

Universal Periodic Review

The Netherlands

National Interim Report



April 2010

## Introduction

The Netherlands took part in the very first session of the Universal Periodic Review and was itself reviewed on 15 April 2008. During the review the Netherlands announced that in two years' time it would submit an interim report on the implementation of the recommendations.

The Netherlands considers the UPR to be an important mechanism and an ongoing process, complementary to the work of treaty bodies and special procedures. The UPR process contributes to a permanent focus on promoting and protecting human rights at the national level. We have therefore drafted the current interim report, like the first report, after consultations with civil society.

## Recommendations UPR April 2008:

### **1. Ratify as soon as possible the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance | France**

The Convention was discussed by the Council of Ministers of the Kingdom on 3 July 2009, and sent to the Dutch House of Representatives on 3 December 2009.

### **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment | Brazil**

Documents concerning the approval of the Optional Protocol to the CAT were presented to the parliaments of the three countries of the Kingdom on 23 February 2009. After the Dutch House of Representatives approved the protocol, it was sent to the Senate this month.

### **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict | Brazil**

The act of approval of the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict came into force on 1 May 2009.

### **Set clear time frames in this regard, and that the Human Rights Council be informed accordingly | Russian Federation**

See the answers above.

### **2. Initiate a debate on the death penalty, with a view to reaching responsive conclusions consistent with international human rights law | Egypt**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands could not support this recommendation for reasons stated in the initial response to this recommendation.

### **3. Reconsider the legality of prostitution given its impact on the realization of a whole range of rights | Egypt**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands could not support this recommendation for reasons stated in the initial response to this recommendation.

### **4. That a mechanism be established with a view to verifying that political parties and social institutions do not adopt racist or xenophobic programmes | Egypt**

The term 'racist and xenophobic' with regard to written or verbal expression, qualifies acts that are offences under criminal law. Establishing whether a political party has committed such an offence is the province of the courts. Until a court has judged an expression to be 'racist' or 'xenophobic', it cannot be described as such. In a democracy freedom of speech is a fundamental right, which does not allow for prior restraint.

**5. Lawmakers discharge their responsibility under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in particular with regard to the prohibition of incitement to hatred by law, and enacting the necessary restrictions to protect the rights of others | Egypt**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands is engaged in the approval of the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems (Strasbourg, 28 January 2003). The act of approval has been passed by the Dutch House of Representatives and is currently being considered by the Senate. The Netherlands has also implemented the Council of Europe Framework Decision on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law. Neither instrument required an amendment to the Dutch Criminal Code, as articles 137c to 137e cover the range of offences involving incitement to hatred of, and publicly expressing views that are insulting to, a group of persons on account of their race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or disability. In approving the aforementioned international instruments, the Kingdom of the Netherlands emphasises the value of adequate international and national instruments to combat incitement to hatred, within the existing international framework for the protection of civil and political rights.

**6. Take appropriate measures to prevent the use of excessive force by security forces when forcibly repatriating migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers | Nigeria**

The Netherlands wishes to underline that many safeguards apply to exceptional situations in which the use of limited and proportional force by expulsion of persons is allowed. An independent committee supervises the process regarding return, including forced expulsions and the use of force. Every year it concludes that no structural excessive force is used in the process of expulsion. In addition, the committee makes recommendations to further limit the necessity of the use of force in individual cases. These recommendations are always used to continue improving the process of return and forced expulsions.

**7. Accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families | Egypt | Peru | Algeria**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands could not support this recommendation for reasons stated in the initial response to this recommendation.

**To increase its efforts to prevent acts of discrimination against migrants | Algeria**

All persons are equal and protected against discrimination by law, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, age, disability, religion or belief. Article 1 of the constitution does not permit discrimination on the grounds of religion, belief, political opinion, race or sex or on any other grounds whatsoever. Antidiscrimination policy is generic and applies to all individuals. It does not address specific target groups.

The Netherlands has an extensive network of agencies which combat discrimination. There is a national network of antidiscrimination bureaus (also see the answers to recommendations 11 and 28), an Equal Treatment Commission and a National Ombudsman. Anyone can report discrimination to these organisations or even to the police. Some time ago, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment presented an action plan to parliament on combating discrimination against non-Western migrants in the labour market. In recent years, the police and the Public Prosecution Service have become much more alert to discrimination. In November 2009, the government sent parliament a letter on integration, announcing measures to combat racial discrimination in the hospitality industry and on the internet, increase the resilience of victims of discrimination and increase the professionalism of antidiscrimination organisations. The government monitors discrimination continuously and may

introduce supplementary measures if necessary. The Second Racial Discrimination Monitor and the Second Monitor on Discrimination against Non-Western Migrants in the Labour Market are both due to be published before the summer of 2010.

**8. Continue efforts to intensify the investigation and prosecution of racial hatred and related violence through criminal legal proceedings and other measures | Canada | and to implement all the articles of International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination | Cuba**

A considerable effort is made to investigate and prosecute discrimination, including racial discrimination. The regional public prosecutor's offices have designated public prosecutors for discrimination cases. In principle, the Public Prosecution Service always prosecutes cases of discrimination. The duration of police investigations and the Public Prosecution Service's procedures is monitored. An important development, which makes it easier for individuals to lodge complaints, is that hate crimes can now be reported electronically on the internet. The Netherlands actively combats racial discrimination in all sections of society.

**9. Ensure that information on the implementation of human rights conventions in the overseas territories be consistently included in reports to treaty bodies | United Kingdom | Russian Federation | Algeria)**

All the countries of the Kingdom of the Netherlands are committed to the human rights conventions and strive to report jointly on the implementation of the conventions.

**10. Consider withdrawal of reservations with respect to the Convention on the Rights of the Child | Russian Federation**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands did not support this recommendation but is now considering this recommendation and will inform the treaty body about its progress in the next CRC report.

**Consider withdrawal of reservations with respect to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights with regard to the Netherlands Antilles | Russian Federation | Algeria**

The Government of the Netherlands Antilles will ask the Council of Ministers of the Kingdom to approve the withdrawal of reservations and start the necessary constitutional procedures.

**11. Strengthen rules and regulations with regard to hatred, defamation of religions and Islamophobia | Islamic Republic of Iran**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands supported this recommendation to promote tolerance and combat discrimination on all grounds, but has indicated that it will not introduce additional rules, regulations or measures with regard to hatred, defamation of religions and Islamophobia. The existing legislation and measures that deal with these issues are described in the response to recommendation 7.

The Dutch government has supported various projects since 2008 which have contributed to the public debate. These aim to disseminate knowledge, increase openness, and offer scope for breaking taboos and openly discussing conflicting social values and the public expression of individual and religious views and lifestyles (including apostasy and homosexuality). The three projects described below have received government support:

- The W!J project (2008-2010) aims to break the 'us versus them' mindset and strengthen the sense of community between people from different religious or secular backgrounds without disregarding their diversity.
- A project developing the use of the Socratic method in teaching (2008-2010) in order to equip teachers to moderate classroom discussions on social issues and taboos.

- Respect Day (2008) aims to increase public awareness that a respectful attitude is an important building block of a society based on freedom, with a place for everyone, regardless of religion, culture or ethnicity.

**Enforce legislation on equality and non-discrimination and adopt measures to combat Islamophobia | Saudi Arabia**

The Municipal Antidiscrimination Services Act of July 2009 strengthens the antidiscrimination infrastructure. The Act obliges municipalities to provide access to local or regional antidiscrimination services which are mandated to carry out two statutory tasks: providing assistance in dealing with discrimination and registering discrimination complaints. The antidiscrimination services, the police and the Public Prosecution Service work together in regional forums to combat discrimination. The Act provides for a national network of antidiscrimination services that assist victims of discrimination, including victims of racism and religious discrimination. The Netherlands is the first country in Europe to regulate antidiscrimination services by law.

When the Act came into force in the summer of 2009, the government launched a public awareness campaign about discrimination and the importance of reporting it. The campaign's overriding message was that everyone is free to be themselves. The government's plan to repeat the antidiscrimination campaign in the autumn of 2010 underscores its commitment to public awareness about this issue.

**12.To promote and strengthen the foundation of the family and its values among the society | Islamic Republic of Iran**

Any social unit including at least one adult who is responsible for raising and caring for one or more children constitutes a family. It does not matter if there is only one parent or two, if a couple is married or unmarried, heterosexual or same sex. The government aims to create enabling conditions, so that families can fulfil their important role in society. The Netherlands has had a Minister for Youth and Families since February 2007. In June of that year, it presented its programme for Youth and Families. In the policy document 'The Strength of the Family', published in November 2008, the Minister declared his ambition to make the Netherlands more family-friendly and described how he would achieve that goal.

**13.Take a leading role in setting the tone of the current national debate on integration issues and have the voices of migrants and other groups also be heard | Turkey**

The former Minister for Housing, Communities and Integration, sent a letter on integration to parliament on 17 November 2009. This letter played an important role in the national debate on integration issues. Before the letter was sent to parliament, it was discussed by the National Ethnic Minorities Consultative Committee (LOM), a consultative platform including representatives of minorities' organisations and the government. The final version of the integration letter explicitly takes account of the comments made by minorities' organisations, ensuring the latter's support for the proposed policy. Incidentally, the government discusses *all* policy proposals and bills that affect migrants with the LOM, in accordance with the Minorities Policy (Consultation) Act.

**Continue to engage in a national dialogue with a view to promoting respect for diversity and tolerance | India**

Since 2008, the former Minister of Housing, Communities and Integration has promoted intercultural dialogue through financial support to the '*EigenWIJze Buurten*' programme. In this programme, neighbours from different ethnic backgrounds form a team and organise at least two small-scale activities a year in their neighbourhood or block of flats, to enhance mutual understanding between people from different cultures. Forty neighbourhood teams signed up to the programme in 2008 and by

2009, this number had grown to 70. The aim is to reach 90 ethnically diverse teams in 2010.

**Consider establishing an institutional mechanism to ensure respect for diversity and tolerance | India**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands could not support this recommendation for reasons stated in the initial response to this recommendation.

**14. Complete investigations about civil and criminal implications concerning the release of the film 'Fitna' and initiate prosecution of the author in accordance with Dutch law | Pakistan**

The film 'Fitna' was produced by Mr Wilders, a member of the House of Representatives and the leader of the Freedom Party. In response to this film and Mr Wilders' many remarks about Islam, a number of persons and organisations lodged complaints of discrimination, insulting a group of persons and inciting hatred. On 21 January 2009, Amsterdam Court of Appeal ordered that Mr Wilders be prosecuted for incitement to hatred and discrimination and insulting a group of persons. The proceedings on the merits of the case will probably take place in the second half of 2010.

**15. Consider formulating measures that would recognize that a truly meaningful enjoyment of the right to freedom of expression is only realized when exercised with responsibility | Malaysia | and undertake proactive measures aimed at preventing the instrumentalisation of the freedom of expression to justify campaigns of incitement to racial hatred and violence in the Netherlands | Algeria**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands could not support this recommendation for reasons stated in the initial response to this recommendation.

**16. Ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in the follow-up to the UPR | Slovenia**

The Netherlands incorporates gender considerations into policy by ensuring that the implications of line ministries' policy for women are as transparent and verifiable as possible and by increasing expertise on equal opportunities in general and gender equality in particular. In 2010, every ministry must send parliament a review of its policy results in the 2007-2010 period and a survey of new opportunities. This gender mainstreaming approach will provide a basis for equal opportunities gender equality policy (or emancipation policy as it is still called) for the next government.

**17. Take part in international activities to promote and protect human rights on the basis of equitable and mutual respect for dialogue | Belarus**

The Netherlands contributes to the international promotion and protection of human rights through active participation in various UN human rights forums. The Netherlands considers dialogue based on equitable and mutual respect essential in this regard, provided it takes place within the framework of international human rights law and standards. The Netherlands also contributes to initiatives and activities worldwide, based on equitable and mutual respect, aimed at putting international human rights law and standards into practice and leading to concrete results.

**18. Undertake consistent efforts to counter racism and promote social [...] cohesion | Indonesia**

The government presented its strategy on racism, and measures to combat racial discrimination, in the letter on integration (see response to recommendation 7) which was sent to parliament in November 2009. One of the key aims of the integration policy, which was also identified as a central pillar in the former government's policy programme, is to strengthen social cohesion between ethnic groups in society. A broad range of measures are in place to achieve this objective, from making

neighbourhoods more liveable and promoting civic integration, to reducing school dropout and increasing employment participation. Ultimately, this should increase participation in society and strengthen bonds between different social groups.

Employers are encouraged to develop diversity policy themselves. The government supports measures based on self-regulation, such as the National Diversity Management Network, the Talent to the Top Charter and initiatives launched by the Association of Municipal Secretaries and local and provincial labour market and training funds to promote both gender and ethnic diversity. In the first quarter of 2010, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment will conduct a study of diversity policy and collective labour agreements, specifically the degree to which these agreements take account of ethnic differences in the labour force. The research results will be disseminated to trade unions and employers' organisations and may result in supplementary measures to strengthen diversity policy, if necessary. In January 2010, the Netherlands Institute for Social Research published its report on research into labour market discrimination against non-Western migrants (*Liever Mark dan Mohammed?*). The researchers found that applicants for positions requiring higher levels of education experienced little discrimination, unlike applicants for lower-skilled jobs. Men were more likely to suffer discrimination than women, and women were more likely to be invited for an interview. Job application training, higher education and fluency in Dutch are very important. The results will be incorporated in the 2009 Discrimination Monitor, due to be published in April 2010.

#### **Promote religious cohesion | Indonesia**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands did not and still does not support this recommendation. The government promotes social cohesion in general. There is no necessity to specify for religious cohesion. Freedom of religion is a key principle and implies religious diversity. Diversity (including religious pluralism) is embedded in the Constitution. Freedom of religion allows people to practise their own religion, but also demands that they respect others' religious beliefs, and accept apostasy and the fact that some people have no religious beliefs at all.

#### **19. Consider implementing the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and CEDAW | India**

The domestic violence programme of action 2008-2011 attempts to set out a gender-specific policy that addresses the imbalance of power between perpetrators and victims of domestic violence, which is often gender-specific and gender-based. The programme builds on results achieved in previous years and responds to new developments.

The Temporary Domestic Exclusion Order Act, which entered into force in 2009, empowers mayors to impose a temporary domestic exclusion order for up to ten days on perpetrators of domestic violence where there is an acute threat. During this time, assistance programmes are developed for the parties concerned. Thanks to this preventive measure, victims of domestic violence (often women and children) do not need to flee from their home; instead, the person who forms the threat is removed. This strengthens victims and encourages them to change their situation.

Finally, a policy programme was drawn up to tackle honour-related violence. It includes projects in the three main areas of social prevention, protection and prosecution. The projects are aimed at developing social prevention, increasing the capacity of the relevant institutions to recognise signs of honour-related violence, providing adequate assistance and shelter to victims, and bringing perpetrators to justice.

#### **Strengthen measures to increase the participation by ethnic minority women in line with CEDAW recommendations | Ghana**

The government wants to involve women who are not yet involved in society through, for instance, the 1001 Strengths Programme which is designed to encourage ethnic minority women to participate in voluntary work, which provides opportunities for personal development and participation, as a stepping stone to paid employment.

The government is of the opinion that municipalities need a coherent plan to help women progress from voluntary work to paid employment. Twenty-five municipalities are being supported to help them strengthen their management role in this regard.

One of the instruments used to help women in the programme find paid work is recognition of prior learning (RPL). This is a system of assessing the skills and experience that the women have acquired through their voluntary work and thus of demonstrating their qualifications to a potential employer or educational institution in order to obtain credits or exemptions. The instrument is being used by a growing number of women.

#### **Consider intensifying human rights education | Ghana**

The Netherlands recognises the importance of human rights education. 'Active citizenship and social integration' is a compulsory subject area category at primary and secondary schools and includes human rights education. An incentive programme aimed at mainstreaming human rights education in the curriculum is put in place. To this end, a framework curriculum for human rights education is being developed that schools can use to teach this subject.

#### **20. Continue to promote awareness of diversity and multiculturalism at all levels of education | Algeria | Republic of Korea**

'Multiculturalism and society' is taught at all schools, regardless of the ethnic diversity of their pupil population, and falls under the mandatory subject area category 'active citizenship and social integration' (also see answer to recommendation 19). Social scientists, curriculum developers, schools and the Education Inspectorate work together to develop ways for schools to teach pupils about multiculturalism.

#### **21. Address the issue of demand in the destination country in order to be successful in the fight against trafficking in persons | Bangladesh**

The Dutch government and NGOs have initiated a broad range of activities to raise awareness of sexual and labour trafficking. In 2009, for instance, the Ministry of Social Affairs published an information card in several languages for foreign nationals working in the Netherlands, informing them about their rights and the risks of labour exploitation. Inspectors of the Labour Inspectorate have been trained to recognise the signs of labour trafficking. A comprehensive campaign called 'Appearances Deceive' was launched in 2006 to raise awareness about forced prostitution, among both the general public and clients of prostitutes, and urged people to report any signs of coercive and exploitative practices. People can report crimes anonymously on the '*Meld misdaad anoniem*' hotline. The campaign was repeated in 2008. Various websites and leaflets encouraging people to report suspicious activity are permanently available.

In addition, the government recently submitted a bill to parliament that will tighten the regulation of prostitution, in particular licensing requirements for brothels and other sex establishments, and improve government oversight. Employers who do not comply with licensing requirements can be prosecuted. Clients who circumvent the new system can also be prosecuted. The stricter regulations are expected to have a strong deterrent effect on traffickers and help prevent exploitative practices. This approach is also likely to reduce demand. The government has noted the concerns expressed recently by the CEDAW committee with regard to the bill.

**22. While promoting the rights of freedom of opinion and expression, pay due attention to commiserating responsibility and respect for others | Bangladesh**

Freedom of expression is not absolute, but limited where it encroaches on the freedoms of others. This is a classic conflict between constitutional rights. Statutory restrictions limiting the right of expression are laid down in the Criminal Code. For instance, freedom of expression does not protect utterances that are insulting, incite hatred or discrimination, or propagate violence.

**23. Review its legislation in order to protect fundamental rights of all persons, independently of their migrant status, and take necessary measures regarding discrimination against women refugees, migrants and women from ethnic groups, and to guarantee the integration of all female children | Mexico**

See the answer to recommendation 7.

**24. Establish or strengthen the machinery for reviewing the accelerated procedure of 48 hours in order to guarantee the rights of the asylum-seekers | Mexico**

A legislative proposal with a coherent package of measures has been submitted to parliament that aims to improve the quality of the current asylum application procedure.

The 48-hour accelerated procedure will be replaced by a general procedure lasting 8 days. A quick and thorough decision on an asylum request is in the best interest of the asylum seeker, also for vulnerable groups. Asylum requests will be handled within eight days only if a thorough decision can be taken within that timeframe. If this is not the case, the asylum request will be dealt with in the extended procedure. A medical advice before the general asylum procedure starts, will make sure that the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) will take into account medical problems (including psychological problems). If the medical advice is such that the asylum request should be dealt with in the extended procedure, the IND will follow this advice. Both asylum seekers whose initial application for asylum has been refused at the application centre and asylum seekers whose application for asylum has been refused in the extended procedure will be accommodated during four weeks. After the procedure in the application centre judges will usually make a decision on appeal within these four weeks. Appeal has suspensive effect after the extended procedure.

The new asylum procedure is expected to enter into force in the second half of 2010.

**25. To ensure proper representation of minorities in the labour market as per the ratio of minorities | Algeria**

In the current economic crisis, the government is doing all it can to curb rising unemployment and help people who lose their jobs find new work as quickly as possible. The main objective is to create enabling conditions. Local government has a leading role in helping benefit recipients to find work. A large number of social benefit claimants are unskilled workers from ethnic minority backgrounds. A range of instruments is in place to reach people from minority groups, in particular civic integration programmes and, more recently, grants to help cover wage costs and work experience placements for the long-term unemployed. The Youth Unemployment Action Plan has been launched, with a budget of €500 million, to prevent long-term unemployment among young people during the current economic crisis. One of the programme's objectives is to encourage young people to stay in education, while trade unions and employers' organisations are working hard to create work experience placements for every young person who has been unemployed for more than three months. Various parties, including employers, local and provincial authorities and the Employee Insurance Agency have been asked to

give extra attention to young people from ethnic minority groups during, for instance, regional consultations.

An explicit target for non-Western ethnic minority employees in the public sector has been set: by 2011, 8.4% of public sector employees must come from non-Western ethnic minority population groups. Given the current developments, however, this target will not be achieved.

**26.Undertake an in-depth study on trafficking and exploitation of children, particularly with regard to sexual abuse, child prostitution and child pornography, as a basis for urgent remedial action in this regard | Algeria**

In her seventh, most recent report, the National Rapporteur on Human Trafficking again devoted attention to the trafficking of children. In 2008, the number of underage victims of trafficking fell slightly compared to the previous year, mainly due to action taken by the authorities to reduce the number of underage Nigerian victims. This was part of a two-year pilot, launched in 2008, in which underage asylum seekers at risk of trafficking, including Nigerian children, are housed in an enclosed shelter (not locked) with 24-hour supervision, cameras and security provided by a private agency. These protection measures make them less likely to fall into the hands of traffickers. Members of a Nigerian trafficking gang were arrested and prosecuted. The authorities and NAPTIP, the Nigerian anti-trafficking agency, cooperated in this investigation.

An interministerial project group was set up in 2009 to step up the fight against child sex tourism. A public awareness campaign was launched by the Minister of Justice on 13 January 2010, and a website was launched where people can report child sex tourism ([www.meldkindersekstoerisme.nl](http://www.meldkindersekstoerisme.nl)). The Minister and the organisation of travel operators (ANVR) have signed a declaration to work together to combat child sex tourism.

Several activities aimed at providing information to girls at high risk of trafficking, ranging from teaching packs, educational theatre and assertiveness training, to information for parents, migrants and unaccompanied minor foreign nationals. This information is also available online ([www.jeugdprostitutie.nu](http://www.jeugdprostitutie.nu)). A broad range of assistance has also been developed, including compulsory, voluntary, outpatient, residential and outreach services, as well as contact with fellow victims.

**27.Accelerate efforts in increasing female representation in top positions in the senior public service to 25 per cent by 2011 | South Africa**

With regard to gender equality, one of the key objectives is to increase women's participation in decision-making processes. The targets for 2011 are to have women occupying 25% of positions in the senior civil service (24.9% as at December 2009) and 30% of senior positions in other public sector organisations, including provinces, municipalities and schools (currently 25%).

Various instruments are used to achieve its targets such as networks, deployment of recruitment agencies and action programmes to recruit, train and retain women candidates. In May 2008, over 50 organisations in both the public and the private sector signed the Talent to the Top Charter. By the end of 2009, more than 100 organisations and businesses had signed the Charter, declaring their commitment to developing or continuing a strategy to increase the intake of women in management positions. Signatory companies set their own quantitative targets, review progress and report to a monitoring committee. Each year, the Charter's monitoring commission reports to the Minister of Economic Affairs and publishes the results achieved by the signatories, referring to them by name.

The government wants to set a good example. Government advisory bodies are required to ensure that men and women are proportionally represented. This principle must be applied when new appointments are made.

**28. Take legal measures to deal with intolerance | Jordan**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands could not support this recommendation for reasons stated in the initial response to this recommendation.

**Initiate an awareness-raising campaign for the society at large to ensure a more generalized tolerance | Jordan**

A national antidiscrimination campaign ran from 23 June to 2 August 2009 to raise awareness about discrimination and increase the discrimination reporting rate. The campaign is planned to be repeated in the autumn of 2010.

**29. While implementing anti-terrorism measures, respect international human rights obligations, including the right to a fair trial and the right to freedom and security of the person (Switzerland); and consider revising all anti-terrorism legislation to bring it in line with the highest human rights standards | Cuba**

Further to its responsibility to exercise due care in drawing up legislative measures to combat terrorism, various mechanisms to monitor the effects of the new legislation are introduced. In addition, in response to a request by parliament, provision was made for a review of the body of legislation aimed at preventing and combating terrorism and of practices in counterterrorism in order to assess their effectiveness. This will include a review of issues like coordination and alignment between government services, purpose limitation, intentional and unintentional side effects, and the proportionality and subsidiarity of the measures applied, also in the interests of complying with international human rights conventions.

**30. Take necessary steps to establish a national human rights institution | New Zealand**

In its letter to parliament of 18 July 2008, the government announced plans to establish a national institute for human rights and set out how this would be achieved. After parliamentary consultations and an analysis by the ministries and organisations concerned, the government presented its position on this matter on 10 July 2009, in which it proposes to integrate the institute with the Equal Treatment Commission. A bill establishing this new organisation is currently being drawn up.

**31. Work on promoting a society of tolerance through educational measures | Saudi Arabia**

At schools, the question of what constitutes acceptable social behaviour in a tolerant society is addressed as part of the subject area category 'active citizenship and social integration'. Teaching tolerance is also an implicit aim of a wide range of practical activities such as sport and community service. The 'friendship schools' initiative organises activities for schools whose pupil populations come from different backgrounds, to introduce children through play to other cultures and the importance of respecting diversity.