transparent system to monitor teacher attendance and classroom performance, with remedial support provided where deficiencies are identified; (c) accelerate efforts to meet preschool enrolment targets by expanding public early childhood education, especially in rural and low-income areas; (d) take steps to reduce dropout rates between Grades 4 and 6, including school feeding programmes, family incentives, and expanded WASH facilities; and (e) expand the number of schools offering complete primary cycles, particularly in under-served regions, to reduce structural barriers to completion.⁵⁷

The environment

48. JS2 stated that Mauritania was one of the Sahel countries most affected by the effects of climate change, given the country's limited capacity to adapt.⁵⁸

49. The Comité de lutte et d'orientation sur les conséquences du divorce encouraged Mauritania to continue developing and strengthening its legislative framework to address intersectoral environmental challenges, including climate change adaptation and mitigation frameworks, and to ensure that women, children, persons with disabilities and Indigenous and local communities participated meaningfully in the implementation of those frameworks. It also encouraged Mauritania to take steps towards a human rights-based approach to tackling climate change, paying due attention to the effects of climate change on vulnerable groups such as women and children, and to continue to cooperate more actively with other countries to build resilience to climate change.⁵⁹

2. Rights of specific persons or groups*Women*

50. JS1 and the Association Pour la Défense des Droits de la Femme en Mauritanie noted that violence against women remained widespread and under-reported.⁶⁰ Rape, sexual assault, early and forced marriage, and female genital mutilation persisted, particularly in rural areas. The absence of comprehensive legislation criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence severely limited access to justice for survivors. Security forces and judicial personnel were often poorly trained or insensitive to those issues. Under the Personal Status Code, the husband had dominant power in marriage, particularly in matters of guardianship and divorce. Women had limited access to custody and inheritance in certain circumstances, making them economically dependent. Despite advances in electoral quotas, women's participation in political life remained limited, especially in decision-making positions. In the economic sphere, women faced severe discrimination in employment, access to credit and land ownership. Patriarchal norms continued to be an obstacle to women's empowerment.⁶¹

51. Association Pour la Défense des Droits de la Femme en Mauritanie recommended that Mauritania: (a) adopt a comprehensive and binding law against all forms of gender-based violence, including domestic violence, female genital mutilation, marital rape and sexual harassment; (b) amend the Personal Status Code to guarantee equality between men and women in matters of marriage, divorce, child custody and inheritance; (c) strengthen protection mechanisms for women survivors of violence; (d) systematically train police officers, judges, social workers and healthcare professionals in women's rights and the care

of victims of gender-based violence; and (e) increase the representation of women in political, administrative and economic positions.⁶²

Children

52. JS1 pointed out that Mauritania had undertaken a number of initiatives to combat the worst forms of child labour, including drawing up a list of the types of work prohibited to children. However, the adoption of specific legislation in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child was still pending. JS1 recommended that Mauritania: (a) adopt legislation prohibiting child labour and effectively implement the General Child Protection Code; and (b) update the plan of action to combat child labour for the period 2025–2030 and mobilize the resources to implement it.⁶³

53. The Association Mauritanienne de la Promotion des Droits de l’Homme recommended that Mauritania: (a) put an end to child marriage, with the aim of eliminating all child marriages in accordance with the laws and regulations in force; (b) put an end to child marriage and forced child labour, with the aim of guaranteeing access to comprehensive, high-quality education for all children, in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in Mauritania; and (c) combat child marriage, in particular by conducting awareness-raising campaigns among religious leaders and by complying with article 6 of Act No. 2001-052, the Personal Status Code, which stipulates that the capacity to marry is granted to all persons of sound mind who have reached the age of 18.⁶⁴

Migrants and asylum-seekers

54. JS7 noted that the Act on the Entry, Stay, and Expulsion of Foreigners (Act No. 2023-021) had been adopted on 11 October 2023 and reinforced the discretionary powers of the administration without sufficient judicial guarantees. Several non-governmental organizations denounced collective expulsions of West African migrants, sometimes accompanied by Mauritanian nationals, without any effective remedy or access to legal assistance.⁶⁵

55. JS7 pointed out that, since 2022, Mauritania had been strengthening its cooperation with the European Union to fight against irregular migration, notably by signing protocols with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex). That policy had led to the arrest and deportation of thousands of migrants, mainly from West Africa, without access to an appeal mechanism or an assessment of the risks of refoulement. JS7 recommended that Mauritania expressly prohibit collective expulsions, guarantee an individual examination of each case and set up an independent national asylum mechanism, in line with international standards.⁶⁶

Stateless persons

56. JS5 noted that Mauritania’s nationality law discriminatory provisions significantly increase the risk of statelessness among children, particularly those born abroad to Mauritanian mothers. The law also fails to clearly address the rights of children born to stateless or unknown fathers, leaving them vulnerable to prolonged statelessness.⁶⁷

57. JS5 recommended to Mauritania to: (a) amend the nationality code to ensure every child’s right to a nationality, including by introducing a comprehensive safeguard against statelessness, where the parents may themselves be stateless or unable to pass on their nationality to the child; (b) ensure that all children born in Mauritania are registered at birth by providing access to birth registration without discrimination; and enact reforms to guarantee each parent’s independent and autonomous right to obtain a birth certificate for their child regardless of the parent’s sex or marital status.⁶⁸

Notes

¹ A/HRC/47/6, A/HRC/47/6/Add.1, and A/HRC/47/2.

² The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org (one asterisk denotes a national human rights institution with A status).

*Civil society**Individual submissions:*

A M P D H	Association Mauritanienne Pour la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme AMPDH, Nouakchott (Mauritania);
addfm	association pour la défense des droits de la femme en Mauritanie, nouakchott (Mauritania);
AENC	anciens esclaves nouveaux citoyens, Nouakchott (Mauritania);
AHME	Association des Haratine de Mauritanie en Europe, Clichy sous bois (France);
AMPDB	Association Mauritanienne de Developpement pour la Base, Nouakchott (Mauritania);
APDHM	Action pour la protection des droits de l'Homme en Mauritanie, Nouakchott (Mauritania);
Broken Chalk	The Stichting Broken Chalk, Amsterdam (Netherlands);
CGNK	Center for Global Nonkilling, 1218 Grand-Saconnex (Switzerland);
CLOCD	comité de lutte et d'orientation sur les conséquences du divorce, Nouakchott (Mauritania);
ECLJ	European Centre for Law and Justice, The, Strasbourg (France);
GFOD.	Global Forum of Communities Discriminated by Work and Descent, Geneva (Switzerland);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva (Switzerland);
MFWA	Media Foundation for West Africa, Accra (Ghana);
MNP	Mécanisme National de Prévention de la Torture, Nouakchott (Mauritania);
Unite for Rights	Unite for Rights, San Francisco (United States of America).

Joint submissions:

JS1	Joint submission 1 submitted by: Association Mauritanienne pour la Santé de la Mère et de l'Enfant, Nouakchott (Mauritania); L'Association Mauritanienne pour la Santé de la Mère et de l'Enfant (AMSME) L'Assistance aux Femmes et Enfants en Difficultés (ASFED) L'Association Mauritanienne pour la Défense des Droits et les Violences Faites aux Femmes et Filles et leurs Santé (AMDDVFFS);
JS2	Joint submission 2 submitted by: Arab NGO Network for Development, Beirut (Lebanon); The Reseau Mauritanien pour l'Action Social The Organization for Development, Research, Evaluation, and Follow-up Badia Association The Association for Development, Communication, and Action for the Treatment of Heart Patients The Mauritanian Observatory for Justice and Equality The Clean Beach Organization Al-Ihssan Association;
JS3	Joint submission 3 submitted by: Committee for Justice, Geneva (Switzerland); Mauritanian Observatory for Human Rights and Development/Committee for Justice;
JS4	Joint submission 4 submitted by: Ensemble contre la peine de mort, Paris (France); Ensemble contre la peine de mort, Association mauritanienne des droits de l'Homme, Coalition mondiale contre la peine de mort;
JS5	Joint submission 5 submitted by: Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights, New York (United States of America); Association des femmes chefs de Famille (AFCF), Equality Now, the Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights and the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI) make this joint submission to inform the Universal Periodic Review of Mauritania;
JS6	Joint submission 6 submitted by: MENA Rights Group, 1219 Chatelaine (Switzerland); Alliance des Orphelins de Mauritanie (AOM);
JS7	Joint submission 7 submitted by: Organisation pour le Développement International Social Solidaire Intégré, Paris (France);
JS8	Joint submission 8 submitted by: Réseau Ensemble contre la torture en Mauritanie, Nouakchott (Mauritania); Rapport de la coalition des

organisations (Ensemble contre la Torture en Mauritanie et Association “Paix” pour la lutte contre la Contrainte et l’Injustice ;
 JS9 **Joint submission 9 submitted by:** Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, Brussels (Belgium); Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organisation (UNPO) and Initiative for the Resurgence of the Abolitionist Movement (IRA).

National human rights institution:

CNDH-M Commission Nationale des droits de l’homme de la Mauritanie, Nouakchott (Mauritania).

Regional intergovernmental organization(s):

AU-ACHPR African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights, Western Region P.O. Box 673 Banjul (Gambia).

³ CNDH, para 21.

⁴ CNDH, paras 21–22.

⁵ CNDH, para 22.

⁶ CNDH, paras 27–28.

⁷ The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
ILS	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
RSC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD
ICPPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

⁸ CGNK, p 1.

⁹ CGNK, p 1; MFWA, para 30; JS4, p3; JS7, para 41.

¹⁰ JS1, p 7.

¹¹ AMPDH, p4.

¹² ICAN, p1.

¹³ Unite for Rights, p3.

¹⁴ ADDFM, pp 1–3.

¹⁵ ECLJ, para 19.

¹⁶ MFWA, paras 11–12.

¹⁷ JS4, p2; CGNK, p3.

¹⁸ JS4, p2.

¹⁹ JS1 p5.

²⁰ MNP, p1.

²¹ MNP, p2.

²² JS2, paras 57–59.

²³ JS2, para 60.

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- 24 ACHPR, pp 4–5.
25 AMPDB, pp 1–3.
26 JS 5, paras 15–27.
27 ACHPR, pp 4–5; JS9, para 31 ; GFOD, p1–6.
28 JS8, p5.
29 JS4, p2.
30 JS3, para 17.
31 JS3, paras 24–25.
32 JS3, para 76.
33 JS6, p7.
34 <https://achpr.au.int/fr/news/communiqué-de-presse/2023-02-16/deces-de-m-souvi-ould-jibril-ould-cheine-defenseur-droits>.
35 JS3, para 17et 77.
36 JS6, p 5.
37 JS6, p 6–7.
38 APDHM, pp 2–3.
39 ECLJ, paras 14 and 19.
40 ECLJ, para 19.
41 MFWA, paras 18–23.
42 MFWA, paras 31, 34–35.
43 JS3, paras 55–56.
44 JS3, para 82.
45 JS2, paras 37–50.
46 AENC, p 4.
47 AENC, p 4.
48 JS2, para 4.
49 AHME, pp 1–2.
50 AHME, pp 1–2.
51 JS2, paras 1–2.
52 JS2, paras 9 and 15.
53 JS2, paras 29–36.
54 JS2, paras 29–36.
55 Broken Chalk, paras 20–23; JS1, p6; JS2, 22–23.
56 Broken Chalk, paras 20–23.
57 Broken Chalk, paras 32–35.
58 JS2, para 7.
59 CLOCD, p 4.
60 JS1, p4; ADDFM, p 2.
61 ADDFM, p 2.
62 ADDFM, pp 2–3.
63 JS1, pp 7–10.
64 AMPDH, p 4.
65 JS7, para 12.
66 JS7, paras 42–43.
67 JS 5, para 24.
68 JS 5, para 27.
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